

Stanhope Board of Health

May 10, 2017

**President J. Gibbons called the meeting of the Board of Health to order at 7:00 p.m. Open Public Meeting
Act 1030 statement was read as required by law.**

Pledge of Allegiance

Members present: P. Zelif-Murphy, J. Savino, D. Thistleton, T. Romano, J. Gibbons, and M. McNeilly

Citizens to be Heard

President J. Gibbons opened the public portion of the meeting and recognized Mayor Rosemarie Maio. The Mayor brought to the Board's attention the concerns the Council have about the direction the county is taking on the execution of health matters in general and specifically what they have done with the County Board of Health, they have melded it into the general county frame work. They made it a part of Divisions of Health and Human Services for the County. It probably allows them flexibility on how they use their people.

However, now the County plans on taking the existing health tax which shows up as a line item on our taxes and merging it with the County budget which would take away our ability to see what we are paying for services for which we are contracted.

With all our other shared services and contracts we know how much that service cost us.

Additional concerns were brought up that we don't seem to be getting the services we are used to and that they are not as extensive as they used to be.

Thirdly, it's been ten years since we signed a contract with the county and the county has been unable to find a signed copy of the contract. We have never gone out to get bids on services, which is unlike any thing we do with other services. If we're happy with a service we will stay with it for five to six years and then go out for a RFP to see if we are getting the best deal for our money or if there is a better deal.

There's really three reasons why she's asking us for permission to write to the County and let them know we are going to exercise our options to look around.

This doesn't mean we are pulling out but will put the County on notice that we don't like what they are doing. This would in effect be our six month notice letter but doesn't mean we have to do it.

What she would like is an okay to act on behalf of the Board of Health to put the County on notice and maybe let them know we don't like what they are doing.

Sparta has already put the County on notice and there are other municipalities that are not happy with the County's plan.

We need to be able to control those cost and we can't if we don't know what they are and don't know what we are getting from them. The services we get from the County are services required by law to be provided by the Borough. Example would be inspections of public pools and beaches. We have only two pools were Vernon has a lot more. We only have 5 septic systems where the next town everyone has them. County tax has nothing to do nothing the amount of services we require. They can't keep the health tax by law.

When we paid Sparta the contracted amount was a general tax burden and paid for by the tax payers. County said they already had a separate health tax for people using their service. County cannot charge us if we are not using them.

J. Gibbons asked if there was a motion that one would like to offer.

T. Romano made a motion that we explore the options as per the Mayor's recommendation. P. Zelif-Murphy seconded.

Is there further discussion? no

Roll call vote taken.

P. Zelif-Murphy: yes, J. Savino: yes, D. Thistleton: yes, T. Romano: yes, J. Gibbons: yes, and M. McNeilly: yes

Motion carried.

Minutes of April 12, 2017 meeting were accepted on a motion by D. Thistleton seconded by P. Zelif-Murphy
Motion carried.

Reports

Sanitarian:

No activity report received.

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BOROUGH

Animal Control Officer:

No reports received.

Only getting reports when getting the bill.

Our contract has expired and it's Brian's belief that they are working on something to present to us. We are being billed at expired contract rate. It's a reasonable rate. At one time Mount Olive asked about what we paid and they couldn't come close to that.

Motion made by J. Gibbons and seconded by T. Romano for Secretary to investigate what ACO services Netcong and Byram use and their cost. Check if Mount Olive and Roxbury would be interested in providing ACO services to Stanhope. Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Secretary:

No report.

Motion by T. Romano and seconded by J. Savino to accept reports. Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Correspondence

- 4-28-17 Dana Mooney re: Budget Report as of 4-27-17
- 4-19-17 Christine Davey Chief REHS re: Deniece's Homestyle Day Care Pool
- 4-11-17 Sharon Viscardi re: dogs off leash at High Point Condo
- Public Health Info:
- 5-2-17 PHN Monthly Municipality Activity Report-April 2017
- 4-20-17 Public Health Update: Bicillin shortage--syphilis treatment CORRECTED
- 4-19-17 Public Health Information: Food and Teething Tablet Recalls
- Smokehouse of NY
- Standard Homeopathic company teething tablets
- Jimmy's cookies LLC of Clifton - peanut butter cookies undeclared milk
- 4-19-17 Nurses Day Open House May 12

Discussion took place. Sharon Viscardi has not to our knowledge contacted the Condo Association Board. Motion by P. Zelif-Murphy and seconded by J. Savino to accept correspondence. Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Old Business

Neuter/Spay Sponsorship Program: no new applicants.

New Business

No Stanhope Day this year.

Bills

No bills to be paid.

Citizens to be Heard

Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, President Gibbons closed the public portion of the meeting.

Since there was no further business to transact, the members voted to adjourn 7:45 p.m.

Motion by J. Romano seconded by P. Zelif-Murphy. Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique McNeilly
Monique McNeilly, Board of Health Secretary