

**CHATHAM BOROUGH
BOARD OF HEALTH**

Thursday, May 17, 2018

CALL MEETING The meeting will be called to order at 7:00 p.m.
TO ORDER

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 Tap into Chatham on January 11, 2018 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 cancellation of the May 10, 2018 meeting and the rescheduled May 17, 2018 meeting were provided to the official newspapers and online press on May 1, 2018.

ROLL CALL

Maryann McCabe
Micki Chaput
Lisa DeRosa
Kay Kaiser
Rita Marts
Dr. Norman Schaefer
Lisbeth Bringgard, 1st Alternate
Shelliam Lee, 2nd Alternate
Robert Weber, Sr., Borough Council Member
Megan Avallone, Health Officer, Westfield Regional Department of Health
Tanya Moon, R.E.H.S., Westfield Regional Department of Health
Liz Holler, Minutes Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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:

April 12, 2018

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

REPORTS

1. Nursing Report
 2. R.E.H.S. Report
 3. Financial Reports
 4. Vital Statistics Report
 5. Animal Control Report
 6. Pest Control Report
 7. Health Officer Monthly Update
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DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

1. Chapter 23 – Ordinance Review
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RESOLUTION #18-05

RESOLUTION OF THE CHATHAM BOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION CLARIFYING EXEMPTIONS FROM MANDATORY IMMUNIZATIONS FOR STUDENTS

WHEREAS, Chatham Board of Health has held and continues to hold a position in support of vaccination, and;

WHEREAS, On March 5, 2018 the Senate referred Bill No. 2173 clarifying statutory exemptions from mandatory immunizations for students to the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee for consideration, and;

WHEREAS, On April 5, 2018 the Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee released from Committee Assembly Bill No. 3818 for consideration by the full Assembly, and;

WHEREAS, these identical companion bills would impose more rigorous requirements in order for parents to claim a religious exemption from mandatory vaccinations for school children, and;

WHEREAS, Studies have demonstrated that the religious exemption is at times claimed either as a pretext by parents philosophically opposed to vaccine or simply as a convenience to avoid the necessity of arranging doctor appointments for administration of the vaccines, and;

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Health reported that 10,407 religious exemptions were reported for the 2016-2017 school year, and

WHEREAS, The Star-Ledger reported that religious exemptions were claimed for nearly 9,000 students in the 2013-2014 academic year, compared with 1641 student in 2005-2006¹, and;

WHEREAS, the scientific evidence that vaccines are safe is overwhelming², and;

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation does not preclude an exemption when vaccination would conflict with bona fide religious tenets or practices, and;

WHEREAS, the decrease in vaccination rates poses a serious risk to public health³, and;

WHEREAS, outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases, such as measles, pertussis, and mumps, are on the rise⁴, and;

WHEREAS, there is concern that vaccination rates have fallen below the recommended number to provide herd immunity to protect those who cannot be vaccinated.⁵

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chatham Board of Health, County of Union, State of New Jersey, fully supports the proposed legislation and urges the legislature to pass the bills promptly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon passage by the New Jersey State Legislature that the Chatham Board of Health urges the Governor to sign the bill into law promptly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the State Legislators representing the Borough of Chatham, the Speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly, the President of the New Jersey State Senate, and the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health.

¹ Livio, S. (2015, March 21). Should Religious Exemptions for child vaccine be harder to get in NJ? *The Star-Ledger*.

² (n.d.). Safety. Retrieved 26 March 2015 from <http://www.vaccines.gov/basics/safety>

³ Immunization Action Coalition. (September 2014). Personal belief exemptions for vaccination put people at risk. Examine the evidence for yourself. Retrieved 26 March 2015 from <http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2069.pdf>

⁴ (n.d.). Pertussis. Retrieved 26 March 2015 from <http://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/surv-reporting.html>

(n.d.). Mumps. Retrieved 26 March 2015 from <http://www.cdc.gov/mumps/outbreaks.html>

(n.d.). Measles. Retrieved 26 March 2015 from <http://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>

⁵ Fischetti, M. (2013) Too Many Children Go Unvaccinated. *Scientific American*. (308),6.

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT