

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM

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-Absent
- Dr. Quiroz-Abset
- Mrs. Marte

Also present Mr. Fedorko, Mrs. Williams, Ms. Kayla Williams, Ms. August, Mrs. Flanagan, Council President Deauna arrived at 7:40

OPEN HEARING

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

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Marte seconded by Vice-President Pfannen and carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting of February 2022 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 Mrs. Marte seconded by Vice-President Pfannen and carried that the following bills were reviewed and approved.

Tyco	2,916.66
Munidex	671.00
Bortz, E	450.00
North Jersey Media Group	440.90
Labrepco, Inc.	326.00
Scott Graphics Printing	325.00
W.B. Mason	193.57
Treasurer, State of NJ	85.00

REPORTS

Legal and Finance

Mrs.Marte stated there was nothing to report.

Medical

“No Report”

Personnel

Vice-President Pfannen welcomed Ms. August back to work as of March 7th, 2022. Ms. August stated that she will be working three days a week per doctor’s instructions and will be back full time as soon as she is medically cleared. President Cheriyan welcomed Ms. August back, thanked her for her input while out on medical leave and agreed that she should have medical clearance before returning full time.

Publicity

The Board of Health meeting was advertised on the Bergenfield Website, The Record and Cablevision.

Cosmetology Ordinance Final Reading was published in the Record.

Liaison To Mayor & Council

Council President Deauna arrived late and reported under “Reports”

Legislature & Regulatory

“Nothing to Report”

Written Reports of the Department

Mr. Fedorko stated that COVID-19 cases have decreased. There was a COVID-19 related death in Bergenfield in February. Mr. Fedorko reported that there is a nurse shortage in the state of New Jersey and that he is looking to hire two nurses for other towns he contracts with. Mr. Fedorko asked the Board if in the interim Bergenfield can accommodate a few of the families that need vaccines for their children from other towns. Mr. Fedorko stated that Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission would incur all expenses and it would be at no cost to Bergenfield.

Mr. Fedorko reported that the Nail Salon inspections will begin soon and food establishments that have not been in compliance will be reinspected.

President Cheriyan asked Mr. Fedorko what assisting other towns with our nurses would entail. President Cheriyan suggested Mr. Fedorko and Ms. August discuss it further and see if arrangements can be made to accommodate these families. Ms. August stated that she spoke to Mr. Fedorko briefly and of course would like to help but would have to discuss it with him further to make sure there would be staff available and to determine how many families would Bergenfield need to see. Mr. Fedorko stated that based on the last 3 months, 4 families needed assistance. Ms. August said she would speak to Dr. Rothenberg and suggested possibly having two clinics a month instead of the one clinic we currently have.

Ms. Kayla Williams asked the Board if they had any questions regarding her February report. Council President Deauna asked for an update on APNA Bazaar. President Cheriyan stated that the Board received a letter from Michelle Netusil, Chief REHS from Mid Bergen Regional Health Commission. The letter stated that based on the history of the establishment, a final notice of violation was sent to the owner of the establishment. The final notice listed in detail the on-going repeat violations of concern. The establishment has received conditional evaluations since January 2018. To ensure the health and safety of the community, Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission, contracted to provide public health services to the Bergenfield Health Department is recommending a hearing to move forward with the suspension of the establishments retail food license. Due to the history of the establishment violating the terms of previous suspensions, a permanent revocation of the license may be considered by the Board of Health if the establishment does not comply with the required cease of operations during any suspension if deemed necessary.

President Cheriyan stated that the owner has been given many opportunities to comply. President Cheriyan also stated that the Board agrees with the recommendation of Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission to suspend the license to ensure the health and safety of the community.

Mr. Fedorko stated that he will speak to the Borough Attorney and will schedule a hearing with the owner of the establishment. Ms. Kayla Williams also agreed with the recommendation set forth by Mid-Bergen to the Board of Health based on the repeat violations, the past suspension and the past revoking of his license.

Ms. August stated that she did not submit a monthly report since she has been out on medical leave but will submit a year-end report for 2021 as soon as she can.

Ms. August reported that the New Jersey Department of Health is considering utilizing contact tracers for communicable diseases reporting. Ms. August feels that a contact tracer without a nursing degree or public health background may not be qualified to report communicable diseases. Ms. August feels it would be a disservice to the public not having a qualified person reporting a communicable disease.

The Board congratulated Council President Deauna on his appointment. Council President Deauna reported that the Council is working on the 2022 Budget. He stated that the salary proposal for the Health Department employees was submitted and is being reviewed.

Council President Deauna reported that the marijuana ordinance was passed at the Mayor & Council meeting. Council President Deauna stated that unfortunately many businesses in Bergenfield have been hit hard and the town is in dire need of help and the revenue from having the marijuana facility in Bergenfield would help the taxpayers. There would be no selling and it would be a high security operation.

Council President Deauna stated he is happy to have an active Board of Health and pleased that the Covid numbers have decreased and hopes it's the end of this deadly disease.

A motion was made by Vice-President Pfannen seconded by Mrs. Marte and carried that the written February 2022 reports of the Department be accepted as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter to the Board of Health from Mid-Bergen Health Commissioner regarding Retail Establishment license #37, 101 C Portland Avenue.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Budget 2022

Vice-President Pfannen asked if there was any update on the salary proposal that was submitted. Mrs. Williams responded that they are working on approving the budget as stated by Council President Deauna.

NEW BUSINESS

“No new business”

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

There being nothing further to come before the Board, on a motion by Vice-President Pfannen seconded by Mrs. Marte and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Felicia Williams
Registrar of Vital Statistics