

**WATCHUNG  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES  
December 3, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER-**

**President's Statement-**

Under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., notice of the time and place of this meeting has been posted and sent to the official newspapers.

**ROLL CALL-**

William Nehls, President & Council Liaison (P); Harriet Stambaugh (A); Robert Riedinger (P); Mary Mobus (P); George Pogosky (P); Bruce Ruck (P); John Sachariah (P); Fran Ellis and Peter Savulich (arrived 7:05 pm - after roll call)  
Middlebrook-Kevin Sumner (P)

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF September 17, 2008 Meeting**

Motion to approve by George Pogosky, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Mobus – all in favor.

**Report of Vital Statistics for:**

**September**

Births - Male- 3 Female- 1  
Deaths - Male- 1 Female- 2  
Marriages- 4  
Domestic Partnerships – 0  
Civil Unions - 0

**October**

Births - Male- 3 Female- 0  
Deaths - Male- 0 Female- 1  
Marriages- 2  
Domestic Partnerships - 0  
Civil Unions - 0

**HEALTH OFFICERS REPORTS FOR - September/October -(Kevin Sumner)**

Bill questioned if the resident on Johnston Drive has gotten her cat licensed – Secretary stated that she did get it at the end of October.

Fran questioned pollution Control at Weldon – they upgraded their equipment and anytime that they have to have DEP approval to do so and they must change their permits.

Bruce questioned Lead levels in children – Kevin said they do not see many lead cases in Watchung at all.

**REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO MIDDLE BROOK – Bill Nehls**

Bill did not attend the meeting. Kevin said they had a meeting at the end of October with the main purpose being to discuss the Budget It was passed. We will further discuss with local budget under new business.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS-**

Discussion on Feral Cats –

Our contract with Roxdane does not cover Feral Cats possibly considering expanding to include this.

Their proposal is \$400/animal.

Bruce stated that the Roxdane proposal to the Borough is more than what they quoted the resident, which was \$200/animal. Should we be dealing with this at all?

There were questions on Roxdanes' current contract – Bruce felt that some of the items covered do include these cats. Bill thought the Borough Administrator should contact Roxdane for further clarification on what is or is not covered; and if necessary have our Attorney, Mr. Cruz, review the contract. The contract for next year will be close to \$10,000. This does not include the emergency calls (off hours), which are \$400/call.

Bill does not think we should recommend the Borough enter into the contract for Feral Cat Removal and everyone agreed.

Bruce asked if we could put in an Ordinance regarding keeping cats from being allowed to run free outside the home (leash law). Kevin said it is impossible to enforce this.

**NEW BUSINESS-**

Bob questioned the most current bacterial outbreak in hospitals. It is easy for cross contamination and difficult to control. Must bleach everything. Kevin said it is really not a new bacteria – it is called Clostridium Difficile Colitis or C-Diff. It has always been a difficult “bug” to control.

Bob said he would get further information on this.

**Discussed 2009 Budget –**

Kevin discussed the Middlebrook Budget for 2009.

The 2009 Middle Brook budget was approved at their October meeting. The average salary increase was 1.7%. This includes part-time help who received no increase and the full time staff who received increases from 0-3.5%. If you remove Colleen & the contract and the part-time help, the average would be 2.2%. It is frustrating to Kevin, and as he said to the Commission and all other towns that the municipalities they serve have been receiving between 3.5 and 4% salary increases over the last four years the Commission has kept their increases between 2.5% or less. The Commission Budget for the year increased approximately 6.8%, when they take the grants and fees for service monies they receive and some other funds the actual increase to municipalities is reduced to 4.5%. The figure includes the Municipalities contribution to the Visiting Nurses' Contract, which was not increased at all.

The local budget was discussed and changes were made. Some line items were reduced and some were eliminated completely. The community relation line item was discussed in more detail. Bill suggested eliminating this because we have not used it in the last three years but the members thought we should keep some money in the line item. This money could be used to possibly sponsor one of the cable productions. Watchung does not get these productions because we are not in the Piscataway service area and we do not belong to the statewide network. Kevin thought the cost to join the statewide network is approximately Seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per year. We would then be able to access any programs from the statewide site. The board could make a recommendation to the Mayor and Council to join the network and use this line item to pay the fee. However, if you do not have cable you would not be able to access this. It was decided to leave One hundred dollars (\$100.00) in this line item.

A motion to approve the budget was made by Robert Riedinger with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bruce Ruck.

President Nehls requested a roll call:

Ellis, Mobus, Pogosky, Riedinger, Ruck, Sachariah, Savulich, Nehls  
(all members in attendance voted to approve the budget)

**2009 Meeting Schedule:**

Schedule was reviewed and there was a motion to approve by Robert Riedinger, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bruce Ruck. All were in favor.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

No discussion

**ITEMS OF INTEREST:**

Bill mentioned that he would like to step down as president of the Board. He will stay on one more year if needed, but would like everyone to consider someone else for the position.

He also noted that it has been a very quiet year for the Board and would like to get some input on topics of interest for us to become more actively involved in the community.

**VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR PAYMENT-**

Fra Technologies – 2009 Animal License Contract - \$500.00  
Motion to approve by Bruce Ruck, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Sachariah – all in favor.

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

No public attended this meeting

A motion to adjourn was moved by Bruce Ruck and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robert Riedinger. All were in favor.

**Next Scheduled meeting will be held January 21, 2009 at the Texier House, 10 Mountain Blvd. At 7:00 pm**

Respectfully submitted

*MaryAnn Hance*  
Board of Health Secretary