

CITY OF BROOKSVILLE
201 Howell Avenue
Brooksville, FL 34601

WORKSHOP MINUTES

May 21, 2013

6:00 P.M.

Brooksville City Council met in workshop session with Mayor Lara Bradburn, Vice Mayor Kevin Hohn and Council Members, Joe Bernardini and Joseph E. Johnston, III present. Also present were James Fisher, City Attorney; T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager; Janice L. Peters, City Clerk; Jim Delach, Assistant Finance Director, and Tim Mossgrove, Fire Chief. A member of the Hernando Times was in attendance.

The workshop was called to order by Mayor Bradburn, who advised this workshop is being held at the request of the Hernando County Health Department to discuss water fluoridation. She also advised that since the debate reignited she has been approached by many people concerned about this issue who do not want to attend a public meeting for fear of retribution.

Vice Mayor Hohn lead the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

WATER FLUORIDATION

Dr. Pedro Lenz, a Dentist who works for the Hernando County Health Department, gave a presentation entitled What is Water Fluoridation: Saving Brooksville's Smile. It covered what fluoridation is and his belief of its effectiveness. Currently the recommended levels for optimal dental health is 0.7 ppm, which has been adjusted down because there are more sources of fluoride in the environment. Fluoridation started in 1945 in Grand Rapids, MI by the public Health Department. Dr. Lenz pointed out that many studies have been done which showed Fluoridation to be safe for the community and the water supply, pointing out that Brooksville had Fluoride in its water supply for 25 years. The possibility of any adverse health effects from continuous low-level consumption of Fluoride has been and continues to be extensively studied. Of the thousands of credible studies on Fluoridation, it is his belief that none have shown health problems with the levels recommended. He said the only risk that has been shown is what is called Fluorosis, which is minimum at the levels recommended. He advised the CDC has proclaimed Fluoridation as one of the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th Century. He stated that over 100 national and international entities support water fluoridation, as well as the Surgeon General.

Statistically, Dr. Lenz pointed out that the cost of lifetime fluoridation for one person is less than the cost of one filling. According to a 2001 economic feasibility study, every dollar invested in Fluoridation saves about \$38 in treatment costs. Here in Brooksville, the cost is around \$2 per person and benefits everyone. With tooth decay however, everyone pays in some way through increased insurance costs, higher taxes in support of public health benefits, etc. Currently about 73% of the United States is Fluoridated.

Dr. Johnny Johnson reiterated some of the points made by Dr. Lenz. He believes that no health issues have ever been proven from fluoride being ingested in optimum levels and it works

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topically and systemically. He indicated that although it benefits adults and kids, it is especially important for kids because their teeth are developing below the gums, which fluoridates the tooth structure from the inside out. Dr. Johnson referenced a study from Australia, which indicated that for adults that never had fluoridated water growing up, only after they were adults, the long-term effect was up to 30% less cavities than those who were not receiving fluoridated water.

Dr. Johnson believes there have been no proven adverse health issues from optimally fluoridated water. He reiterated that the only proven thing that can occur is a cosmetic issue called Fluorosis. Severe Fluorosis, he believes, does not occur in the United States or where fluoridated water levels are below 2 ppm.

Council Member Burnett asked about mixing fluoridated water with baby formula. Dr. Johnson advised the ADA and CDC have never said not to use fluoridated water in baby formula. He did research on this in the 80's and what has always been said is that if you want to use fluoridated water in infant formulas you can, but what can happen is if the baby drinks optimally fluoridated water, they may show mild to moderate Fluorosis optimally fluoridated the baby teeth. This does not effect the permanent teeth.

Council Member Burnett referenced some research that indicated fluoridated water can cause problems for people with kidney disease. Dr. Johnson advised the National Kidney Foundation's (NKF) position is that optimally fluoridated water does not contribute to this. Only those on dialysis, with severe kidney disease above stage 4, should not use optimally fluoridated water. Dialysis patients get highly filtered water which removes contaminates.

Further, Council Member Burnett asked about Fluoride causing brown, pitted and stained teeth that costs thousands of dollars to repair. Dr. Johnson stated that this only happens in fluoridated water above 2 ppm, which does not happen in the US where Fluoridation is optimal. He indicated this is seen in other countries such as India, China, Mongolia, Iraq, etc. Dr. Johnson advised these areas have fluoride pollution as well as fluoride in their water and he has never seen a child with this condition. Further, he advised that, according to the National Academy of Science's National Research Council (NRC), who did a review in 2006, below 2 ppm this is non-existent in the United State. Council Member Burnett asked if Fluoride can make bones brittle. Dr. Johnson advised Skeletal Fluorosis can happen with high levels of fluoride, but again, according to the NRC's review, this only happens in levels above 4 ppm, which does not happen in the U.S.

Council Member Burnett asked about the Harvard study, which indicated fluoridated water can lower a person's I.Q. Dr. Johnny referenced that this evaluation has been done in the science circles a lot. Some have thought that Fluoridation is causing an I.Q. deficit. In the last 40 years I.Q. levels in the U.S. have gone up 20 points. He stated the Harvard researchers did not actually do the study, they looked at studies from China, Mongolia and Iraq with children in communities that have low fluoridated water similar to the U.S. and children in communities that have up to 10 times more fluoride in the water than we do. The higher group had up to 7 points lower I.Q. than children in the optimally fluoridated water. So the conclusion was that as the fluoridated water levels go up to 5 - 10 ppm the I.Q. may be effected, but was not definitively concluded. The studies did not measure arsenic and lead in the water, which could contribute as well.

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He advised that even the Harvard Medical, Dental School and School of Public Health have all come out with statements recently favoring the continued use optimally fluoridated water.

Council Member Bernardini asked about the percentage of dental problems in Spring Hill, which is not fluoridated and Brooksville. Doctors Lenz and Johnson explained that it is hard to quantify.

Vice Mayor Hohn asked if Dr. Johnson is familiar with White Hill Laboratories, Dr. Bob White or Dr. Ira Hill, who developed floss and have the patents on most all toothpaste. Dr. White's opinion is that fluoride absolutely helps harden teeth. He stated that fluoride on its own reduces PH levels, which causes oral dysfunction that adversely effects the salivary production and mucosal tissue dehydration. This is a problem basically ignored by the ADA for the last 50 years. Vice Mayor Hohn felt fluoride is a toxic substance. Dr. Johnson advised not at optimum fluoridated water levels. Vice Mayor Hohn felt there are benefits to fluoride but also adverse effects. He believes there is a better way. Instead of spending \$7,000 on something which could be problematic, he felt educating children on the importance of brushing their teeth to be a better way. Dr. Johnson feels fluoridation is the only option there is right now. He also advised the Health Department does educate patients about proper dental health.

Mayor Bradburn asked if Dr. Johnson is aware of the survey that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services did on dental carries nationwide in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. He advised he is. Mayor Bradburn indicated their findings show that there is no difference in today's society between fluoridated and un-fluoridated communities and oral health.

Vice Mayor Hohn referenced studies that show that in Kentucky and West Virginia, in the Appalachians fluoridation gets as high as 4.5 - 5 ppm naturally, which causes the Fluorosis. Dr. Johnson indicated there are areas that have 4 ppm and the EPA standards are still set at the maximum contaminate level of 4 ppm. If it is over 4 ppm you are supposed to have an alternate drinking water source.

Dr. Scott Tomar from the University of Florida College of Dentistry spoke of the evidence of the safety of community water fluoridation and the organizations that uphold water fluoridation. He reiterated that fluoridation is the process of adjusting the naturally occurring fluoride concentration to a level optimum for the prevention of dental carries. He felt it important to remember the history of fluoridation. It is a mineral that is naturally occurring in water. He offered that many systematic reviews have been done on water fluoridation, which he briefly reviewed, reiterating what Dr.'s Johnson & Lenz' statements, adding that references to all his statements are listed on his slide. In summary, based on the best scientific evidence, and how he would expect his students and graduates to practice, he felt there to be no association between community water fluoridation and cancer, bone fracture, or any other health effect, including impaired I.Q. The safety of community water fluoridation has been repeatedly upheld by virtually every leading medical and public health authority in the U.S. and the world.

In response to Dr. Johnson's reference to an NRC review panel statement that indicated Fluoride is absorbed topically and systemically, Mayor Bradburn stated the NRC review in 2006 said it's only absorbed topically, and not systemically. Dr. Tomar advised that sometimes people confuse the mechanism of action versus the root of administration. He stated the effect of fluoridation is primarily topical, but it can also be delivered through a systemic means. The

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fluoride that's taken into the body, a portion of it is excreted through saliva, back into the oral cavity, where it is available to act topically. He noted there is actually evidence of the systemic effect as well, a number of studies from Australia demonstrated a protective effect from strictly pre-eruptive exposure. He felt the majority of studies would suggest the primary effect is topical. But, what makes community water fluoridation so effective is ingesting very low concentration of Fluoride, 0.7 ppm, concentrated at the interface between the dental plaque, the biofilm that has the bacteria that causes tooth decay and the enamel surface. That's exactly where Fluoride concentrates. So it acts topically, even though it's taken in systemically, providing a high level at the very place you want it to, the interface between where the biofilm is producing acids that cause enamel dissolution and the enamel surface.

Mayor Bradburn asked Dr. Tomar if he is aware that the Chair and the Co-Chair of the NRC review both said that, if there is any benefit to Fluoride it is minimal, and the benefit is topical, not systemic. Dr. Tomar stated that what he is aware of is that there is consistent evidence that exposure to community water fluoridation. . . . Mayor Bradburn interrupted, again asking if he is familiar with the NRC's report that states that. Dr. Tomar advised he will review that sentence but he happened to have written a review paper in Morbidity Mortality Weekly Report that actually reviewed the mechanisms so he is quite familiar with that body of literature. He stated that just because it acts topically, that's the mechanism of action, does not mean that ingesting it is somehow irrelevant. He said 7 years of epidemiologic studies show that drinking fluoridated community water is associated with a reduction in the risk for dental carries.

Dr. Tomar further stated that most recently, a study came out last month from Australia, showing the more years a person had been exposed to community water fluoridation, the lower their risk for dental carries.

Vice Mayor Hohn asked if water fluoridation is as effective in reducing plaque. Dr. Tomar offered that the available evidence suggests there is an independent effect of community water fluoridation above that of brushing with the fluoridated toothpaste. He advised the study he just mentioned concluded the same thing.

Mayor Bradburn, prior to her presentation, advised she is not a scientist or medical professional, but she took the time to read through more than fifty scientific studies on this issue, cross referencing with outside sources, read references to hundreds of other studies, and almost every one shows the harmful effects of fluoridation on various parts of the body.

Mayor Bradburn reviewed a series of "oops" on the part of pro-fluoridation advocates.

- 2002 - Fluoride Levels in Toothpaste Lowered. The federal government admits, kids are getting too much Fluoride. Better lower those levels, put warning on every single tube of toothpaste and instructions on how to use it. But even then, people are still getting too much and still getting sick.
- 2009 - The Poison Control Center received over 24,000 calls from frantic parents who were afraid their kids had overdosed from toothpaste. She indicated many of those people ended up in the hospital and one even died.

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- 2006 - The Government says using fluoridated water to mix baby formula is harming our children. She indicated that is on the link of the websites and in the literature that agency hands out. She advised the federal government said parents need to be told to stop doing that because it's not safe for their children, it could stunt their mental capacity, cause Fluorosis and Thyroid Disease.
- 2012 - A warning was sent out that millions of people across the U.S. are showing harmful effects of fluoridated water. In response, the federal government cut the fluoridation level again, this time by 42%. She advised that the scientists reviewing that data asked for a total ban. She also advised that a few years ago, the same group of Fluoride supporters here today appeared before this Council and insisted the 1.2 ppm level was safe and effective for our citizens. But the federal government said no, reduce it by 42%.

She felt the bottom line is that federal health agencies have recognized evolved science only when they have no choice. People are getting sick. Highly respected universities across America and around the world have conducted hundreds of studies documenting the harmful effects of Fluoride and water fluoridation. She indicated that Harvard has done four separate studies showing the harmful effects of fluoridation, which cannot, in her opinion, be dismissed as myth. These are respected institutions of higher learning.

Mayor Bradburn then advised there are two ethic reviews of extensive research data of both the NRC and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the agency that regulates water fluoridation. Both agencies have reviewed a multitude of studies that prove harmful effects of water fluoridation, regardless of dosage levels.

- Dr. Kathleen Thiessen, whose credentials are impeccable, co-authored the 2006 NRC report. She is an expert in toxicology and carcinogenics and is used worldwide for that expertise. The NRC has used her on at least four other studies. Dr. Thiessen says there has been a tendency in the U.S. to downplay or dismiss evidence of adverse health effects from Fluoride exposure due to the wide-spread belief that the benefits of Fluoride exposure outweigh any risks. Mayor Bradburn referenced Dr. Thiessen's statement that the committee for the 2006 NRC report unanimously agreed that Fluoride appears to have the potential to initiate or promote cancers, stating further that the evidence against water fluoridation is overwhelming. Dr. Thiessen added that Health and Human Services should act in the best interest of public health by eliminating community water fluoridation in the U.S. at the earliest possible date.
- News of the NRC and EPA reviews caught the eye of former United States Ambassador Andrew Young and Dr. Gerald Durley, both inductees in the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame. In 2011 they lobbied the Georgia lawmakers to end water fluoridation in all public health supplies. Mayor Bradburn quoted Dr. Durley as saying, "The NRC of the National Academy of Sciences, who by the way is the leading authority of scientific research in the United States of America, has designated kidney patients, diabetics, seniors, and babies as a 'susceptible subpopulations' that are especially vulnerable to harm from ingested fluorides. Black citizens are disproportionately affected by kidney disease and diabetes, and are therefore more impacted by fluorides." She referenced that Dr. Andrew Young is the son of a Dentist

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who grew up believing that Fluoride in the water was a good thing that helped poor people live healthier lives before learning the truth. Mayor Bradburn quoted him as saying, "Many things that we began to do 50 or more years ago we now no longer do, because we have learned further information that changes our practices and policies. So it is with fluoridation. We have a cavity epidemic today in our inner cities that have been fluoridated for decades. This is an issue of fairness, civil rights, and compassion."

Mayor Bradburn referenced that Andrew Young states it hurts the poor the most. Mayor Bradburn felt that's because they don't have the means to buy bottled water or expensive filtration systems. They are forced to drink from the tap, ingesting an unregulated drug their doctor never prescribed. She advised that most all the filtration systems on the market don't remove fluoride because it is too small of a particle.

Backing up, she referenced that the ADA's manual on fluoridation facts neglects to mention any of the studies that show the harmful effects of fluoridation. It doesn't even mention the EPA's 2008 study, a compilation of 14 study analysis', or the 2006 review of the NRC on EPA fluoridation standards, that shows the harmful effects. Neither does the book provided by the Health Department in its quest to educate the public on the facts of fluoridation. She feels the industry simply fails to acknowledge the dangers that come from water fluoridation.

Mayor Bradburn quoted Dr. John Deuel, who lead the most comprehensive scientific analysis on water fluoridation, done on behalf of the NRC, who said, "Although Fluoride advocates have claimed for years the safety of Fluoride in dentistry, it is exhaustively documented and beyond debate, when we looked at the studies that have been done we found that many of these questions are unsettled and we have much less information than we should, considering how long this debate has been going on. That's why fluoridation is still being challenged so many years after it began."

Referencing the Health Department's book, Mayor Bradburn advised their book does not reflect the whole truth about water fluoridation. It is her belief that the intention may be good but the information is obsolete at best. She quoted a statement taken from the ADA Journal, "Studies of Dentist's attitudes about water fluoridation suggest a lack of knowledge and preparedness." They go on to state that "Dentists lack self-efficacy with respect to critically evaluating scientific literature". In other words, Mayor Bradburn said, they repeat what they were taught in school. She went on to say that the ADA puts out a document that it deems the authoritative summary on water Fluoridation pros, which bases its entire premise on data collected 50-100 years ago.

- 2009 - The University of Iowa released a study, 9 years in the making, which concluded that Fluoride does little to prevent tooth decay. Mayor Bradburn quoted from the study, "These findings suggests that achieving a carries-free status may have little to do with Fluoride intake, while Fluorosis is clearly more dependent on Fluoride intake". She advised the University of West Virginia, this year, released a study with the same conclusions.
- 2006 - Dr. Tangs findings are that China has done 27 studies on the effects of Fluoride and mental retardation; 26 showed adverse effects on I.Q. Mayor Bradburn indicated

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the studies found a 5-fold increased risk of mental retardation for children living in fluoridated areas. She further quoted Dr. Tang as saying, "A qualitative review of the studies found consistent and strong association between the exposure to Fluoride and low I.Q.". Mayor Bradburn advised Harvard did yet another study which shows the adverse effects on I.Q. and brain function. She stated it hurts the poor the most.

- Mayor Bradburn referenced that the National Kidney Foundation does have information on their website about the adverse effects of Fluoride on kidney patients, saying that they actually have several links on their website referencing this as well as on pamphlets they hand out, which state, "Individuals with chronic kidney disease should be notified of the potential risk of Fluoride exposure". She indicated Fluoride has a cumulative effect, preventing chronic kidney disease patients the ability to flush out toxins, resulting in Osteomalacia, a bone-softening disease which frequently develops in patients with advanced kidney disease. According to Mayor Bradburn, this information lead the NKF to drop its support of fluoridation.
- Regarding brittle bones, Mayor Bradburn referenced that in 2008, the NRC concluded that this was greater in women of higher Fluoride communities than in women of controlled and higher calcium communities. The NCR Panel's conclusion is that Fluoride hurts women more than men.
- Regarding Bone cancer, Mayor Bradburn referenced a 2001 peer reviewed thesis at Harvard by Dr. Elise Bassin. She discovered that young boys, aged 6-8, displayed a very strong statistical relationship between Osteosarcoma cancer and exposure to Fluoride. Her research further found a 300-700% increase in Osteosarcoma cancer by age 20 in young males who were drinking fluoridated water. According to Mayor Bradburn another study in 2009 found similar results.

Mayor Bradburn stated that Rick North, the former Executive Vice President of the American Cancer Society in Oregon, told the Associated Press that you simply cannot put a drug into the water supply and expect that it is not going to have side effects.

- Regarding the Thyroid, Mayor Bradburn stated Fluoride exposure in humans to be associated with elevated TSH concentrations, increased goiter prevalence and altered T3 and T4 concentrations. That was part of the National Review Council's review of Fluoridation.
- Mayor Bradburn, based on an Australian study, noted that Fluoride avoidance reduced anemia in pregnant women, decreased pre-term births, and enhanced baby's birth weight. According to the ADA Journal, 2009, most if not all infant formula, whether concentrated or not, contains Fluoride that can discolor teeth. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services indicated that a baby ingesting tap water or formula made with fluoridated water ingests 175 times more Fluoride than is found naturally in a mother's breast milk.

Referring to the effectiveness of water fluoridation, Mayor Bradburn, referencing a 2005 World Health Organization (WHO) study, quoted them as saying, "The rate of tooth decay around the world is declining, both in communities with fluoridated water and in those without."

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The WHO did an in-depth, scientific, empirical look at countries around the world which showed the increase of fluoridation and the defined cavities in every nation that is fluoridated.

She then referred to a 2003 Health and Human Services 50-state survey between rich and poor children in fluoridated communities which showed no improvement in overall dental health with fluoridation.

Mayor Bradburn stated that because of the increased awareness of fluoridation, lawsuits are increasing around the nation because people realize they are being poisoned. She quoted an attorney, a NYSCOF President, as saying, "Fortunes are wasted on fluoridation schemes that fail to prevent cavities while unnecessarily exposing children to Fluoride's adverse drug effects."

In closing Mayor Bradburn offered the conclusion that the NRC calls Fluoride a toxin, the FDA calls it a drug, the EPA calls it hazardous waste, and in 2010, Time Magazine called it one of the ten most common household toxins. She stated that water with Fluoride in it is simply not good science. It never has been, it never will be. It is a failed experiment that universities and scientists around the world have proven, without question, harms the public.

Mayor Bradburn asked for public input.

Sandra Roth, referenced the NRC's 2006 report, advising it was based upon 3 years of studies of safe drinking water standard of fluoride at the level of 4 ppm, not a 0.7, but 4 ppm. It was her understanding from testimony is that EPA is concerned about naturally occurring levels of water, not community fluoridation. Mayor Bradburn advised that was the NRC Panel's original assignment, but the panel was so impressed by the studies they were reviewing that they went much further than that, looking at all dosage levels.

Dr. Doug Roth, advised he is a Dentist, practicing for 40 years. He has been an avid reader of dental journals, maintains over 100 hours of continuing education every year, considers himself to be well-read and well informed on many areas of dentistry procedures and somewhat in dental research. He indicated he has never in 40 years ever been aware of or read a credible peer reviewed article documenting any danger from fluoride in water that is optimally fluoridated. On the contrary, optimally fluoridated water has been well documented for decades. He referenced that in 2005 the ADA produced a statement commemorating the 60th Anniversary of community Fluoride, a 71 page report, which concluded that fluoridation in community water supplies is the single most effective public health measure to prevent dental decay. The report cites 359 references supporting its conclusion and lists 110 national and international organizations that recognize the public health benefits of community water fluoridation for preventing dental decay. In the opposition, an article produced by Dr. Paul Connett, a retired Chemistry Professor, entitled "50 Reasons to Oppose Fluoridation", purports to be a thorough review of the scientific literature as regards to risks and benefits of Fluoride. Dr. Connett's reasons, however, contradict the existing consensus of scientific medical and epidemiological evidence upheld by independent multi-disciplinary scientific reviews and many are statements without scientific content. It was refuted in a response authored by Terrance W. Kutrus, who has authored well over 100 peer reviewed journal articles on fluoridation and related areas of scientific inquiry. Moreover, Dr. Steven Barrett, M.D. has taken a critical look at Dr. Connett and his Fluoride Action Network. His conclusion is quote, "Over the years, anti Fluoridationist have offered hundreds of objections. By 1960 the number was so great that a team at the University of Michigan published an 85 page book that classified and rebutted more

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than 200 of them. Since that time hundreds more have surfaced, but the sheer number should tell us something. If even one objection were valid, do you think fluoridation would still be with us?" He urged Council to return fluoridation to the city's water system.

Donna Waldron thanked Mayor Bradburn for her presentation. She asked what kind of fluoride is being added to the water. Her opinion is that it is not pharmaceutical grade but unprocessed industrial byproducts of the phosphate industry and undergo no purification procedures and may contain elevated levels of arsenic. She spoke against water fluoridation, citing various ailments that she felt could be attributed to water fluoridation.

Viennese Black advised she worked with children for 29 years for the Headstart Program, which is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services, and saw the benefits of Fluoride.

Angel Edfores, whose daughter suffers from Fluorosis, spoke against adding fluoride to the city's water.

Barbara Butler, of Spring Hill, spoke in opposition of fluoride.

Savannah Edfores spoke in opposition of fluoride, advising she suffers from Fluorosis, which has shattered her self-image and cannot afford to have it cosmetically corrected.

Sean Isaac, Fluoridation Program Administrator for the Florida Department of Health, in Tallahassee expressed the department's support of fluoridation, along with the Florida Surgeon General.

Council Member Burnett spoke in favor of fluoridation.

Council Member Johnston referencing toxicity of fluoride advised anything in excessive dosages can be toxic. Fluoride is a naturally occurring chemical when in regulated dosages diluted down to ppm it has been shown to be safe and effective in helping to prevent tooth decay. He stated that until a better, proven solution is available, he will support Fluoridation.

Mayor Bradburn responded by saying the NRC and EPA have both said that if there is any benefit it is minimal and topical, not ingested. She stated fluoride is slightly more toxic than lead and slightly less toxic than arsenic. She indicated she has heard nothing opposing the NRC and EPA statements and nothing that would change her stance on the issue.

Council Member Bernardini asked if citizens can receive water from the state if they don't want to drink the fluoridated water. City Manager Norman-Vacha advised it is available temporarily to people who find toxic levels of arsenic in their water source until a filtration system can be installed. Ann Gail Ellis, with the Hernando County Health Department elaborated, advising there is no availability regarding fluoridated water. She and Doctor Johnson reviewed the pre-fluoridation spigot offered in Kansas. Water filtration systems, for the purpose of filtering out fluoride, were discussed as well.

Council Member Bernardini asked about the cumulative effect of fluoride, which Dr. Johnson reviewed.

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Mayor Bradburn, referencing the 2006 NRC Review, the 2008 review by the EPA, and other cumulative analysis*, asked Dr. Johnson if he is negating all their findings showing the harmful effects to the thyroid, endocrine, brain, IQ, kidney function, etc. Dr. Johnson advised these were not studies done on optimally fluoridated water, but natural occurring fluoride in the water. He referenced their conclusion was that under 4 ppm is the natural acceptable level but set a goal to drop it to 2 ppm with no severe Fluorosis below that. Mayor Bradburn refuted his interpretation. Discussion continued of pharmaceutical versus non-pharmaceutical Fluoride.

Council Member Bernardini favored a referendum on the subject. Mayor Bradburn advised that government is banned by law to even give informational seminars on the truth (for referendum issues). You can't go house-to-house and you can't go to community groups. So it tends to be as it was in Pinellas County, a one-sided discussion. The media never presented all the information on the studies. Council Member Johnston advised a referendum question is limited to items directly related to expenditures by the municipality.

Mayor Bradburn asked where Council would like to go with the budget sessions coming up. Council Member Johnston recommended discussing during the budget sessions.

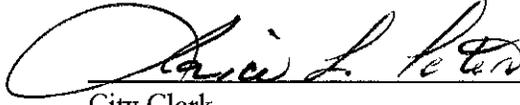
Council Member Burnett spoke in favor of water fluoridation.

Council Member Bernardini advised he would also like to know the cost of being able to provide pre-fluoridated water to citizens.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Attest: 
Mayor


City Clerk

**The extensive discussions for and against fluoridation, as referenced in documents herein, are on file in the City Clerk's office.*