MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM
SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

Mrs. Plantemoli called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Health to order at 7:31 P.M.

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of Health was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both the *Chatham Courier* and the *Morris County Daily Record* on January 12, 2022 and August 30, 2022; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on January 12, 2022 and August 30, 2022; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on January 12, 2022 and August 30, 2022.

Roll Call

Answering present to the roll call were Mrs. Fowler, Mr. Nikolopoulos and Mrs. Plantemoli.

Mr. Hamilton and Mrs. Gardner were absent.

Board Attorney Mr. Hak and Health Officer Mike Fitzpatrick were also present.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Fowler moved to approve the minutes of the July7, 2022 meeting. Mr. Nikolopoulos seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Reports

Health Officer Report

Mr. Fitzpatrick reported that the Health Department has been monitoring monkey pox, and there have not been any cases in Chatham Township. Vaccinations are available if needed. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that the Health Department has the necessary equipment to do testing for monkey pox. He also said that monkey pox has remained contained, and there has not been any impact on Chatham Township.

Mr. Fitzpatrick further reported that COVID numbers have remained steady, and there are only active 15 cases in the recent 15-day report, which is down from July. Vaccinations are available.

Mr. Fitzpatrick noted that the Madison Health Department has moved from the Community Center to the Hartley Dodge Memorial Building.

Mrs. Plantemoli asked Mr. Fitzpatrick who will be taking over for him as Health Officer when he retires. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that Sarah Perramant, who currently serves as Assistant Health Officer and has a Masters of Public Health, will be the new Health Officer. The current Director of Health Education, Samantha Bunsa, will be the backup Health Officer.

Mr. Nikolopoulos asked if there is a protocol for the monkey pox vaccine if there should be any cases in the Township. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that the State and the CDC both have protocols for Health Departments to follow. He also said that if someone self-reports that they had close contact, they will be taken at their word and given treatment. Mr. Fitzpatrick also stated that close contact is considered close intimate contact. Mr. Fitzpatrick further noted that the State will be making the bivalent covid vaccine available to Health Departments.

Registrar of Vital Statistics/Board of Health Secretary

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in July 2022:

5 Marriage Certificates		$30
4 Death Certificates		$25
	Total	$55

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in August 2022:

7 Marriage Licenses		$60
2 Birth Certificates		$15
	Total	$75

Mr. LaConte noted that the State has waived the license fee for marriage licenses during this budget year. He further noted that Megan Gates has been appointed as Deputy Registrar. Mr. LaConte further commented on the Vital Event Registry Information System which is currently used for birth records. He stated that the State plans at some point to migrate the electronic death records to that system, and also plans to make marriage records electronic.

Regarding Board of Health Secretary activities, Mr. LaConte reported that the Chatham Cinema has reopened, having received all appropriate licenses and health inspections. Septic licenses are also in a renewal period, and reminders will be sent out soon to those who have not yet renewed. Several temporary retail food licenses have been issued to vendors who will be at the upcoming Woofstock event, as well as an October event being hosted by the Fire Department.

Mr. LaConte further reported that thus far there have been 369 dog licenses issued and 21 cat licenses.

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to accept the reports. Mr. Nikolopoulos seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Meeting Open to Public

Mrs. Plantemoli opened the meeting to the public.
Seeing no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to adjourn at 7:48 PM. Mr. Nikolopoulos seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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Gregory J. LaConte
Board of Health Secretary