

**MEETING OF THE MONTVALE BOARD OF HEALTH
CONFERENCE ROOM #1, 2nd floor/ZOOM MEETING
12 MERCEDES DRIVE
MONTVALE, NJ 07645
December 7, 2020**

President Cohen called the meeting of the Board of Health to order at 7:45pm. Adequate notice of the meeting was provided to *The Record* informing the public of the time and place, according to the Provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975). The Sunshine Law is in effect.

Roll Call

Members: J. Cohen, President (P), G. Clark (P) M. Danna, Vice- President (A), L. Hopper (P), J. Jacobson (P) J. Landzberg (P), & P. Lennon (P)

Non- Members: Council Liaison Koelling (P), & Secretary J. Russo (P)

Contracted Professionals:

G. Behre, Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission Health Officer

J. Wendolowski, Hackensack Meridian Health Public Health Nurse (A)

C.Tyler, Tyco Animal Control Officer (A)

The meeting information was posted on the website and the Sunshine Law is in effect. There was no one from the public. This meeting will be held via Zoom and information was posted on the Borough website.

President Cohen asked for a motion to approve the November minutes. J. Jacobson made a motion to approve the minutes & P. Lennon seconded it. The minutes were approved on a roll call vote. The minutes will be posted on Borough website.

The Borough's website continues to provide updates of information and it is recommended that residents only visit credible websites such as NJ Health and Center for Disease Control (CDC) to stay informed. Restaurants, gyms and all businesses are required to comply with Gov. Murphy's Executive Orders. Complaints from residents regarding noncompliance are referred to COVID-19 hotline. CDC guidelines have been modified. Reminder discussed to check the CDC website for latest information pertaining to quarantine.

G. Behre, Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission Health Officer reported that she is in constant contact with the NJ Department of Health. The state guidelines and restrictions are often updated. Ms. Behre was complimented on the hard work she has assumed during COVID.

School closings are determined by the school districts' superintendents in conjunction with the Health Officer. However, the superintendents possess the authority to close and re-open schools independently.

Public Health Nurse, J. Wendolowski is conducting contact tracing. The schools are responsible for school district tracing. School guidelines requires those that tested positive to remain at home from school for 14 days.

President Cohen reported that J. Wendolowski provides Mayor Ghassali with a weekly report of the number of positive cases in the borough. The number of cases has increased in the Borough as well as the state. Data provided is an approximation. President Cohen and Mayor Ghassali are in on-going communication.

Long term care facilities residents and staff will receive the Covid-19 vaccinations from CVS & Walgreens, who have partner with the state to be a provider. Pharmacists are approved to administer vaccines.

Vaccination distribution was discussed. There is much unknown at this time. Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission is anticipating that they will conduct local clinics for their contracted municipalities. G. Behre reported that in the other contracted municipalities she has been in contact with the Office of Emergency Management regarding vaccine distribution. At this time there has been no communication from Montvale. Council Liaison Koelling stated that he will contact OEM.

President Cohen reported that, once the vaccines become available to Montvale's residents and we are able to organize a clinic, licensed registered nurses will be necessary to administer the vaccines. A brief questionnaire looking to recruit qualified residents, who are interested in volunteering has been developed. President Cohen asked Council Liaison Koelling to follow-up at the next Mayor & Council meeting regarding the recruitment questionnaire. Mayor Ghassali had received the questionnaire in an email. Secretary will email Councilman Knoelling with the questionnaire.

At the last meeting ,members were provided by email a copy of an ordinance from the Borough Administrator's office and the Borough Attorney. All the members have reviewed the ordinance, entitled 2020-02; President Cohen read the ordinance by title only and asked for motion to adopt the ordinance. L. Hopper made motion; J. Jacobson seconded. Roll call vote, approved the ordinance. The ordinance will be printed in *The Record*, by title only.

The 2021 Board of Health Budget has been submitted on time. The Board is waiting to receive contracts. G. Behre stated that, due to the increased costs related to the pandemic, NWBRH will exceed the 2% municipal cap increase. President Cohen reported that she will contact the Administrator and Mayor to alert them of the increase and seek approval. President Cohen asked for motion to accept the contract. J. Landzberg made motion and stated that the Board is extremely thankful and satisfied with the NWBRHC's efforts these last eight months and their increase is justified. Motion was seconded by J. Jacobson. The Board approved the contract and it will be signed after the Board receives confirmation from Mayor & Council that the increase in budgeted amount is approved.

Ms. Behre reported that all routine health inspections are postponed by NWBRHC due to increase workload due to the pandemic. Reoperation inspections continued to be scheduled.

The annual rabies clinic, which in the past has been held at the DPW Garage in January was discussed. Cancellation due to capacity limitation and social distancing guidelines are an issue.

If cancelled, pet licenses along with the cancellation notice will be mailed to existing license pet owners later this month. Licenses will be issued starting January 1st.

Members are reminded to check their emails for meeting updates and notices.

The 2021 meeting dates are as follows: **January 4, March 1, May 3, June 7, September (date undetermined at this time), November 1, & December 6.**

Monthly Reports

Tyco Animal Report – carried to January

NW Bergen Reg. Health Commission Activity Reports G. Behre read November report, items discussed.

Registrar & Vital Static Report- carried to January

Child Health Conference Report- No report. The contract was received and the administration fee for the clinic is \$250 and \$35 per clinic visit.

Council Liaison Report- Councilman Knoelling provided update from M&C meeting.

Adjournment A motion to adjourn was made by J. Landzberg & second by M. Danna. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.