

**EAST BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL COUNCIL AGENDA\ACTION MEETING
May 4, 2021**

1 Jean Walling Civic Center
East Brunswick, New Jersey 08816

7:30 P.M.

**All agendas\attachments are available on the Website: www.EastBrunswick.org at section Government.*

1. Council President Sullivan called the meeting to order. After a Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence, the Clerk called the roll:

Present: Councilman Behal, Councilman McEvoy, Councilman Spadafino
Councilman Wendell, Council President Sullivan

Also Present: Mayor Brad Cohen, Michael Baker, Township Attorney
Joseph Criscuolo, Administrator; Nennette Perry, Township Clerk

2. Statement of Notice of Publication:

The Clerk read the following statement:

At a previous Council meeting, the meeting was disrupted by several callers zoom bombing and shouting out racial and religious slurs in an effort to disrupt the meeting.

Be advised that any future attempts to disrupt an East Brunswick Council meeting will be considered harassment and your IP address or Phone number will be turned over to the East Brunswick Police Department and you will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by specifying time, date, location and to the extent known, the agenda by posting a copy on the Bulletin Board located in the main lobby of the East Brunswick Municipal Building, providing a copy to the Home News Tribune and Sentinel newspapers, posting a copy on the Township's website and by a filing a copy in the office of the Township Clerk which will be entered in the minutes.

The Township is using the telephone meeting format in an effort to mitigate the chance of exposure to COVID-19, as a part of the Township's ongoing effort to slow the rate of transmission and avoid overwhelming our treatment centers. The Dial in Information and Final Agenda have been posted on the Township website and are posted on EBTv for members of the public.

In order to make sure a clear record of the meeting can be made and that all parties are heard in an organized fashion, all members of the public will be muted during the meeting. If a member of the public wishes to speak during any public comment portion, please press *9 (star nine) in order to raise your hand to speak. We will unmute members of the public individually if they have their hand raised. When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a notification that you have been unmuted. It is at that time that you should begin to ask any questions you may have. You will have three minutes to speak, at the conclusion of which you will be muted again, and the council or administration will respond as necessary. Should you have any further comments or questions, the Township Council is always available by email and phone, and you can always call the Mayor's office during normal operating hours. Each member of the public shall only have one opportunity to speak during each public portion. As the technology does not allow us to know if there are multiple callers on an individual line, we ask that if you wish to speak, that you dial in on a separate line so that we can recognize you as a separate individual.

Thank you in advance for your patience as we as we implement this new technology to continue to move the Township forward during this Health Emergency.

3. Presentations, Proclamations and Discussions:

A. Fluoride – History – Michael Baker

Councilman Spadafino gave a brief history of when fluoride was entered into East Brunswick's water system. He indicated there were many years of hearing pros and cons for having in the water.

4. Public Portion:

Council President Sullivan opened the meeting to the public. She explained the procedure and time limits for comments.

Dr. Howard Sorokin, DMD, Boston Post Road – He is a local dentist and spoke about the benefits of having fluoride in the water and would like it to remain.

Dr. Paul Connett, PhD, Director, Fluoride Action Network indicated fluoride is very toxic and has no benefit for the body other than teeth.

East Brunswick Advisory Health Council:

Dr. Kenneth Freedman, EB Advisory Health Council indicated the Council advises the Mayor and Council on public health issues. They were charged as a group to review fluoridation in the water system by a prior Mayor. He indicated the Council voted 9 to 3 to not continue fluoride in the water.

Dr. Wilbur Pan, Pediatric Oncologist – He indicated he is in favor of fluoride in the water and indicated we need recent studies on the issue before making a decision.

East Brunswick Water Policy Advisory Board:

Chandros Caldwell, Industrial Analytical Chemist, Fluoride more active than chlorine. No biological use for fluoride in the body. Chlorosis is a disease. He is not in favor of fluoride in the water system.

Mike Lorzak, Current chair of the Water Policy Advisory Committee – he cares about water quality. Fluoride helps teeth and oral health.

Members of the Public:

Tooka Zokaie, MPH, CPH1, Manager Fluoridation and Preventive Health Activities Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention - The amount of fluoride is optimal for the water system. Fluoride has many benefits for dental health.

Mary Ann Walker, Civic Center Drive – Fluoride causes harm to the body.

Bree Zhang, Brown University Dental Association – She is in favor of fluoride in the water system.

Dr. Mitch Weiner, Current President of NJ Dental Association – wants to continue fluoride in the water system.

Vincent DiGregorio, 19 N Woodland Avenue – Environmental Science background. He indicated there are studies that show fluoride can be harmful to the body. Also, fluoride is a hazardous waste.

Dottie Ji, 203 Wycoff Way West – She indicated 7 years ago she heard fluoride was going to be taken out of the water system. She indicated EB's fluoride is hazardous.

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Dr. John Johnson, DMD, MS, President American Fluoridation Society - Spoke about how fluoride helps children.

There being no further discussion, the public portion was closed.

Council President Sullivan called upon members of the Council to make comment:

Councilman Behal indicated there is a lot of information to review before a decision can be made.

Councilman McEvoy thanked Council President Sullivan for bringing this issue to the forefront. He also has spoken with many residents regarding this issue.

Councilman Spadafino – Indicated he is not in support of the Township putting fluoride in the water system.

Mayor Cohen – thanked everyone who participated. He indicated not all studies are accurate and should be analyzed carefully before a decision is made.

Council President Sullivan thanked everyone who participated and indicated Council will review everything before a decision is made.

Councilman Spadafino asked that an Ordinance be drafted to remove fluoride from the water system.

5. Adjournment: 9:07 P.M.

Council President Sullivan moved that the meeting be adjourned. Councilman McEvoy seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the Clerk called the roll:

Behal - yes, McEvoy - yes, Spadafino - yes, Wendell - yes, Sullivan - yes and the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 P.M.


SHARON SULLIVAN, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:


NENNETTE PERRY, MUNICIPAL CLERK

