**Hamilton Board of Health Meeting Minutes December 13, 2022 Senior Center Building 299 Bay Rd., S. Hamilton, MA**

**Members Present**: David Smith, Chairman; Dr. Giselle Perez; Dr. Jean Ramsey

**Others Present**: Rachel Lee (Regional Public Health Nurse), Dennis Palazzo (Director of Health), Shane Lougee, Eric Tracy, Tom Geary, Gretel Clark

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

**Approval of minutes** from November 22, 2022 - approved without objection

**Turf Field Installation;**

A Hamilton resident, Ms. Gretel Clark, spoke about her concerns about PFAS contained in Turf Fields and the potential run off posing a threat to ground water and drinking water.

Resident Shane Lougee (landscaper/experienced with the installation of Turf Fields) gave insight into turf field construction. He said some testing has been conducted to monitor runoff from a Turf Field in Concord, MA, and runoff was found to be minimal. At the Board’s request, he will supply a copy of that report.

Jean Ramsey was concerned about toxins in the air being released from Turf fields. Shane Lougee stated that air quality above turf fields could be directly monitored.

Eric Tracy (HW Regional School District Superintendent) & Tom Geary (Facilities Manager for HW schools) – provided a schematic plan of proposed synthetic turf fields for the school district developed by Gale Associates entitled: “DRAFT Athletic Campus Improvement for H-W RHS: 2017 and 2022 Design Project Elements”. They stated thatour fields are not comparable to other towns, our track is almost unusable, and our fields are unusable much of the time for use by youth sports and residents of the community and, as a result, they are forced to rent venues in other communities. They also stated that maintenance costs are higher with natural grass, which utilizes many chemicals not used on a turf field. David Smith noted a statement printed on the draft Gale Associates drawing: “Design Permitted in 2017”, and inquired what agency issued that permit. Tom replied the Hamilton Conservation Commission. The Board felt it advisable to open a conversation with Hamilton’s Conservation Commission about this permit to understand the basis for it and any conditions imposed on it. Further action tabled to next meeting.

**Green Burials; tabled**

**Other Business;**

Sharps collection program: Contracted with NE MedWaste for a low cost collection container that residents can take home, fill, and return to us for disposal. Presently, 30 containers are available for residents who would like to participate in this program at no cost to them. A press release was posted to the website to notify residents.   
Educational Program: A number of topics are proposed to educate residents, including CPR/first aid training, navigating social media, stress management and healthy eating; details will be discussed at a future meeting Septic, soil, food/pool/recreational camp permitting and related revenue reports for calendar year 2022 was reviewed.

**Motion** to adjourn at 6:06 – passed without objection

Next meeting January 10, 2023