**Hamilton Board of Health Meeting Minutes Tuesday July 9 , 2024 COA Building 299 Bay Rd., S. Hamilton, MA**

**Members Present**: David Smith, Chairman, Jean E. Ramsey, MD MPH, Dr. Giselle Perez

**Others Present**: Dennis Palazzo (Director of Health), Judith Ryan (Hamilton Public Health Nurse), Paul Vernucci (Regional Coordinator), Peter Mirandi (Health Dept. Consultant)

**Call to order**: meeting was called to order at 5:00pm

**Approval of minutes** of June 11, 2024 revised by Smith-Approved with no objections.

**Keeping of Animals Regulation:** In an effort to continue to upgrade current older regulations dating back to the 1980’s, a discussion continued as to an update. Chairman David Smith presented a draft-revised regulation developed in collaboration with the animal control officer, a local veterinarian, local barn managers, and surrounding communities, and based on reviews of the current regulations in several other towns that had recently updated theirs. The draft-updated regulation was assembled and distributed.

**Motion: Subject to the results of the review of this revised regulation by Town Counsel and incorporation of their essential comments, and Subject to the results of the Public Hearing we plan to hold on this revised regulation, incorporation of all Public Hearing comments deemed appropriate, We adopt this revised regulation with the Addendum presented to the Board here today and We will publish a legal Public Notice of the Public Hearing and of the final revised regulation as it may be amended per the above stipulations. Results; Passed (2 board members in favor, 1 abstained)**

**Discussion of Septic Loan Program (update); History;** Financing Agreement from Clean Water Trust was signed and received, funding approved, consultation with other town departments to determine application fee and interest rate prior to loan application process to town residents. In collaboration with Town Manager and the Select Board, it was agreed that a $250 application fee and 4% interest rate be considered by the Board of Health. Also discussed **-** Commercial property does not qualify for this program. **Motion: Accept the recommendation and fix the application fee at $250 and the interest rate at 4%. Passed unanimously**

**Discussion: Tobacco inspections -** there were no violations during the recent inspection/observations of the Hamilton tobacco permit holders

**Private Well regulation**: Peter presented a draft regulation to the Board which is an amendment from our current regulation, for consideration and discussion **Discussion to continue at next meeting**

**Chebacco Lake Watershed Association:**  They would like to have our Board be involved in the water quality of the lake. We would like more information from Watershed Association. **Discussion will continue at next meeting when additional information is received**

**HWRSD Schools**: Request from the Wenham Board of Health that we consider a joint Board regulation with regard to air and water quality in the HWRSD schools. **Tabled until next meeting – Mr. Frenkel (Wenham BOH) will be invited to present.**

**Public Health Nurse Report; (Judith Ryan); Infectious diseases -** Lyme disease - 4 cases, Campylobacterosis - 1 case, Tuberculosis-1 case, Influenza – 1 case, Coronavirus – 3 cases, Pertussis – 1 case. - MDPH has reported six positive mosquito samples of EEE and 2 positive samples of WNV - risk levels in the area have been elevated

**8 Margret Rd**. - resident Mark Soleimani is requesting a variance for placement of coops with regard to non-compliance set backs to abutting lot lines. **Tabled until next meeting -**  The Board requests; plot plan of property with distances depicted, description of waste management plan, description of building construction that houses the animals, site visit prior to decision.

 **Motion** to adjourn at 6:28 – passed without objection

Next meeting August 13, 2024 at 5pm, COA building