

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM

President Cheriyan stated that notice of this meeting held via Zoom was posted on the Bergenfield Website, sent by e-mail to the Record and Cablevision. It was placed on two bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and placed on file in the Borough Clerk's office.

ROLL CALL

Dr. Cheriyan
Mrs. Pfannen
Mr. Cabuhat
Dr. Quiroz – Absent
Mrs. Marte-Absent

Also, present Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Delacruz, Councilman Deauna, Pamela Lesnak, Sue Barker, Kim and Kristen from Tyco Animal Control.

OPEN HEARING

President Cheriyan welcomed two Animal Control Officers Kim and Kristin from Tyco Animal Control to discuss concerns raised by Mr. Cabuhat. Mr. Cabuhat has raised in past meetings regarding the cat population in Bergenfield. Mr. Cabuhat believes that more should be done to reduce the cat population, including implementation of TNR (Trap Neuter and Release). Kristen explained that Tyco enforces the current Bergenfield Animal Control Ordinances which do not allow for free roaming cats and do not include a TNR program. In enforcing this ordinance, Tyco follows up on all constituent complaints regarding free roaming cats. When a free roaming cat colony is identified, Tyco addresses this by following Bergenfield and NJ Ordinances. Specifically, Tyco sets traps and capture the cats which are held pursuant to NJ law, for 7 days during which time an owner can reclaim the cat. After 7 days, the cats are sent to shelters for adoption. Tyco explained that they try to find the best possible solution for each cat.

Mrs. Pfannen asked about the number of cats trapped this year and what happened to them. Kristen reported that 35 cats had been trapped year to date – 31 were adopted, 2 were deceased and 2 were severely injured or ill and were euthanized. Kristen explained that animals are only euthanized if they are injured /ill or are aggressive/dangerous and cannot be socialized. Kristen also confirmed that there are currently no uncontrolled cat colonies in town. Mr. Cabuhat feels that the town should do more to control the population of cats by using TNR. Kim reiterated that Bergenfield ordinances do not support TNR and Ms. Barker stated that in order to have any Animal Control Company enforce any TNR, the town would need to adopt a new ordinance. President Cheriyan inquired if the town would be liable for damages done by any free roaming cats if a TNR program was implemented. Kim confirmed that yes once you provide veterinary care for the animal the town would have to take responsibility for that animal. Mr. Cabuhat asked Tyco if once the animal is spayed and neutered does the animal need to be licensed and vaccinated. Kim confirmed again that yes once you provide veterinary care for the animal the town would have to take responsibility for that animal. Mr. Cabuhat reiterated that he feels a TNR program is the most humane way to treat these animals and reduce the cat population. Councilman Deauna stated that cats reduce “rodents”.

President Cheriyan suggested that Mr. Cabuhat research organizations and veterinarians who volunteer their services if a feral colony is established and discuss further at a later time.

There being no one else present who wished to be heard, on a motion by Vice-President Pfannen seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried the time for Open Hearings was closed.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Pfannen, seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting of June be accepted as written.

BILLS TO BE PAID

Mrs. Williams stated that on behalf of President Cheriyan, Purchase Orders have been signed by Mrs. Williams and submitted. A motion was made by Mr. Cabuhat, seconded by Mrs. Pfannen and carried that the following bills were reviewed and approved.

Cooper Pest Control-	\$ 1,097.25
Dr. Rothenberg-	\$ 2,500.00
Felicia Williams	\$ 127.86
Mid-Bergen Regional	\$ 20,870.00
McKesson Medical	\$ 328.47
RR Donnelley-	\$ 213.00
Scott Graphics	\$ 485.00
Tyco-	\$ 3,146.66
Tyco-	\$ 3,206.66
Tyco-	\$ 3,026.66
WB Mason	\$ 283.70

REPORTS**Legal and Finance**

No Report due to the absence of Mrs. Marte

Medical

Nothing to Report.

Personnel

Mrs. Williams introduced Pam Lesnak as the Deputy Registrar for the Health department upon becoming certified, and also the promotion of Annemarie Delacruz as the Registrar for the Health Dept.

Publicity

The Board of Health meeting was advertised on the Bergenfield Website, The Record and Cablevision. The Covid and flu clinic at Conlon Hall on September 26, 2023, in addition, we advertised information on Spotted Lantern Flies.

Liaison To Mayor & Council

Councilman Deauna congratulated Mrs. Williams on her retirement. Councilman Deauna also congratulated the Health Department on the great job they have been doing.

Legislature & Regulatory

Mr. Cabuhat reported that he is concerned at the handling of feral cats in town and in general. Mr Cabuhat would like to continue with this discussion moving forward.

Written Reports of the Department

Liz Cruz, reported that the Nurses have resumed their screening services at the Bergenfield Senior Center, starting August 2, 2023, and every 1st Wednesday of the month thereafter. Ms. Cruz reported that the Nurses are planning a nutrition class in the month of November or December at the Senior Center., Ms. Cruz also reported that the Bergenfield Child Health Conference will hold two clinics in the months of August and September due to the influx of students that have been enrolled in the Bergenfield School System. Ms. Cruz reported that all the crossing guards have passed the hearing and eye screening for the new school year 2023-2024. Ms. Cruz also reported that we have ordered TB tests, and the Health Department is going to be receiving reimbursement for the tests from Mid Bergen Regional. Ms. Barker stated she has nothing to report.

A motion was made by Vice-President Pfannen, seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried that June, July & August 2023 reports of the Department be accepted as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

No "Correspondence"

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS: RESOLUTIONS TO BE PASSED**1. Per – Diem Nurse Salary Resolution#4-2023**

The Board voted to pass a resolution to increase the Nurses salary from \$38.00 to \$45.00 an hour effective July 1, 2023

2. Per- Diem Nurse Pool Resolution #5-2023 (New Hire)

The Board voted to pass a resolution that Liliza Pancho be added to the Per – Diem Nurse Pool Effective July 1, 2023.

3. Promotion for Annemarie Delacruz as Registrar #6-2023

The Board voted to pass a resolution to promote Annemarie DeLaCruz as Registrar of Vital Statistics effective October 1, 2023.

4. Hiring of Pamela Lesnak as clerk and Deputy Registrar upon becoming certified: #7-2023

The Board voted to pass a resolution to hire Pamela Lesnak as clerk effective October 1, 2023 and Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics upon becoming certified.

VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Williams confirmed the Bergenfield Health Department received a check from Mid Bergen for \$36,000 to cover the cost of the Animal Control contract for the year. President Cheriyan thanked Mr Federko, and Mid Bergen for all their efforts in completing the application for this grant. Mrs. Williams thanked the Board for all their support for the last 25 years. President Cheriyan thanked Mrs. Williams for all her hard work, compassion, and kindness she has contributed to the Health Department. The Board granted Nurse Liz' request to change her lunch hour to 2:30-3:30pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to come before the Board, on a motion by Vice-President Pfannen, seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

AnneMarie DelaCruz
Registrar of Vital Statistics