

**CHATHAM BOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday October 14, 2021
5:00pm**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5pm.

STATEMENT REGARDING ADEQUATE NOTICE OF MEETING:

In compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. seq., adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by publishing a copy of the Reorganization and Regular Meeting notice in the Chatham Courier, the Daily Record, and the Alternative Press on January 8, 2021 a copy of which was posted on the official bulletin board on the main floor of Borough Hall, and was filed in the office of the Borough Clerk. . Notice of the time change for this meeting was provided to the press on October 8, 2021.

Board President Kay Kaiser read the Statement of Adequate Notice.

ROLL CALL

Micki Chaput **PRESENT**
Lisa DeRosa, R.N. **PRESENT**
Kay Kaiser, R.N. **PRESENT**
Shelliam Lee **PRESENT**
Andrew Zoltan **PRESENT** (JOINED LATE)
Lara Friedenfelds **PRESENT**
Robert Weber **PRESENT**
Council Liaison Leonard Resto **PRESENT**
Bridget Colendenski, R.N., Public Health Nurse **PRESENT**
Megan Avallone, Health Officer, Westfield Regional Department of Health **PRESENT**
Beau Preston, R.E.H.S., Westfield Regional Department of Health **ABSENT**
Melanie Politi, BOH Secretary **PRESENT**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No members of the public were present.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT TIME LIMIT:

Hearing of citizens during the Public Comment section of the Agenda is an opportunity for any member of the public to be heard about issues which are/are not topics scheduled for Public Hearing tonight. To help facilitate an orderly meeting, and to permit all to be heard, speakers are asked to limit their comments to a reasonable length of time.

MOTION TO ADOPT MEETING MINUTES

MOTION to approve, as prepared, the following meeting minutes:

September 9, 2021

Lisa DeRosa motioned to approve the minutes. Len Resto seconded the motion.

Approved minutes shall be filed as a permanent record in the Borough Clerk's office.

REPORTS

1. Nursing Report – Bridget Colendenski presented the Nursing Report.
 - Schools are in compliance and have adhered to guidance for infection control, quarantine and covid exposure.
2. R.E.H.S. Report – Beau Preston was not present.
 - Lisa asked Megan if the resident who asked about the poison ivy had been in contact. Megan said he followed up with beau the next day.
3. Financial Reports – no discussion
4. Vital Statistics Report – no discussion
5. Animal Control Report – brief discussion about the two cases.
6. Health Officer's Report - Megan Avallone reviewed her report (below)
 - State health Department has data that is showing how effective the vaccine is.
 - Overall out of all the vaccinated NJ residents 0.6% (6 in 10,000) have developed breakthrough infections. Those who have been hospitalized 0.03% and those vaccinated who have died are 0.001%.
 - Two weeks prior Westfield HD visited Garden Terrace with boosters; they are coordinating with the Township Health Officer planning on vaccination clinics to be held at the school for age 5 – 11.
 - Halloween Safety has also been a focus this month; she will send a flyer.
 - There may be a new product, pre-filled syringes available for children (1/3 the dose.)
 - Kay added new data showed they may approve Moderna as a booster for the J&J vaccine. Megan added there is no anticipated shortage of any type of boosters.
 - Waning immunity has been determined to be the cause of the breakthrough cases. Kay asked about posters for the website and flyers to post.
 - Bob Weber asked about posting booster information to the Borough's Main webpage; Melanie Politi agreed to post reminder information there.

- Megan said they will work on disseminating additional information when the booster information for all ages and manufacturers has been determined.
- Cottage Food Bill – Megan explained those who register to become a cottage food vendor they will be licensed by the State and not inspected by the municipality or the state.
- These products are allowed to be sold at farmer’s markets and temporary events. Westfield HD has asked the state how the new marijuana legislation could affect edibles and home baking operations.
- Bob added that statewide edibles are not allowed at the moment.
- There will be an Employee Flu Clinic where boosters will be offered to Borough Employees.
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FIRST READING ORDINANCE 21-01

The Poison Ivy Ordinance is discussed.

- Kay deferred to Bob on comments regarding the wording of the “ragweed inclusion” which dates back to a 1953 public nuisance law.
- Bob had researched back to 2013 when the Board of Health repealed, and re-adopted it as a different chapter before repealing again in 2020. The state law does not require us to use the word ragweed; his concern is if we start outlawing all ragweed and other weeds it will create an undue burden on our residents.
- Megan agreed from a public health perspective that would be acceptable, however, she would like to remove the wording “to exist” in regard to poison ivy.
- Discussion on specific wording continued on the verbiage and details of the Poison Ivy ordinance in relation to public or private land and noxious plants.
- Bob suggested the options for the Ordinance as presented and the possibility of the first reading being postponed.
- Andrew said in the first clause of the ordinance is conflicting. Ragweed/poison ivy is not allowed within 50ft of the sidewalk or property line; the next clause says it is not allowed anywhere in the Borough. He feels there should be some reasonable measure and consistency in regard to the wording with ragweed.
- Discussion continued on the nuisance of ragweed and if it needs to be included. Megan said we don’t get ragweed complaints, but do get poison ivy complaints. It is decided the word ragweed should be removed from the poison ivy ordinance.
- Kay added we should keep the noxious plant wording Megan said we can always revisit at a later time.

Bob Weber made a motion to amend the proposed ordinance to remove “to exist or” from the first line, and to strike or “permitting any ragweed or other noxious or harmful weed to grow on any public or private property.” Megan said she will reword it and send for approval, have first reading in November, and second reading in December for adoption in January.

Len said the budget process has begun and the CFO Karen Fornaro will send the proposed fees for Board of Health. Kay will report back on her meeting with the CFO.

DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

- ✓ *Cottage Food Bill Update*
- ✓ *EUA for pediatric covid vaccination*
- ✓ *Employee Flu Clinic*
- ✓ *Poison Ivy Ordinance*

OLD BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT 6:00pm