

The regular meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 7:32 p.m. Present for this meeting were Tony Berberabe, Tracy Carluccio (Board Chair), Les Hamilton, Bogdan Slecza, Charles Van Horn, Pauline Serafin, and Larry Tatsch (Vice Chair). Christine Rosikiewicz, Board Secretary, was present. Ted Peyrek and David Wang-Iverson were absent.

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act this meeting was advertised as a regular meeting in the February 13, 2014 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. Notice of the meeting was forwarded to the Township Clerk's office, posted on the Township bulletin board and sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat, the Trenton Times, and the Star Ledger on March 13, 2014.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/AGENDA REVIEW:**Under Education and Health Issues**

Hunterdon County LINCS

Fax 3/13/14 Info: Shelter/Pound Annual Report Survey

Fax 2/14/14 Info: Basic Drug Recognition Course for Police, Fire and EMS

Under Correspondence

Hunterdon County

3/11/14 letter and information packet from Tadhgh Rainey, Division Manager Public Health Services Re: Mosquito Control Program

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES –FEBRUARY 18, 2014:

Mr. Hamilton made a motion to approve the minutes with two typographical corrections; Mr. Tatsch seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion passed.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Being no comments from the public Mr. Van Horn made a motion to close to the public; Ms. Serafin seconded it. All were in favor; the motion passed.

UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**A. Hunterdon County Division of Health and Safety – Inspector's Report****1. Owens (aka Woody's) B 16, L 11 – update**

Mr. Wyckoff reported that there is no new information regarding the Owens project; he is awaiting the LSLP response.

Mr. Wyckoff recalled how he reported last month on the improvements to the well at the Carousel Deli. The well head has been raised. Five water samples were taken; all were negative for e coli. The public notice was allowed to be removed. The well water is required to be monitored on a monthly basis beginning this month; this is an increased frequency from once per quarter before

the violation. The test results are submitted to DEP and the County for review. Ms. Carluccio stressed the importance of a County staff member monitoring the test results.

Ms. Carluccio inquired about the cause of the well water contamination. Mr. Wyckoff explained that the sump pump in the well pit failed causing the water in the well pit to rise and contaminate the well. The well head has been raised and the sump pump replaced which solved the problem. It was more of a groundwater problem than a contamination problem.

Ms. Carluccio inquired if the deli would be required to shut down during a power outage as an outage would cause the sump pump to fail. Mr. Wyckoff said it would need to close or utilize bottled water.

B. Preview Committee

There were no items for Preview Committee.

C. New Business

There was no New Business.

D. Unfinished Business

1. Consideration of adoption of the Public Health Nuisance Code (1953) excluding 2.1a and 2.1b and/or the New Jersey State Housing Code, 2010 (N.J.A.C. 5-28)

Ms. Carluccio explained that no action would be taken on this item tonight. Mr. Hamilton inquired if the Board had endorsed these items in the past. Ms. Carluccio said it did not. The Board has a nuisance code which is a model the County recommended in the 1970's or 1980's. The current code is not the same as the State code but covers pollution, garbage, solid waste, heating of buildings, ventilation, and plumbing. Not included in the current code are two plants; poison ivy and ragweed.

Ms. Carluccio said the Board could consider taking any portion of the State code to ammend the existing nuisance code. Ms. Carluccio recalled that the nuisance code had been used in the past when there were problems with solid waste. The Board previously considered adopting the section of State code concerning noise but it was determined that the ordinance is not specific enough.

Ms. Carluccio cautioned that changing ordinances needs to be considered carefully. The Ordinance Committee will be meeting tomorrow night to go over what needs to be looked at and formally adopted. She reiterated that the only item in the State code for nuisances that was different than the current code was poison ivy, which she did not consider a noxious weed, and ragweed, which has been a problem with allergies. The public issue that was brought up was a different concern; it was regarding plants growing on farm fields, and not a health issue of causing allergies. She believes invasive weeds should be a Township Committee item.

Mr. Van Horn believes the Board should wait for the Ordinance Committee to meet. He commented that he does not believe this code is needed at this time; he has not heard complaints in these areas. The State code would not cover the weeds brought up to Township Committee; those weeds, including thistle, are not a health issue in his opinion.

Mr. Hamilton commented that much of the State nuisance code is unenforceable, including the definition of sound, which may conflict with the right to farm. Perhaps the Ordinance Committee can add parts of it to the current code. Some of the items are not appropriate for Board of Health code. Mr. Hamilton said the housing code sounded favorable but there have been no issues and questioned why the Board would adopt it. Ms. Carluccio said it was brought to the Board by the County since they could not step in during a recent situation because the Board had not adopted this ordinance. DEP was able to take care of it as it was a public health issue. Ms. Carluccio noted that if the Board adopts the housing code they should consult with other Township entities to insure it is not in conflict with other Township ordinances. It was noted that much of what is in the State housing code may be already covered in other Township code.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

A. Education and Health Issues

1. Well Witnessing – continuation of discussion from December meeting

Ms. Rosikeiwicz reported that she contacted Kingwood and Hopewell Townships as they have similar well testing ordinances. Copies of their ordinances were provided to the Board members in their packet. Both Townships do not regulate residential wells, only subdivisions. The well driller certifies wells in Hopewell Township. Kingwood holds funds in escrow for witness fees. Ms. Rosikiewicz went over the East Amwell well permit fees. The fees for Hopewell and Kingwood are significantly higher. It was noted that the Board contracts with a hydrogeologist for wells in new subdivisions. Ms. Carluccio suggested the Board consider revising the fees. She recalled that in the past the Planning Board's escrow account was utilized when well testing was performed for a subdivision.

Ms. Carluccio explained that individual residences have typically been the type of development which takes place in East Amwell Township. Wells are certified to insure a new home or use does not harm the water supply to an existing home. The well witness issue has not be solved as of yet.

B. Board Secretary's Report

Ms. Rosikiewicz reported that well testing is being conducted this week. Test kits were sent to seven residences; three have been returned.

The County Board of Health meeting is on March 25th. Ms. Rosikiewicz and Mr. Hamilton will attend.

Mr. Tatsch commented that the testing has been conducted for approximately eight years. His well is tested as a "background well"; he does not believe his well is providing information and suggested it be dropped from the program. He suggested testing every few years instead of every year to save money.

Ms. Carluccio asked Mr. Tatsch if he would construct a trend analysis with this year's results which could be shared with other committees including the Environmental Commission.

Mr. Tatsch would like to have data from residences along the County roads as there is heavy salt used on them.

Ms. Carluccio suggested the Board review the Township on a map and evaluate locations to determine where testing should be done next year. Mr. Tatsch suggested that once sites are selected a Board member should visit the site to review the slope of the land and drainage to determine if it's possible for salt to be an issue. There will be considerable work involved to pick new sites but once they are chosen it will be beneficial to have the testing information and be able to share it with the County if water resources are being impacted from the road salt.

Mr. Hamilton commented that the DEP said East Amwell is the only Township testing for road salt contamination.

Ms. Carluccio summarized that once results come in a trend analysis will be completed and shared with other Committees. The Board can then decide where to test next year.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. 2/21/14 Report from Garden State Laboratories, Inc. Re: Drinking water, East Amwell Township Municipal Building

Mr. Tatsch expressed concern about the recent lab results as the total count has risen. Ms. Rosikiewicz was advised by Mr. Matheny that the UV light on the well has recently been changed. Mr. Tatsch commented that there was nothing on the results that would be a health issue but the test results show the effectiveness of the system is being reduced, bacteria is present. It was recommended the drinking water be retested in a week. The need to change the bulb annually was stressed.

BILLS OF THE EVENING

Mr. Tatsch made a motion to pay the bills of the evening; Mr. Van Horn seconded it. All were in favor.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Being no public present at this time Mr. Van Horn made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Mr. Tatsch. All were in favor; the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Van Horn motioned, seconded by Ms. Serafin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Rosikiewicz