

The Killingworth Board of Selectmen held a public informational meeting on Thursday, September 15, 2011, at the Killingworth Fire House, 333 Route 81, Killingworth, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by Moderator Rick Albrecht.

It is noted for the record this public informational meeting was for the purpose of receiving public comment to consider whether the Town should join the Chatham Health District as a member or continue with a part-time Health Director. Written communications would be received and interested persons would be heard.

Moderator Albrecht introduced First Selectwoman Catherine Iino. First Selectwoman Iino thanked everyone for attending to talk about this important question which is “what is the best way to provide public health services for the Town.” She explained public health services are needed for 3 reasons – to protect the health of our citizens, without adequate public health services the Town is at risk of serious liability and ultimately for astronomical costs if the Town should ever have to put in a public water or sewer system and that the Town is required by State law to have a public health department that meets certain criteria. Iino noted the Town’s Public Health Agency has spent much time over the last two years preparing a recommendation on the best way to provide public health services for Killingworth (most economically, most reliable and most thorough).

First Selectwoman Iino thanked the members of the Public Health Agency who are unpaid, highly qualified (registered nurses, public health experts, health administrators and former probate judge), volunteers for the many hours of work put into this question. Natalie Ortoli-Drew (chair of the PHA) introduced the PHA members – Martha Hogan, Sue Nesci, Holly Darin, Ernie Pizzuto. She also introduced the interim Health Director, Thad King.

Moderator Albrecht noted this meeting is informational only, no votes will be taken, no motions from the floor, there will be a presentation made and an opportunity to ask questions.

Ernie Pizzuto introduced himself. He noted the Public Health Agency is required by Town Charter, was reactivated in February 2009 and is comprised of 8 volunteers appointed by the Board of Selectmen and Director of Health.

Mr. Pizzuto explained Public Health Services have four components – Environmental, Infectious Disease Control and Reporting, Emergency Management and Health Education & Disease Prevention. The Environmental component regulates sewage disposal and drinking water supply, inspects food service establishments and trains providers and regulates toxic substances such as radon, lead paint, asbestos. Infectious Disease Control and Reporting consists of STD’s, flu, tick-borne illnesses, rabies, etc. There is coordination with Emergency Management

Services. Health Education & Disease Prevention includes lyme disease education, blood pressure screening, etc.

Mr. Pizzuto noted the goals for Public Health in Killingworth is avoidance of public sewers and public water supply, prevention of food-borne illness outbreaks, infectious disease prevention and health promotion and education.

Mr. Pizzuto noted a three year review was conducted by the PHA. This included an assessment of public health status and needs, review of current structure and audit conducted by the State Health Department and Interim Health Director, explore alternatives and develop recommendations for public health services.

Mr. Pizzuto reviewed Professional qualifications of Health Department Staff. State law requires that towns have a qualified public health director with a Master's Degree in public health. Registered Sanitarians are required to be certified for septic system and food service inspections by the Conn. Department of Public Health.

Mr. Pizzuto summarized the current system which consist of four part-time positions (about 12 hours per week or 1/3 full time position). The four positions are Interim Health Director, Agent for the Health Director, Registered Sanitarian to sign off on work for the Agent and Registered Sanitarian to inspect food service establishments. He indicated the current system is fragmented and difficult to coordinate. There is no back up and no organized public health plan for the town. Not all staff meet minimum State requirements. There are record keeping deficiencies. There is no current contract for community nursing services and no organized health education program. Some of these things lead to potential liabilities to the town.

Mr. Pizzuto stated the recommendation based on the assessment by the PHA is to join a Health District as it is the most efficient and cost-effective way to provide public health services to the town. He explained a Health District is a health department that provides services to more than one town.

Mr. Pizzuto reviewed the advantages of joining a Health District. Qualified staff and clear lines of supervision, back up in staffing and flexibility to cover increased demands. Depth in a crisis, such as power outages and food service inspections within a couple days. Improved record keeping and web-based public access to information. It would provide decentralized mass distribution system in the event of a pandemic flu or bio-terrorism attack. A certified sanitarian would be stationed in Killingworth 5 days a week. There would be health education and promotion services. It would also separate politics from public health. There would be one representative on the Board of Health and monitoring is much simplified. The current system

depends on the first selectman to monitor the services of four individuals. That office lacks the time, expertise and continuity to do this kind of work.

Mr. Pizzuto noted there are two Health Districts in this area – Chatham Health District and Connecticut River Area Health District. The PHA recommends joining the Chatham Health District due to the fact the cost is lower than the CRAHD. The cost would be \$8.25 per resident vs. \$12 per resident. Member towns are similar in size and demographics. Killingworth shares a school district with Haddam. The District Director has served as interim health director for the past year and the district would provide more hours of service per week (18 hrs. vs. 12 hrs).

Mr. Pizzuto further noted membership in CHD would also include access to the Everbridge Emergency notification system at a cost of \$2,000 for the first year. Pizzuto noted at the request of the Board of Selectmen, inquiries were made to a number of septic pumpers and registered engineers regarding their working experience with CHD. All responses were favorable.

Mr. Pizzuto reviewed costs. Killingworth currently spends \$46,200 on public health. This provides 1/3 of a full time position, 9 hr./wk. for environmental sanitation, 1 hr./wk. food service sanitarian and 2 hrs./wk. for health director. The projected cost for the Health District would be \$8.25 per resident (6,522 residents) or \$53,806, based on 18 hours of service per week.

In summary, Mr. Pizzuto noted the cost to join the CHD is comparable to what the town is currently spending. It could be slightly more or less depending on a number of variables. The town would gain a broader range of health services and five more hours of sanitarian service per week. The next steps would be for the Board of Selectmen to call for a Town Meeting vote and to incorporate this into the 2012 Town's Budget.

Thad King introduced himself. He noted the CHD is a 7 town health district which is enabled by State Statutes by the legislative body. They started in 2002 with 4 towns (East Haddam, East Hampton, Marlborough, Hebron). In 2004, Portland joined. Haddam joined in 2008 and Colchester joined in 2011. The seven towns makes it about 70,000 in population. The Board is governed by a Board of Health also enabled by Statute. The Board of Health is represented by the member towns through an appointment by the individual town. There is one member for each 10,000 of population. The Board meets monthly. It is policy Board and not involved in the day to day operations. The Board approves the budget. Mr. King noted he has 10 staff, 6 sanitarians, a community health director, health educator, hiring a public health nurse and emergency response coordinator. All Emergency Management Directors work with the CHD's emergency response coordinator.

In terms of services, Mr. King noted CHD offers environmental services (waste water, septic permitting, potable water permits, food service and institutional inspections, water sampling of water bodies, day care inspections). They also have a Breast Cancer Awareness Program in conjunction with Middlesex Hospital and the Community Health Center in Middlesex. They started a flu vaccination program for all the various schools.

Mr. King noted finances were covered earlier in the meeting. The per capita cost is \$8.25 per resident. This cost has been pretty consistent averaging around \$8.00. They collect fee revenue and have a Grant portfolio.

Moderator Albrecht noted he would like to acknowledge Brian Fitzsimmons as one of the Public Health Agency members, as well as Killingworth's State Representative Jim Crawford.

Peggy Bushay asked if there was a paid staff and how do they get paid, does it come out of the \$8.25. Mr. King noted the Board of Directors do not get paid. All staff get paid out of that budget. He explained there are grant sources that pay other staff as well.

Bill Romero asked if the Town was currently out of compliance at this time with any State or local ordinances with a part time Health Director. First Selectwoman Iino noted the Town currently has an interim Health Director with CHD, but that can only continue for another few months. Another interim Health Director would have to be hired at that time. The Town is not out of compliance right now in that regard, but can't continue with the CHD as it is not a normal function they take on. Thad King noted the regulation allows for an interim appointment for 90 days. Mr. Romero asked if that was according to town ordinance. Iino replied it was according to State Statute.

Karl Auer asked how much the interim Health Director costs. First Selectwoman Iino noted it was \$1,200 a month.

Paul Kahn asked for clarification as to where the grants come from. It was noted most are State grants and some come from the CDC.

Dave Potts noted he works with both Thad King and Dick Leighton and works all over the State. He asked if Amy Eberly (current food service inspector) has the necessary qualifications to be a Director of Health. First Selectwoman Iino stated she did not know the answer to that question. Potts indicated he thought she did and was interested why Ms. Eberly wasn't considered for that role. First Selectwoman Iino noted Ms. Eberly never contacted her with respect to that position and she has a full time job in addition to the services she provides the Town of Killingworth on a contracted basis. Potts noted his concern as a taxpayer is that most of the work in this town is

either septic or well work. There hasn't been any bio-terrorism. Mr. Potts asked those present in the room who were licensed septic installers if they have ever had a problem with the current system. The unanimous response was no. Mr. Potts noted he has never had a problem with the CHD, but in other towns that are in health districts, some of them have expressed a desire to get out of the health districts. He asked if anyone was aware of what that was the case. First Selectwoman Iino asked if that referred to this particular health district or health districts in general. Mr. King noted this referred to the Ledge Light Health District. He noted the problem stems from differences in the kinds of public health services – urban vs. rural. In CHD, the town compositions are fairly similar. There is commonality in terms of the Government structure. He also noted many districts utilize a centralized format and they specifically stayed away from that. They try to maintain an office in each of the member towns with dedicated staff.

Nancy Gorski noted the current public health cost is \$46,200 vs. \$53,866 for CHD. For the extra money, there will be 6 more hours per week, but she wasn't sure that was necessary if the Town is currently in compliance. First Selectwoman Iino emphasized the \$46,000 was not an exact figure. If the Town needs to hire a new Health Director, it does not know how much that will cost. It is very hard to find someone qualified and that could be the difference. She explained the 18 hours is just for inspections and doesn't include some of the other services the Health District provides. The costs are close enough that that shouldn't be the basis on which this is decided. It could go either way. If the Town has to hire another Health Director it could cost that difference in money.

Ernie Pizzuto noted they advertised for a Health Director for several months and only one qualified person applied. That one person lived half way across the State and there is no back up. The objective of the Health District is that there is plenty of back up in the event of sickness or something else.

Bill Romero noted this system of having a part time Health Director has worked fine for many years.

First Selectwoman Iino noted the Town's records have had some problems in the past. The Town also has to be aware there is a potential liability if something fails. It can't continue to operate the way it has in the past. The requirements for Health Director have changed. The prior Health Director was there in name only and didn't do anything.

Rick Albrecht asked what the scope of the Health Director's position was. Would it include inspections too? First Selectwoman Iino noted that would be a possibility. Iino replied it doesn't provide the depth of services that an organization does and back up. Mr. King noted the 18 hours proposed are office hours for the sanitarian, but if additional assistance is needed, there is

additional staff available. He noted membership implies everything, there is no limitations and the rate of \$8.25 is the rate.

Ed O'Connell asked if the Health District carries a higher liability policy than the Town carries relative to a catastrophic water pollution situation. First Selectwoman Iino noted that was not what she suggested. Her suggestion had to do with vigorous testing, monitoring and inspecting. It was noted the liability still comes back to the Town of Killingworth. Mr. O'Connell noted then if there was a problem, the Town would still be liable. The reply was yes.

Ray Szumilas asked what the cost of the program would be if there were no grants from the State. The reply was it was a little over a million for this year divided by 70,000 population. Mr. Szumilas noted there would be a sanitarian available 5 mornings a week. He asked what that person would do five days a week. Is there new construction going on, new permits being pulled that require that amount of time? First Selectwoman Iino noted there is not a lot of new construction going on, but it was her understanding there is a lot of additions, changes to houses, failed systems, new systems, etc. Szumilas asked how many septic permits a week are being pulled.

Richard Leighton, current Sanitarian, noted it was unique in this Town because he was also a certified Building Inspector and his activities are co-mingled. Ron Rose, the Registered Sanitarian, is also a certified Building Inspector. When visits are made to a site, perhaps for an electrical inspection, they can also do a septic inspection at the same time. He explained when an addition is put on, they have to do a B100 examination to be sure there is adequate are in the event a system fails. The two jobs are co-mingled – building inspections with septic system. Their 15 hours is co-mingled with building so there is no outright cost. Mr. Leighton noted he has been in Town 18 years. He works Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. There is no backlog and hasn't been for the last 5 years. Every installer and engineer in this room has his cell phone number and doesn't go through the office. Mr. Szumilas asked if there was a need for a sanitarian 5 days a week. Mr. Leighton replied no.

The question was asked if someone could give an example of what a public health plan entails and how it would benefit the community. Mr. King noted the WPCA might designate an area for onsite wastewater and the Planning & Zoning Commission approves that. The question then is who handles the actual management of that Plan and it would fall to the local Health Department. There is an effective maintenance pump out system, there may also be something similar for potable water. He mentions this because these are specifically cited in the State Statute and it is the responsibility of the Town to provide for it. Those are things the local health department can assist with and it can be part of the plan. Mr. King noted there are other services in the plan, such as environmental and prevention of specific disease. Is there an effective

community based plan for lyme disease prevention? Mr. King noted they do a community health assessment and identify those needs.

Jeff Yazmer noted there are 7 towns in the CHD and 10 staff. What would be the threshold for increasing staff if other towns join? Mr. King noted they are willing to talk to any town interested in joining, but they do not solicit. Their staffing levels have been incredibly efficient. They have looked at the need for increasing staff, but just not doing it.

Don Venuti asked if there was any problem with public water pollution in the Town of Killingworth. First Selectwoman Iino replied it depends on where one is. Mr. Venuti noted there are two reservoirs in Killingworth – one is the Connecticut Water Company and one is the New Haven Water Company. He noted he is a licensed installer having been in business for 30 years and lived in town for 52 years. He indicated he works all over town. The CWC and NHWC have people going all over town checking every single property and if there was anything being polluted, the Town would no. Mr. Venuti noted he stays away from anywhere that has a Health District because it is nothing but aggravation. He works in all the towns that have a sanitarian, it's simple and no problem at all. A simple 2 or 3 day job takes a week to 10 days with a Health District. Mr. Venuti noted Mr. Leighton has been in Town for 18-20 years and there have been no problems. Why are we trying to fix something that is not broken?

Mr. Albrecht noted there was an issue in the past with uranium in the water at Jensen's. Keith Jensen noted the only reason that was detected was because it was a community water system. There were other wells in Town that also had uranium.

Keith Jensen asked what the fee schedule would be for a septic installation. Would CHD be more expensive than the current fees? First Selectwoman Iino noted the restaurant inspection fees were higher and the subsurface fees were lower. Mr. Jensen noted it was mentioned the bottom line cost could be slightly more or less depending on variables. He asked what some of the variables would be. Mr. Pizzuto noted hiring additional people would be a variable, fees and the Everbridge System are other variables. He indicated there are a bunch of costs that aren't tied down and could be variables.

Question was asked of Mr. King what his position would be relative to Jensen's Beechwood septic. It was noted Beechwood is a unique place with 299 home with individual systems. This individual noted he deals with two other Health Districts and they both regulate them through the DEEP and it just makes more red tape. Ernie Pizzuto noted he didn't know a whole lot about waste water systems but 299 lots was a lot of individual systems. Mr. King noted there is a jurisdictional issue here. If it exceeds 500 gallons a day, it is not within the local Health Director's jurisdiction, but rather DEEP. He stated he understood there was some sort of

agreement in place that he was not aware of. Whatever the status is now, that would remain. Keith Jensen noted that is a watershed area and the water company monitors the water constantly. There currently is no issue and Mr. Leighton watches this like a hawk.

Mr. King noted whether the Town is in any Health District or whether it remains as an individual Health Department, the jurisdictional status will not change. He did note the DEEP is coming out shortly with a general permit. Mr. King explained the general permit process. He indicated an application would be applied for the entire lot and certain criteria would be put forth for monitoring the surface water, an engineer would design a proposal for the septic system installation and as long as that is followed, it would be registered and in compliance. This will not change the way the Town operates relative to outside wastewater systems until such time as there is a proposal to integrate them into one system.

Dominic St. John noted he has lived in Town 35 years and the Town has had its own health system in place all those years. It has been said there are some problems with this system. Mr. St. John asked is it wouldn't be easier to find these problems and correct them rather than go to another system. He didn't understand why the Town needs to go to a Health District. First Selectwoman Iino asked what the population of the Town was 35 years ago. Mr. St. John said maybe 4,000 and an additional 2,000 in 35 years is nothing. The Town should have found professionalism in that time to correct any problems and have our own system. Perhaps the cost might be a little more or may even come down some. The issue is whether the Town needs the CHD system or whether the Town should correct its own system and let it continue to operate.

Natalie Drew noted over time the State Statutes relative to Public Health requirements to the Town have changed. As of last October, requirements for a Health Director have changed so the Town has to comply with the State Statutes as to the qualifications of a Health Director. When the previous Health Director left, the Town hired an interim Health Director. That interim Health Director left and another interim Health Director was hired. The State does not allow you to continue with interim Health Directors. The requirements do not allow for an MD solely to be a Health Director. That individual has to be a Registered Sanitarian with a Masters in Public Health. Drew explained an ad was placed and a number of applications were received. Only one of those received had the qualifications and the salary is an unknown commodity. That individual may require a lot more salary than the Town would be willing to pay. There would also be no kind of back up with this individual.

Dominic St. John noted if there are few people that qualify for this position, then why don't we go to the State and try to lower the requirements for the Health Director.

Michael Venuti noted this Town has done a tremendous job with the Zoning Board following the State mandated Plan of Conservation & Development. Every ten years that Plan is updated. The Town then adopted soils based zoning which has protected the Town's most prized resource, the land in this Town. There still needs to be an engineered septic system, the lots are bigger which means it costs a little more to live here but that kind of thinking has ensured the quality of the Town's water resources. The Town does have a plan and its working just fine. This is about preserving the rural nature of this Town. His experience has been when Government gets into people's lives, everyone suffers. The Town has a competent man that has been here for over 18 years, like him or not, if you do your job and call for an inspection, he comes out and has the ability to make a decision on the spot. That benefits two people – the contractor who wants to get the job done and get paid and the homeowner who wants to have their life back to normal. Mr. Venuti noted this will all change if the Town joins the Health District.

Mr. Venuti noted he saw on the CHD website that if someone wanted to build and small deck and there was no record of deep hole testing in the file, the Health District will require soil test data before getting an approval for a building permit. Venuti noted two things would happen in that case – the individual would say he isn't putting up with this or not pull a permit and put up the deck anyway.

Mr. Venuti noted if the townspeople want to preserve Killingworth, it has to say no to the Health District.

Mr. King asked Mr. Leighton if the Town of Killingworth enforces B100. Mr. Leighton replied yes. Mr. King asked if B100 was required in every case. Mr. Leighton replied no. Mr. King replied the CHD certainly doesn't either. Mr. Venuti restated he got that off the CHD website. Mr. Leighton noted the CHD website should be corrected and gives the wrong opinion. Mr. Leighton reiterated if the area is not a potential septic area, than a B100 is not required. Venuti read an excerpt from the CHD website indicating that for proposed building additions if soil testing is not on file, soil testing is mandatory to determine site suitability, etc. Mr. King reiterated it really depends on the nature of the project and the wording on the website came right from the Connecticut State Statutes, B100 section. First Selectwoman Iino noted the page handed out for tonight's meeting also says B100 is required for additions, accessory buildings, swimming pools, etc.

Bill Romero asked if the Town was still actively pursuing a search for a Health Director. First Selectwoman Iino noted there is one person who is a possibility for hire. Mr. Romero asked if the Town was still looking and why hasn't the search been expanded. First Selectwoman Iino replied no, because it was the recommendation of the Public Health Agency that the most efficient way to solve the problems identified was to join the Chatham Health District. Mr.

Romero noted the Town should be looking for the part time position to see if there is a suitable pool of candidates to choose from. It may come to the very last minute and then there is no choice and he didn't want that to happen.

Dave Potts noted sometimes when an ad is run, it doesn't mean employees would be interested in answering the ad. He inquired as to whether or not Amy Eberly had been asked about the position. First Selectwoman Iino noted she did not ask Amy but has had several conversations with her. Mr. Potts noted he thought it would be a very cost effective solution if she already works for the Town and encouraged First Selectwoman Iino to have discussion with her.

Mr. Potts asked what the Town did to resolve the uranium problem. First Selectwoman Iino noted Jensen's put in a community water supply system. Mr. Potts asked Mr. King what the CHD would have done differently in that situation. Mr. King replied he didn't know whether any additional testing has been done. He also didn't know if any monitoring of private residential wells has been done. One has to find out what the scope of the problem is before proposing a solution. There is treatment that can be proposed but are they necessary and effective. Mr. King noted this is a classic example of where due diligence can assist in formulating a plan. King reviewed the Town of East Hampton as an example. He noted this is a proactive process and the Town has to plan for that. It is a function of the local Health Department to plan for such an event as the uranium issue. The uranium issue and treatment at Jensen's was reviewed.

Selectman Cabral noted as far as uranium is concerned to the best of his knowledge the two schools in Town were tested and below the acceptable levels. There was one resident's well that was tested. Uranium was found and it was treated. The Town was then divided into quadrants and in 3 of the 4 found below levels and one case in the northeast where the water sample was above the accepted level. That person was informed and they took care of the issue. The Town did what it had to, but did not go out and test every single well. This process was run by the Health Director and the State did the testing. It was noted well testing must be completed for any Certificate of Occupancy requested.

Cathy Moyer asked Selectman Cabral how the individual homes cleaned up their uranium problem. Cabral noted they researched it and took care of it. It was not the Town's responsibility. There was no follow up. They individually took care of it.

Ernie Pizzuto noted the job posting was put on the Connecticut Public Health website and they got very few responses. Mr. Pizzuto asked Selectman Cabral if two out of four tests for uranium were positive. Cabral replied no. Out of the four residences tested and all the schools, there was only one positive for uranium. Mr. Pizzuto noted that was a very small sample size and an example of why more should have been done on uranium.

Mike Milano asked who the CHD answers to if there is a problem getting an inspection. Mr. King noted if one calls the field office, they talk to whoever is there. There is a Chief Sanitarian and then the main office. He indicated they try to be pretty accommodating with their scheduling. He noted the Statutes say that final inspections should be done within 24 hours. They try to do that but obviously there will be times when they might have a problem with that and work it out. Mr. Milano reviewed an incident where recently he was told it would be two weeks before a septic inspection could be done because they had over 200 kitchens to inspect as a result of the hurricane. Ultimately his inspection was fit into the schedule. Mr. Milano asked how many people service the area covering 70,000 and would Killingworth open itself up to dealing with a large group that doesn't give the service that it is used to in a small town.

Fran Dooley asked if the Town could back out of the system if it decides it doesn't like it. Mr. King noted the State Statutes say a town must stay in for at least two years. If a town lets the District know it would like to get out of the District, it would have to notify the District before that next fiscal planning period. He further noted if the Town came back 3 months later and was really unhappy, the Board would try to accommodate the Town. This is a mutually acceptable situation. The Towns that are in the District, they want to be in the District.

Mr. Dooley asked if there was any redundancy built in here with the State Agencies. For example, the State inspects the restaurants. Mr. King replied no. He indicated theoretically they inspect State facilities but in most cases they ask the locals to do it. He stated there are 30,000 + food establishments in the State of Connecticut. The total certified people to inspect those establishments is 109 and CHD has 7 of them.

Nancy Gorski thanked Mr. Dooley for asking that question as this will be coming to the Town for a vote and it doesn't know the terms of the contract. Now we do know we can get out of it if the Town doesn't like it but that's not in the best interest of CHD either. She stated she would need to know there is someone in town that is holding the CHD accountable to be sure they are doing what they are supposed to be doing before she would vote for it.

Don Venuti asked Mr. King if the Town of Haddam agreed to join the CHD and then try to get out of it. Mr. King replied there is no active request from the Town of Haddam to move out of the District. Someone else in the audience indicated they did try to get out of it but the question would have to be posed to Tony Bondi. Mr. King reiterated there was no vote or discussion by the Town of Haddam, formal or informal, to remove themselves from the CHD.

Walter Adametz asked if the records will remain in Killingworth. Mr. King replied yes. They don't supply clerical help, only the Sanitarian. The Town provides clerical support and the paper

record stays in Killingworth. Mr. King noted CHD has a web based management record system. They provide access of those records to residents. Mr. Adametz asked if the contract was for two years. Mr. King replied there is no contract. The Town votes by Statute to join the District and there is no contract, but it is required to stay a minimum of two years. King noted the Town votes itself in and the Town votes itself out.

There was discussion regarding the per capita price and whether it has a cap. Mr. King noted that process starts in October and they need to have approved budget by February 1st to present to the Towns. Their public hearing for the next fiscal year will be end of January. Barbara Klein noted she has been a member of the WPCA for 30 years and they instituted a pump out system to avoid failed systems. There have been failed systems. She noted hopefully this could be handled better with the Health District.

Eileen Boulay noted she moved to Town in 1995 and worked with professionals that knew the Town, the engineers, the excavators and the sanitarian. She indicated her system has never failed. Her next door neighbor went with whoever gave him the best deal and his system has failed three times. He got the bear minimal. The engineers and excavators that live in Killingworth know Killingworth like no one else. Boulay noted she was not willing to pay the State of Connecticut \$50 or \$60,000 while taking money from the small business in Killingworth. The Town needs to continue to give to our businesses. And for them to have a response time of 30 days for an inspection for a deep hole test, that is unacceptable. That cannot be done to the Town's builders. She stated Killingworth is a community that has the best of the best because it is a community that loves each other and does the job. The Town has engineers, excavators and builders that are amazing. The Sanitarian may be difficult to deal with at times, but he doesn't do anything to anyone that doesn't deserve it and she has been on the receiving end of both. Ms. Boulay stated for the Town to give that up was beyond her.

Peggy Bushay asked how long CHD has been a District. The response was 2002. She also asked if the State and Federal Grants were to dry up, would the costs to the Town sky rocket. Mr. King replied no. Ms. Bushay asked how that would be prevented. Mr. King noted a lot of the grants referred to are on the community side. The Town levy is pretty well guarded and consistent. The price started out at \$7.75 has gone as high as \$8.75 and is now at \$8.25, so there is going to be some variability. Mr. King reviewed how they do their budget. They talk to every CEO of every Town. They gear their budget based on what the Towns are doing.

Sherri Romero asked how much is currently brought in for septic, etc. fees. First Selectwoman Iino replied about \$4,000. Ms. Romero noted those fees will then go to the Health District. Iino replied yes.

Liz Dobbins asked if mileage would be charged to come to Killingworth since all the Towns except Haddam are across the river. The response was no.

Don Venuti asked how this gets to a Town Meeting after this. First Selectwoman Iino noted the Board of Selectmen will decide whether to send it to a vote. Mr. Venuti asked if a hand vote could be taken this evening. Iino replied that would be wrong because this meeting wasn't specifically noticed as a Town Meeting and that would not be appropriate. That was not the purpose of this meeting tonight.

Dominic St. John asked if the interim Health Director has all the qualifications required. First Selectwoman Iino replied yes. He asked if every little town must have a Health Director with those criteria. First Selectwoman Iino replied yes, or join a Health District and share one.

Natalie Drew noted towns that have active Health Directors prior to the change in the State Statutes were grandfathered. Towns that do not have Health Directors or where the Health Director has left, have to follow the State Statute. The question was asked as to why the original Health Director left. First Selectwoman Iino noted the original Health Director resigned because she asked him a lot of questions as to what he had been doing and he didn't want to answer them. The response from the audience was but the town was in compliance. Iino replied technically but there were no services for it. First Selectwoman Iino noted this was the recommendation of the Public Health Agency. She further noted yes there might be other ways to do this but this was the recommendation they brought forth this evening.

Selectman Cabral asked if staff was added when Haddam joined. Mr. King noted they had a sanitarian on contract who they hired full time. Cabral asked if staff was added when Colchester joined. Mr. King noted they put into the budget a half time sanitarian but that individual has not been hired yet. Cabral asked if additional staff would be added if Killingworth joined. King noted that additional half time sanitarian would be utilized. Cabral asked if expenses go up each time additional staff is added wouldn't that be shared by all towns. First Selectwoman Iino replied they would be getting the \$8.25 per capita from Killingworth. Mr. King noted if Killingworth joined they would add a half time person. Cabral asked if any of Killingworth's staff would be hired. King noted they are looking for someone who is a Registered Sanitarian and Certification in Food Service. Cabral asked Mr. Leighton when he was in the office. Leighton noted Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, he is in the office and Mr. Rose is available any time he is needed. Both Mr. Leighton and Mr. Rose have dual roles.

First Selectwoman Iino asked Mr. King that if the Town felt it didn't need the full array of services, would it be possible to negotiate a lesser membership and fees. Mr. King reviewed services and asked which services would not be needed. First Selectwoman Iino noted

Killingworth has few food establishments and the Town may not need the whole range of services. She asked if there is flexibility about the total amount of time Killingworth might need in terms of staffing hours. Mr. King noted whatever the needs are, they will supply them.

There was a brief discussion regarding the fact the current person is both a sanitarian and building inspector and how those funds are divided.

Dominic St. John noted the CHD has 7 towns and asked how many Health Directors they have. Mr. King replied one. He asked why the CHD is allowed to have one in 7 towns and Killingworth can't even have one. First Selectwoman Iino noted the Town is not required to have a full time Health Director but are required to have a person in that position. It can either be done by hiring someone for as many hours as needed or by joining a Health District and sharing a Health Director. A member of the audience noted the Town should get together with the State to see if the criteria could be lower because this is a little town.

Bill Romero noted there is a time constraint associated with this and asked what the deadline was. First Selectwoman Iino noted the Town just received a six month extension and she would get back to Mr. Romero with the answer. Mr. King noted the CHD would be accommodating as long as the Town is actively pursuing its interest in membership. If the Town is not pursuing it, then the CHD will terminate its contract and Killingworth would have to find another Health Director. Iino felt the Town was okay with this arrangement until the end of the year.

Eric Auer thanked everyone for coming noting public health is a big issue in the future. He asked what is in place for an actual plan for the bird flu that we had a few years ago. Would there be more from the CHD and do you get more information from the CDC or would it be the same. Mr. King noted they provided flu clinics for both Killingworth and Haddam residents during the 2009 event. First Selectwoman Iino noted as an example the Town was assigned to the Connecticut River area for the dispensing of the vaccine. When they finally started dispensing it, they charged us for the dispensing. Ernie Pizzuto noted people also had to drive to Old Saybrook and wait in line to get the shot. Eric Auer asked First Selectwoman Iino was satisfied that the Town was prepared for that. Iino replied no, she wasn't satisfied. Auer asked if the bigger regional organization would give Killingworth more protection because there would be more information flowing into that organization. Iino replied she thought it would. First Selectwoman Iino noted CHD did a lot of restaurant inspections right after the storm. Our restaurant inspections called the restaurants but didn't come and do inspections. Iino noted she understands from the PHA there is a structure and a depth of coverage.

Eileen Boulay noted to the best of her knowledge Killingworth isn't broke and doesn't need fixing. It is successful and has the best of the best. She stated she knows Mr. Leighton and

when you ask for an inspection he is there and 99% of the time that septic is perfect. The Town needs someone like Mr. Leighton, the town's engineers, contractors, etc. She reiterated it's not broken and it doesn't need to be fixed and the Town doesn't need to spend \$50,000. One can't get a C.O. without getting your water tested.

Member of the audience noted CHD is one of the best Health Districts in the State and you can't take that away from them. He noted First Selectwoman Iino indicated there were no restaurant inspections in town after the recent storm. He asked how many people in town got sick. He noted in small towns there is self-reliance and self-discipline and that's an important feature that should be nurtured.

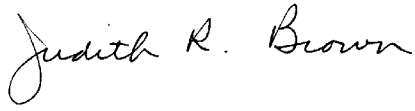
Michael Harkin noted he would like to answer Mr. Venuti's question as to whether this would go to a town vote. He indicated the Town answered the question 3 years ago. He indicated a flyer was put out regarding the Town Plan for the Town of Killingworth. Overwhelming the response was that people wanted to keep Killingworth rural, no more commercial or industrial. The Town of Killingworth has voted for a small town feel in lieu of going to a bigger base which is a Health District that is overseeing 7 different towns. There was a brief discussion whether Killingworth would ever see public sewer and water. Mr. Harkin noted he would never see that nor would his children because of the massive amount of bedrock from Clinton to Killingworth. It would be a \$200 million project. Mr. Harkin noted he believe the people in place now are correctly doing their job. He suggested if there are deficiencies in paperwork, then someone should go to that person and ask how that can be fixed rather than starting fresh with something else.

John Samperi asked if the Board of Selectmen vote on this. First Selectwoman Iino replied no, it has to go to a Town Meeting vote. Selectman Cabral noted the legislative body needs to vote on whether to join or whether to get out of a group. There are a number of things where the townspeople need to vote. The confusion is that the Board of Selectman needs to decide to send it to a Town Meeting because the State Statute says you have to have a Health Director.

Bill Romero noted maybe the Town is not as active as it should be looking for a part time Health Director. First Selectwoman Iino noted that was not true.

Brian Fitzsimmons noted the Health District responsibilities are much greater than just the water piece. The septic rules are the same whether you are part of the Health District or not and if they are not, there is a recourse. The Town needs to look at this in a much broader issue than just the water issue. It was mentioned there were no restaurant inspections in town after the recent storm. He knows vendors in Town that have restaurants in other towns and they were inspected. As there were no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith R. Brown". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted,".

Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary