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

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

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

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

**Approval of minutes** of February 27, 2024 and March 11, 2024- approved unanimously

**Discussion of Septic Loan Program (update);** Financing Agreement from Clean Water Trust was signed and received. Awaiting funding prior to loan application process to town residents.

**Review of the vote on reconsideration of the Board’s regulation for TB screening at public schools; Motion; Our Public Health Nurse, Judith Ryan, made a case for and recommended that** the Town of Hamilton eliminate the requirement for TB risk assessment and testing from the BOH regulation for public schools, colleges and universities with the exception of the Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. **-** *passed unanimously*

**Discussion/Update on the status of the HWRSD request for variance for the Amenities Building serving the proposed new athletic facilities.** *History* **-** On approximately March 1, 2024, the Chair of the Board of Health received an email from the HWRSD Superintendent forwarding a request to the Health Department to issue a variance to reduce the number of bathrooms in the new amenities building to be constructed. The Director of the Health Department convened a meeting of the Town Building Department Inspector and Plumbing Inspector to review the request. They approved it but with a condition requiring creation of an employee bathroom in the Concession Area. That condition was subsequently the subject of a telephone conversation between the applicant and the Plumbing Inspector who together reached mutual agreement for revision of the “Family Restroom” in the Amenities Building of the Ground Floor Plan to become an employee restroom.

**Result of the ATM votes on the three Citizen Petition articles regarding artificial turf; At the ATM on** April 6, 2024, all three citizen petitions regarding the installation of artificial turf fields at the HWRSD were defeated by a 2 to 1 margin. - *No change at this time.*

**Discussion on Private Well Permitting -** tabled until next meeting

**Discussion of 8 Lois Street; - Motion;** support and approve the condemnation order dated March 3, 2024 regarding property at 8 Lois Street as written *- approved unanimously*

**Public Health Nurse Report; (Judith Ryan); Infectious diseases -** Lyme disease - 6 cases, coronavirus cases - 3, tuberculosis – 1 case, influenza – 2 cases, Hepatitis B – 1 case, Campylobacterosis – 2 cases

 **Regional Social Worker Report;** RSW office hours at HW Library (2nd and 4th Tues. 10:30-12:30) at Hamilton Housing Authority (1st and 3rd Tues.). Caregiver support group meets on 3rd Mon. at Essex COA. No update on regional school district wellness committee at this time.

**Motion** to adjourn at 6:36 – passed without objection

Next meeting May, 14, 2024 at 5pm, COA building