MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM
OCTOBER 13, 2020

Mrs. Plantemoli called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Health to order at 7:34 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 15, 2020; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on January 15, 2020; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on January 15, 2020.

Roll Call

Answering present to the roll call were Mrs. Ewald, Mrs. Fowler, Mr. Nikolopoulos, Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Plantemoli. Mr. Fitzpatrick and Mrs. Dolan were also present.

Ms. Taormina was absent

All participation in this meeting was via Zoom.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Ewald moved to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2020 meeting. Mr. Nikolopoulos seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mrs. Plantemoli asked about the draft letter regarding leaf blower noise. Mr. LaConte stated that the Township Administrator incorporated leaf blower noise issues into a general letter included with tax bills.

Mrs. Plantemoli noted that Mr. Nikolopoulos appeared in the recent Chatham Magazine.

Reports

Public Health Nurse

Mr. Fitzpatrick said that Mrs. Dolan has been performing COVID investigations and contact tracing. How to run a Flu Clinic is also being investigated, and the Township's clinic will be held on October 22nd.

Mrs. Dolan reported that the Flu Clinic will be held in the gym at the Municipal Building, and accommodations will be made for those who have difficulty on stairs. The Clinic will also be by appointment with 80 slots available. There is also a Clinic in Madison on October 27th in Madison that is open to Chatham Township residents. Mrs. Dolan said that Chatham Township usually has a very robust turnout at Flu Clinics, however the clinics are expected to have fewer attendees than usual due to the appointment process. Appointments are spaced out to avoid too much gathering, and participants are encouraged to fill out their forms in advance. Mr. LaConte confirmed that the clinic information is posted on the Township's social media and website.

Mrs. Fowler asked if a drive-thru clinic was investigated. Mrs. Dolan said that a lot of towns are doing that, and there were concerns where such a drive could be safely run. She also addressed safety concerns at clinics. Mrs. Plantemoli asked if the flu vaccine was hard to obtain. Mrs. Dolan said that the full order has not arrived yet, however access is available to State-supplied vaccines.

Mrs. Dolan commented on cases of COVID at long term care facilities. Mrs. Ewald asked if any of the cases in August are tied to a party among Chatham High School students. Mrs. Dolan said that 9 cases were tied to the party, two were not. There was not any transmission in the schools, and not any transmission to those over 60. Mrs. Plantemoli noted an upcoming Zoom meeting to be run by the School District of the Chathams to address COVID related matters.
Mrs. Dolan commented on probable cases, and said that the difference between probable and confirmed is how the test was run. Guidance given to patients is the same. Mrs. Ewald asked if people can usually tell where they were exposed when contact tracing is performed. Mrs. Dolan

said that younger people are usually better at determining the likely exposure. There are not presently clusters of cases.

Mr. Fitzpatrick noted that activities such as shopping are considered low risk.

Mrs. Ewald commented on the recent COVID and Antibody testing in the Township, and stated that there were more than 400 participants. Mrs. Plantemoli noted that the event was not limited to Chatham Township residents. The duration of antibodies was discussed. Mrs. Dolan noted that it is not known what level of immunity someone would have if they test positive for antibodies. Mrs. Plantemoli asked how patients are informed of their results. Mr. LaConte said that results were sent by text message.

Mrs. Plantemoli noted that the Senior Center is planning to reopen on a limited basis. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that he was on site to assess the reopening plan. He also commented on plans to resume indoor sports. Mrs. Plantemoli said that she will be visiting the Senior Center to go over proper procedures for COVID prevention.

REHS/Health Officer

Mr. Fitzpatrick reported that non-COVID activities are being conducted again. He also further reported on contact tracing and exposure.

Mrs. Plantemoli asked about a septic repair. Mr. LaConte said that some permits for repairs are issued administratively when a broken part is being replaced without alteration.

Mrs. Plantemoli asked about a conditional approval at Good Taste Chinese Restaurant. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that critical issues are dealt with immediately, and less critical issues receive time for rectification.

Board of Health Secretary

Mr. LaConte reported that he only received one phone call about generator noise during the recent power outage. Mrs. Fowler asked if there was a specific request in the call. Mr. LaConte said that the resident suggested that generators be turned off at night and only run during the day. He stated that an ordinance would be needed to enact such a regulation.

Registrar of Vital Statistics

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in July 2020:

2 Marriage Licenses		$56
5 Marriage Certificates		$45
2 Death Certificates		$20
	Total	$121

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in August 2020:

2 Marriage Licenses		$56
7 Marriage Certificates		$50
3 Death Certificates		$25
	Total	$131

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in September 2020:

2 Marriage Licenses		$56
9 Marriage Certificates		$60
1 Death Certificate		$10
	Total	$126

Mr. LaConte noted that the Third Quarter payment to the State for Marriage License fees was $150.

Mrs. Ewald asked if fillable forms on the new Township website are being used for Vital Statistics purposes. Mr. LaConte said that the ID and record identification requirements and fee collection process do not make fillable forms a practical option.

Mrs. Plantemoli asked how vital statistics matters are being handled while the Municipal Building is closed to the public. Mr. LaConte said that marriage license applications are being accepted in the gym so that social distancing can be observed.

Board of Health Secretary

Mr. LaConte reported that he is working with the Health Department to schedule a rabies clinic on November 7th. Mrs. Fowler asked about dog licensing trends. Mr. LaConte stated that he has not seen any change in trends.

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to accept the reports. Mrs. Fowler seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Resolution

RESOLUTION BH-2020-6
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, ESTABLISHING REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE BOARD OF HEALTH DURING 2020

WHEREAS, the "Open Public Meetings Act", N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. requires that public bodies provide adequate notice of meetings;

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2020 the Board of Health adopted Resolution BH-2020-001 to establish the regular meeting schedule for the year 2020; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the public is limited to participation in public meetings through electronic means.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of the Township of Chatham in the County of Morris, New Jersey, as follows:

1) During the calendar year 2020 meetings will be held by the Board of Health to discuss or act upon public business at 7:30 p.m., prevailing time, at the Municipal Building on the following dates: February 11, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8, and January 12, 2021.
2) During the COVID-19 Pandemic state and health emergencies, the meetings will be held solely by the Zoom platform.
3) Zoom access information for each meeting will be included on the meeting agenda, which will be posted on the Township website at least 48 hours in advance of each meeting. Agendas will also be posted on the front door and the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building.
4) In the case of a special meeting, Zoom access information will also be included in the Open Public Meetings Act notice.
5) During public hearings, members of the public will be able to participate via Zoom by using the Raise Hand feature to signify their desire to make public comment. The Zoom platform also provides the ability for the public to listen to the meeting by telephone without video and to also comment by telephone by pressing *9 to raise their hand during public comment sessions.
6) Certified copies of this Resolution shall be (a) mailed to The Chatham Courier, (b) mailed to the Morris County Daily Record, (c) filed with the Municipal Clerk of the Township of Chatham, (d) posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building, and (e) mailed to any person requesting notices of the meetings of the Board of Health, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-19 who has paid the required fee theretofore. The foregoing shall be accomplished within (7) days of the adoption of this Resolution.

Mr. LaConte stated that the amendment to the Annual Notice is to keep the Board of Health in compliance with new State rules regarding public meetings held through virtual platforms. He noted that the Township Committee, Planning Board and Board of Adjustment are scheduled to adopt similar resolutions.

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to adopt Resolution BH-2020-6. Mrs. Ewald seconded the motion.

Roll call: Mrs. Ewald, Aye; Mrs. Fowler, Aye; Mr. Nikolopoulos, Aye; Mrs. Gardner, Aye; Mrs. Plantemoli, Aye.

Discussion

Health Department Services Contract

Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that the contract with Bloomfield will parallel the contract that the Township had with Madison. Costs will be lower than what they had been when the Township contracted with Madison.

Mrs. Ewald asked if residents would still be able to call Mrs. Dolan's office. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that there would not be any change in staffing, and the transition would be seamless. Mrs. Plantemoli commented on the various services that are offered by the Health Department.

Mrs. Fowler asked about changes in the contract. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that the intent and wording are similar, and the changes are stylistic. He also said that the Bloomfield Health Department keeps all of their contracts consistent with what they offer other towns.

Mrs. Ewald asked about health educator services. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that there are three health educators, one of whom is stationed in Madison. The health educators also work with the health educators who serve Chatham Borough regarding overlapping services such as the School District and the Library of the Chathams.

Trick-or-Treating

Mr. LaConte noted that some trick-or-treating information from Summit was sent to the Board for review. Mrs. Plantemoli noted that Mayor Kelly also had some guidelines posted on the Township website and social media. Mrs. Plantemoli asked if the Police Department should be informed of trunk-or-treating events. Mrs. Ewald said that the Township should not be organizing the events, however the Police and Health Department should be contacted by event organizers so that guidelines can be followed.

Mrs. Fowler asked if trick-or-treating will be during certain hours. Mrs. Plantemoli asked if the Borough has trick-or-treating at local businesses on Main Street. Mr. Nikolopoulos advised that people should avoid giving out treats that contain allergens. Mrs. Ewald said that indoor gatherings should be avoided as well. Mrs. Dolan said it is not known how careful receivers of candy will be.

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 9:08 PM. Mrs. Ewald seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

_____
Gregory J. LaConte
Board of Health Secretary