



CITY OF DELAWARE CITY
407 Clinton Street - P.O. Box 4159
Delaware City, Delaware 19706
302-834-4573

**Minutes from the Regular Meeting
Delaware City Board of Health, Wednesday, October 10, 2012
City Council Chamber**

Please refer to the signatures on the Attendance Sheet for all citizen/members present.

Meeting Called to Order by Councilman Stan Green at 7:10pm

- Agenda amended by those present to move New Business item #1, to reflect Nomination and Election of Board of Health/BOH Chairperson and Secretary as the first order of business.
- Councilman Green nominated Brenda Parker as Chair of BOH, nomination accepted and she was voted unanimously by the quorum present to sit as committee chair. This was followed by his nomination of Lisa Webster to the position of Secretary of the BOH, she too accepted this nomination and was voted into this position unanimously.
- Agenda was then approved as presented, with change indicated above.
- No minutes presented from previous Board of Health meeting in September.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and Citizen Corp

With the help of City Manager Cathcart we were informed of an existing "plan" and the experience gained from last years Hurricane Evacuation of DE City.

Primary concern being the "Safety & Property" of the citizens of the town.

Possible training project to organize & train "Citizens Corp" of Volunteers to help in emergency situations, using County Police, National Guard, & DE City Fire CO. #1.

Organize an Evacuation and Command Center for the city, perhaps the Fire Company, or Community Center. This should, could, and would include: Shelter In Place, Policies & Procedures in the event all natural and possible industrial disasters, Communications Center, Database with information on specific needs citizens. Develop an Action Plan with Best Practices, Citizen's Volunteer Group, & Community Watch Unit.

2. DE City's Cat Population

Thanks to the efforts of Councilperson Titus approximately 30 cats have been neutered, spayed or vaccinated. The Humane Society is willing to help the community, but the animal owner needs to be able to get to the facility in Christiana. Some discussion of a "mobile" unit for veterinary care. This item was "Tabled" until the Spring-time, when kitting season begins again.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. First order of Business - Elected BOH officials. (please see note after Call to Order)

2 & 3. Sewage & Standing Water

Sewage is not an issue currently. City Manager Cathcart shared the continued support of the County by spraying with the purpose of eliminating a significant issue with flooding/pooling of water in and around the city as well as the mobile home park area caused by the “invasive alien” plant: *Phragmites australis*, a common reed. It is believed that the spraying will alleviate the problem significantly. Mention of the use in some communities by a less traditional approach by bringing in a pair or more of Water Buffalo, who eat their way through the root system, damaging the plants ability to grow and thrive, was discussed. This issue is actively being worked on, and may need no further action.

4. Air Monitoring Study

It was determined that the Air Quality Study implemented and reported on by the DE City Environmental Coalition was flawed in some ways. Data collected could have been contaminated and needs more DNREC oversight with protocols for collection of data. A new “Bucket Brigade” is to commence with a follow-up study in the near future. This local group will have access to DNREC to review procedures and practices for gathering samples, as well as equipment set-up and appropriate use, to then have the DE Department of Health review scientific data, to assimilate collections and complete a report, hoping to provide a more accurate report of the air quality within the city limits. Continued support from the local citizen volunteers, the Sierra Club in DE, and a consulting group with expertise in this field of data collection expected. BOH decided to table discussion until the new meeting with “Bucket Brigade” commences.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

5. City Manager reports citizen complaints referring to Trash Receptacles being left in front of properties long after pick-up of trash. BOH asked CM to post a written reminder of the city ordinance requiring removal of trashcans within 24 hours of pick-up, in the quarterly newsletter from town hall to all post office box holders as a sufficient remedy.

- Agenda completed, no further business concerning BOH, unanimously voted to close meeting.

Respectfully Submitted By,
Lisa Webster
Secretary Board of Health