



**CITY OF BURLINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH**

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BOARD OF HEALTH

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**BOARD OF HEALTH SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, June 5, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM on Wednesday, June 5, 2009 Front Conference Room, 645 Pine Street

Present: Chair Sousie, Ian Galbraith, Jay Vos

Ita Meno, Gene Bergman, Margaret Van Brunt, Deb Dalton

Mike Betit, Sandy St. Louis, Gary Cuedek, Debora Cuedek, Frances Ries, Gordon Ries, Donna Viau, Don Viau

Agenda Item: Request for Health Order re: Attractive Nuisance of Seagulls at the Pig Farm at 519-535 Ethan Allen Parkway.

Presentation by Ita Meno (Code Enforcement Inspector):

On or about April 20, received multiple complaints in the Gazo Ave neighborhood. Statements made about significant problem with seagulls as result of pig farm. Residents feel the pig farm introduced an element to the area that hadn't been there and invited seagulls into the area. Known to sit on rooftops, etc. Ita made multiple visits per day to neighborhood and visited property of farm to see how pigs and food were contained. Observations were detailed in photos dated April 30th

Received testimony from:

Gary Cuedek, 1 Lori Lane – wire on roof to keep birds from landing and defecating, odor from farm, could draw in other rodents – concerns about property values dropping as a result.

Donald Viau – resident 39 years - Gazo Ct; problems w/ gulls since the pig farm; damage to decks, driveways.

Frances and Gordon Ries – 46 Gazo Ave – recent photos: flocking birds, feces on swimming pool cover, concern over e-coli in feces, noise, expense of power washing side of house, damaging to roofs.

Mr. Betit: owner of pig farm, gulls are endemic to agriculture, has buried the stored bread in the ravine,. Has taken recommended steps to contain food. Perhaps their nesting area in Four Mile Island has been

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disrupted. Has put wires over compost piles to keep out gulls, Explained attraction to compost because of grubs as food source. Will defer to the Agency of Agriculture recommendations and will consider using noise intervention (it is not detrimental to pigs) to drive away gulls but concerned about expense.

Chairman Sousie will get a report out in July with results of the use of an intermittent noise system to repel gulls in the area. Board is not issuing a health order at this time. Agenda item: Update at July BOH Meeting