

The regular meeting of the Board of Health was held in the Health Department on Wednesday, May 23, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. Rob Bond 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:** Rob Bond, Thomas Forbes, Joel Servoss, Craig Bradley and Selma Reichert. Councilperson, Estelle Klein.

**ABSENT:** Mariano Gianni and James Vanderhoof.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** Joel made a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting, seconded by Thom. All in favor.

**MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:** No comments.

**CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

**HEALTH OFFICER REPORT:** Phil went over his entire report. He then asked if there were questions.

1. Rob asked about the WENS system. Phil said it is a system that if we have your cell phone number, we can go into that system and give you a text message on a massive level. It is basically a reverse 911 but it works on your mobile phone. Our Chief (John Swanson) has that set up right now; he has emergency management and the police. Rob asked if that system gives priority to these messages over other messages. He said, ideally, if it was an emergency, those calls would get priority over other calls. Phil said this is something they are taking a look at, municipalities can get priority for the cell towers, there is some way to do that, we have not done that yet to my knowledge. There is a way to do that and yes there is a flaw, the whole system is based on the cell tower, they are the first ones to go down, however it is the best thing out there right now in my opinion.

**SANITARIAN REPORT:**

**BOROUGH NURSE REPORT:**

**HEALTH EDUCATOR:**

**REGISTRAR REPORT**

**ANIMAL CONTROL:** Hopatcong/Stanhope

**SWAT:** No report.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Phil passed around a letter from the Boy Scouts of America, thanking Dale for his presentation to the Scouts, the subject was Domestic and Wild Animal Safety.
2. Phil passed a thank you letter around addressed to Estelle Klein. Estelle provided lunch for the workers at the Hopatcong Rabies Clinic on behalf of the Animal Haven.
3. Rob asked how the Rabies Clinic went and Phil said it was well attended and a lot of animals were protected.
4. Phil asked the Board if they would like to join the New Jersey Local Boards of Health for the year 2007. The cost is \$ 95.00 to join. Phil said he would encourage the Board to participate giving the issues and some of the assaults on Home Rule coming down the road. Thom made a motion to pay the dues to the NJ Local Boards of Health Association for the year 2007, seconded by Selma. Rob asked if there would be any discussion, no discussion. Roll call, Rob, Thom, Joel, Craig and Selma, yes. All in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Licensing fees: Phil presented the Board with a survey of surrounding towns and their licensing fees. He said, presently we are right in line with everyone else. Not to say that other towns will not change by the end of the year, these fees are as of now. Phil then presented to the Board the number of cats licensed, 453 and of that number 68 were not altered. Dog licenses, 1924 and of that number 402 are not altered. He said now we know what effect spayed and neutered verses not spayed or neutered what the economic impact would be. He said obviously if you raised the not neutered fee a \$ 1.00, you would bring in another \$ 402.00 or on the cats if you raise the not neutered or spayed you would bring in another \$ 68.00. He said you have to take a look at, if we

were looking at income to augment the Animal Trust, where the impact would be most significant. He then asked the Board what they would like to do, if anything. Continued item # 3.

2. Phil said he talked to Dale about the cats that are picked up. Ninety five percent are strays and twenty five percent of that number are feral, can't be tamed. Fifty percent are semi-feral and if you work with them, they can be tamed. Estelle asked how Dale gets these cats and Phil said, if he gets a written complaint or he may get a call to put a trap out.

Rob said, if I remember correctly, the issue the Mayor was raising, was whether the Board could do anything to curtail the number of cat complaints or issues. He then asked, what does Dale do in the case when he traps a cat, the cat doesn't have a collar and can't be identified. Phil said, he will try to tame it, try to work with it. We fix them up, get them all their shots and try to adopt them out. Joel asked how Dale adopts these cats out and Phil said, Dale works with other organizations, there is a whole network of people out there trying to do the same thing you are. It still presents a problem, the more you bring into the pound the more demands you make on the pound.

3. Back to Animal Licensing: Rob asked, if we were to change the fees, they would take effect in January and Phil said, no in June. Thom made a motion to contact the attorney to investigate the mechanics of increasing the animal licensing fees by \$ 1.00 across the board, seconded by Joel. Roll call, Rob, Thom, Joel, Craig and Selma, yes. All in favor.
4. Shared Pound Services: Phil said he has the blue prints that Michael Bengis did. He said he would like to bring some people to the pound and ask them to give us an idea as to what this is going to cost us. The Board agreed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Resolution # 6-2007: Refund of Female Cancer Screening fees due to a grant. Phil read the Resolution and Rob asked for a motion. Thom made a motion to refund the \$ 20.00, seconded by Selma. Roll call, Rob, Joel, Thom, Craig and Selma, yes. All in favor.
2. Phil mentioned to the Board that our Health Educator, Kristine Wilsusen will be attending the SWAT meeting, that is subject to change.

Thom made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Selma, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Rosemarie Mitchell