

The regular meeting of the Board of Health was held in the Board of Health Building on Wednesday, February 23, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. Thomas Forbes called the meeting to order, and led the salute to the flag.

**THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT, NJSA 10:4-1 ET. SEQ. ANNUAL NOTICE HAVING BEEN FORWARDED TO THE NEW JERSEY HERALD AND POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD MAINTAINED IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR PUBLIC NOTICES.**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Thomas Forbes, Melinda Conti, Mariano Gianni, James Vanderhoof, Kathleen Jacobellis and Joel Servoss.

**ABSENT:** Rob Bond

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** Kathleen made a motion to approve the January minutes, seconded by Mariano. All in favor.

**MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:**

1. Councilperson Estelle Klein: Estelle said she would like the Board of Health to write a letter to Dennis Twyford expressing their thank you for his years of service and his leadership qualities. The Board will write the letter.
2. Councilperson Madeline McManus: Madeline asked about the fifty one summonses issued from Animal Control. Phil said they were from people that failed to license their dogs and that is very important because if you don't license your dog that means it is not immunized. Should they bite someone we have a serious problem. Madeline said the Mayor wanted her to ask if when the dog license renewals are sent out if the Health Dept. includes what our ordinance is regarding picking up after your dog. Phil said no. Madeline said the Mayor thought it would be a good idea that we do that and Phil agreed.
3. Councilperson Richard Bunce: Richard said he came to the BOH meeting to discuss the potential of phase three sewer addition in our town. Richard said the Mayor asked if he would speak a few minutes on this because Richard is on the sub-committee. He said once we have completed phase two of the sewer installation, there will somewhere between three and five hundred gallonage, enough to serve at least three to five hundred houses. We will be making some decisions to possibly move forward with phase three using that gallonage. Gallonage is probably worth its weight in gold right now and it cannot be wasted nor just put on a shelf because is so expensive to obtain and maintain. You pay for that gallonage whether or not you use it. If it comes that there are three to five hundred EDUs (efficiency dwelling unit) available to create a phase three addition that is something the Council is going to be discussing in the next couple of months. Discussions have to be made by at least tentatively by April, which is when you have to have your application for loans and financing.

Richard said right now the engineers are looking into what areas can be sewerred at the least amount of cost and yet do the best good for the community.

Jim Vanderhoof added that if you are talking about polluting the Lake, you should start with the salt that the town and county put down. 2:00 am this morning putting salt down, there wasn't enough snow there for anything. Something ought to be done. Richard said that is part of storm water control situation. We have filtering pits here that would take all these contaminates out. Estelle suggested that Richard look into the quantity of salt that is put down. She said the salt not only does harm to the lake, it does harm to the roads.

Richard said there is money out there to help with these projects, it is not 100% money, but it is out there to help with these projects and we are going after it. He also said we are told because of our approach in what we are spending to protect the environment, the lake and the drinking water supply, Hopatcong is very high on that list of consideration. Richard added that the Board's input is definitely requested and certainly appreciated.

**CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

**HEALTH OFFICER REPORT:**

1. Phil said he signed three summonses for students smoking in the High School.
2. Melinda questioned # 7, resumes' for Gary Landiak's position that will be open June 30, 2005. Phil said he received about five resumes'; he would like to schedule some interviews and then make a selection and bring the individual here at next month's meeting for the Board's approval. The Board agreed.

3. Melinda asked about # 9, 8 Crestview Rd. Phil said he has not heard anything from them, no calls and no revised plans for the septic system. There was a brief discussion on this property.
4. Phil said he and Fran attended a meeting “Public Health Response to Terrorism; a Regional Approach”. There were some people there from The Office of Counter Terrorism. The feeling is it is not a question of if we will be attacked again it is when and how. Fran added they feel it will be biological or chemical or mixed. She said New Jersey is going to be responsible for opening pods (points of distribution). A truck of medicine will come from the State and we then have to break down and distribute to different schools where we will set up clinics. Part of the experiment is to open one of those pods and then transport the drugs to a setup clinic and actually run a whole clinic. The problem is all the sites they want to use are schools and this is during the week so we can’t use them. As of right now, they have not told us where we are going to be or what we will be doing. They feel it is smarter to do that, and then it will be a true experiment. We will not know ahead of time at all.  
Phil said the idea is to be able to dispense antibiotics or vaccine to tens of thousands of people, a monumental undertaking. You need five hundred to a thousand people just working to treat everyone in the County, last check population is 145, 000.

**SANITARIAN REPORT**

**BOROUGH NURSE REPORT**

**HEALTH EDUCATOR**

**REGISTRAR REPORT**

**ANIMAL CONTROL:**

**SWAT:**

1. Melinda said there was a meeting last month and there will be another tomorrow, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>. She said there will be a Town Hall type of meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. It will be on alcohol abuse for underage drinkers and the liability for parents and homeowners. The Sussex County Coalition is doing all of the coordination along with the director of guidance at the High School. We now have a new substance abuse counselor. Connie Dansforth retired. The new person will be at tomorrow night’s meeting.  
Anyone in the community is encouraged to attend, but generally targeted at the middle and high school parents. That is where the problems normally arise from.  
The meeting will be March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the Hopatcong High School. There will be students and parents talking, police officers and possibly the prosecutor’s office and Chief Swanson.

**ALL REPORTS:** Melinda made a motion to accept all reports, seconded by Kathleen. All in favor.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Phil talked about a letter from the Sussex County Medical Reserve Corps. There was also a copy of a resolution titled “Authorizing the Formation of the Sussex County Medical Reserve Corps”.
2. Phil read a letter signed by our Mayor to the Department of Environmental of Protection about 450 River Styx Road. The letters states that it has been five months since the Borough received any additional information since receiving the Sept. 22, 2004 letter that indicated the DEP was reviewing the Scope of Work submitted on July 19, 2004 by the property owner.
3. Phil read a letter from Dennis Twyford thanking the BOH members, employees and council members Estelle Klein and Madeline McManus. Dennis also thanked Phil and Rosie.
4. Phil read a letter that Dennis Twyford read to Mayor and Council at their Public Session. After reading the letter, Phil asked if there were comments, there were none. Thom said we will draft a letter thanking Dennis for his service on the Board. Thom added Dennis is a very well intentioned, capable individual and I learned a lot from him.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Governance Tool: Thom said he received his copy of the completed Governance Tool in the mail, and he said he admired Fran’s diligence. Fran said she worked on this in January while she was home. If there are questions, we do have reasons why we answered what we answered.  
Phil said this is all part of the Public Health Standards. I consider this a lot of unfunded mandates. We are spending a lot of time doing these reports and things for the State.  
Phil said we are not prepared to go A to Z through this, please take a look at this and let us know if there are any specific questions or if you see a problem with this, let us know. Thom said he feels the response in

the packet reflects his perception of what we do here. Melinda also said she was comfortable with the answers. Phil said if we have the Board's blessings on this, we will send it in.

Melinda made a motion to send in the Governance Tool as it is currently prepared, seconded by Mariano.

All in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Phil handed out packets to the Board and explained that the Council requested the BOH review their fees. Registrar and clinic fees were adjusted last year and will not be affected the time. Animal control and environmental fees will be reviewed.
2. Phil said one of the things we are being questioned about in the Local Evaluation Health Report is, do we train our BOH members. Phil said he found a manual the State Health Dept. used to put out called "Protecting the Health of the People". This is for your perusal at home. This is some training material for the members, particularly the new ones. This relates to the old Public Health Standards not the new ones.
3. Phil said he received a call from the Sussex County Administrator today. They have no Health Officer. Phil was asked if he could help them out. It would be for some legal issues where they need to sign off on certain things. Phil told them he would talk to the Board tonight and see if that is something the Board would like me to do. It would be evenings and weekends. Jim said he does not see a problem with this.
4. Thomas Forbes said he received a letter from Mayor Hodson and since the Mayor just came into the meeting, Thom asked if the Mayor would like to address the Board on this same issue.

Mayor Hodson talked about New Jersey's Storm Water Management Requirement Plan. It has to do with water quantity, also water quality. We have a low phosphate ordinance for fertilizer that addresses the quality. Also an ordinance for picking up after animals addresses the same, with the rain it gets carried into the storm drains and so forth. Mayor Hodson is looking to put a committee together with one or two people from this Board a couple from Environmental and a couple of citizens that are not members of boards and a couple of people from the Council. We are looking for a couple of volunteers to see how we can go about meeting this part.

Mayor Hodson said the BOH has an interest in many of the things that I think will be part of this program. I was looking for a couple of volunteers, you don't have to step forward tonight, we would appreciate it if by your next meeting and if no one is interested that is ok too because you have lots of other things to work on.

Melinda asked if this committee will be a once and done committee or will it meet routinely. Mayor Hodson said it will meet until it serves it function, I doubt if it will meet once and never meet again.

Jim made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Melinda, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Rosemarie Mitchell