

**MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM
JUNE 14, 2016**

Mr. Nachtigal called the regular meeting of the Board of Health to order at 7:30 P.M.

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of Health was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both the *Chatham Courier* and the *Morris County Daily Record* on February 10, 2016; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on February 10, 2016; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on February 10, 2016.

Answering present to the roll call were Mrs. Plantemoli, Mrs. Swartz and Mr. Nachtigal. Mr. Samara and Mrs. Bunsu were also present. Dr. Downey, Mrs. Gardner and Ms. Taormina were absent.

Selection of Vice-President

Mr. Nachtigal nominated Mrs. Plantemoli to serve as Vice-President. Mrs. Swartz seconded the motion.

Roll call: Mr. Swartz, Aye; Mrs. Gardner, Absent; Dr. Downey, Absent; Mrs. Plantemoli, Aye; Mr. Nachtigal, Aye.

Discussion

Septic License Fees

Mr. LaConte provided background on the process for septic license renewals, and said that the pumping requirement is in place to ensure preventative maintenance of septic systems.

Mr. Nachtigal asked Mr. LaConte what his role is in collecting the license fee. Mr. LaConte said that notices for renewal are mailed to the owners of properties with septic systems. Once the application, proof of pumping and fees are collected, the license is issued and records are kept to show that the licenses were issued. Mr. LaConte also noted that the Township needs to require the septic pumping as part of the wastewater management plan. The fee collected helps offset the cost of the Board of Health Secretary's time sending out notices and processing the applications.

Mrs. Swartz asked if all septic systems are relicensed at the same time, or if they are staggered. Mr. LaConte said that they are all on the same cycle. He also noted the sections of the Township that are still on septic systems. With 213 septic systems still in the Township and a license fee of \$15, the total amount anticipated to be collected is \$3,195.00. Mr. LaConte said that the late fee associated with septic licenses is \$10 for those who do not submit their paperwork on time.

Mr. LaConte noted that any modification to the license fee would not take effect until the 2019 renewal cycle.

Mr. Nachtigal opened the floor to the public.

1. Daniel Miller, Green Village Road, said that the mounded systems in Green Village destroy properties and affect property values. He opined that property owners who comply with the licensing requirement should not have to pay a license fee. Mr. Miller also noted that his property taxes fund the maintenance performed at the sewer plant, and those property owners who have septic systems do not have access to the sewer plants.

Mrs. Swartz said that she would like to see the license fee eliminated, and noted that the late fee could be increased. Mr. Nachtigal said that the fee helps offset the cost of Mr. LaConte's time in processing license fee applications. He also questioned why taxpayers should cover that cost when only those residents with septic systems benefit from the service. Mrs. Swartz noted that the license is not optional for the affected property owners, and a fee is being assessed on a

mandatory license. Mr. Miller commented on the cost of septic system repairs, and noted that power outages impact septic systems. Mrs. Swartz said that action can be taken at a later time when there are more Board members present.

Mr. Miller asked where the money goes once fees are collected. Mr. LaConte said that the money is deposited in the General Fund account, and it is used to offset Board of Health related costs.

Mr. Nachtigal thanked Mr. Miller for his input.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2016 meeting. Mr. Nachtigal seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Reports

Registered Environmental Health Specialist

Mr. Samara provided the Sanitarian’s report for May 2016. He reported that several retail food establishments were satisfactorily inspected, and all swimming pools had the requisite first inspection prior to opening. Mr. Samara also reported that he performed an inspection for a septic system repair on Green Village Road.

Mrs. Swartz asked about the pool inspection at Noe Pond Club. Mr. Samara said that the inspection was satisfactorily performed. He noted that water quality is tested by private labs, and the Health Department receives a copy of the results. Mr. Samara also indicated that his inspection includes ensuring that proper safety equipment is on hand.

Health Officer

Mrs. Bunsa reported that a skin cancer screening event will be held on June 25th at Colony Pool. She also reported that the Madison-Chatham Coalition (MCC) had a booth set up at the Fishawack Festival, and about 30 high school students responded to a survey that the MCC was conducting. Mrs. Bunsa also addressed the Brain Campaign.

Mrs. Swartz asked about the Healthy Communities grant application. Mrs. Bunsa said that it is for \$25,000 every year for ten years, and the Madison-Chatham Coalition has advanced to the next phase in the application process.

Registrar of Vital Statistics

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in May 2016:

16 Death Certificates	\$95
3 Marriage Licenses	\$84
5 Marriage Certificates	<u>\$35</u>
Total	\$136

Board of Health Secretary

Mr. LaConte reported that the Township Committee passed a resolution supporting the Grotta Grant Application which will be submitted by Madison. Mrs. Bunsa said that this grant is for Phase II. She also commented on the Town Forums held for the Tri-Town 55+ program. Transportation programs for senior citizens were discussed.

Mr. Nachtigal moved to accept the reports. Mrs. Plantemoli seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Discussion

Updates to Board of Health Page on Township Website

Mr. LaConte said that the Communications Committee is working on a new Township website, and feedback is requested from the various boards and departments regarding their respective pages.

Mrs. Plantemoli commented that the Board of Health page should include a link to the Madison Health Department webpage. There should also be a special section for upcoming events, as well as a section on health & wellness.

Mr. LaConte asked that Board members forward any comments to him by email so that he can compile them and submit the comments to the Communications Committee.

Zika Virus

Mrs. Swartz said that the Morris County Division of Mosquito Control gave a presentation to the Township Committee recently. Mrs. Bunsu said that there are concerns about Aedes albopictus mosquitoes becoming a vector for the spread of Zika. She also said that approximately 80% of cases could be asymptomatic. Mrs. Swartz said that the report from the Division of Mosquito Control indicated that deet is the best repellent, and that citronella is not effective. Mrs. Bunsu said that she has been able to successfully use citronella as a repellent.

Meeting Open to Public

Mr. Nachtigal opened the meeting to the public.
Seeing no comment, the public hearing was closed.

Mrs. Swartz moved to adjourn at 8:45 PM. Mr. Nachtigal seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Gregory J. LaConte
Board of Health Secretary