

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
- Dr. Quiroz
- Mrs. Marte-Absent

Also, present Council President Deauna, Mr. Fedorko, Mrs. Williams, and Ms. August.

OPEN HEARING

There being no one 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 Vice-President Pfannen seconded by Dr. Quiroz and carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting of May 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 Vice-President Pfannen seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried that the following bills were reviewed and approved.

Tyco	3,036.66
W.B. Mason	226.94
McKesson Medical	211.67
W.B. Mason	165.14

REPORTS

Legal and Finance

No Report

Medical

Dr. Quiroz reported that we are still dealing with COVID and a short conversation took place regarding Monkeypox. President Cheriyan stated that at this time the disease is under control and not a concern in the United States.

Personnel

Vice-President Pfannen reported that Ms. August, Public Health Nurse Supervisor has submitted a letter of resignation effective August 26th, 2022. Vice-President Pfannen stated that with regret and sadness, the Board accepts Ms. August's letter of resignation. Vice-President Pfannen stated that Ms. August has been a force in Bergenfield and will be hard to replace but wishes her all the best in her future endeavors. President Cheriyan stated that on behalf of the Board, he thanked Ms. August, expressed the Board's gratitude for her life-long service and dedication to the community. President Cheriyan stated that we need a plan for a smooth transition and hopes we can have Ms. August assist us in doing that. President Cheriyan also expressed his regret on behalf of the Board, stated that Ms. August will be missed and wished her all the best.

Council President Deauna stated that Ms. August will be missed and thanked her for her years of service and dedication to the community. Council President Deauna expressed gratitude on behalf of the Mayor & Council, thanked Ms. August and wished her all the best on her retirement.

Ms. August thanked everyone for their kind words and stated that she is grateful and it was a pleasure to have had the opportunity to provide service to the residents of her home town of Bergenfield. Ms. August thanked past and present Health Officers that supported her and had the foresight to see the future of public health. Ms. August also thanked her co-workers who allowed her to do what she loved to do by assisting her on the day-to-day activities. Ms. August thanked everyone for their kindness and stated that she will be more than happy to help in anyway she can with the transition.

President Cheriyan stated that replacing Ms. August will be a challenge and hopes to find someone as dedicated as Ms. August to continue all the programs the Health Department offers such as but not limited to Child Health Conferences, Adult Vaccine Clinics, Community Public Health Programs, Mayors Wellness Program and Home Visits.

A conversation took place regarding expanding the search for a Public Health Nurse and also to make sure there is a strong Per-Diem Nurse pool to be able to assist us while looking for a replacement. Ms. August confirmed that the two per-diem nurses that have been assisting us agreed to continue on.

Publicity

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

An article was published in the Twin-Boro News regarding the Borough launching the Mayor's Wellness Campaign 2022.

Liaison To Mayor & Council

Council President Deauna reported that the Mayor's Wellness Program is actively continuing. Some of the events offered such as but not limited to Walks with the Mayor, Yoga, Line Dancing and Zumba have been well attended by the residents. Council President Deauna stated that he is pleased with the Health Department as always with the COVID-19 vaccination clinic that was conducted in May. Ms. August stated that the intern Hallie Wilkfors has been helping with gathering information and formatting the rubric parameters to give Bergenfield the best chance to present the program to the State. The goal is to provide health advice and programs for our residents. This would hopefully have Bergenfield designated as a Health Town in New Jersey. The Health Department is assisting in this goal whole heartedly.

Legislature & Regulatory

Mr. Cabuhat stated there's nothing to report.

Written Reports of the Department

Mr. Fedorko stated that it has been a pleasure to work with Ms. August and wishes her the best. Mr. Fedorko reported that COVID-19 is still taking up 30% of his time and stated that cases in Bergenfield remain elevated compared to the same time as last year. The current COVID-19 Activity Level Report for our area is ORANGE as of June 4th, 2022. Locally, Bergenfield has a COVID-19 Activity level listed as ORANGE as of June 9th, 2022.

Mr. Fedorko reported that the current influenza activity level in our area decreased from High to Moderate activity. The influenza cases slightly mirrored the COVID-19 case count. Mr. Fedorko also reported that there has been no pediatric influenza mortality for the 2021-2022 influenza season.

Mr. Fedorko reported that as of June 6th, there are no confirmed cases of monkeypox cases in New Jersey. There are 30 confirmed cases in the U.S. and the country reporting the most cases is the United Kingdom with 382 confirmed cases.

Mr. Fedorko reported on the Menthol Cigarette Ban. On June 2, 2022, the NJ Assembly Health Committee endorsed a bill, A1989, which would make it illegal to sell menthol flavored cigarettes. The bill still must pass both the full Assembly and Senate and signed by the Governor before becoming law.

Mr. Fedorko stated that in his opinion, banning only creates black market which has proven to be the case in Massachusetts where the menthol cigarettes come in from bordering States.

Dr. Quiroz agreed with Mr. Fedorko that at this time monkeypox is not a concern but states that everyone should be aware and be educated on identifying the disease. Dr. Quiroz agreed with Mr. Fedorko that pediatric flue cases are very low.

President Cheriyan stated that there are many breakthrough cases and everyone should be mindful even if vaccinated. A conversation took place regarding the constant changes of guidelines and recent updates on vaccines. President Cheriyan also stated that it is expected that the CDC will approve the vaccine for children 6 months to 5 years old effective July 1st 2022.

Ms. August reported that the State may not conduct its annual audit this year due to the Health Department not having any COVID-19 vaccines at this time. The State will wait until the Health Department is fully stocked with vaccines so a proper audit can be conducted.

A motion was made by Vice-President Pfannen seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried that the written May 2022 reports of the Department be accepted as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter of resignation from Ms. August was submitted to the Board of Health and Mayor & Council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**1. Budget 2022**

The Salary Resolution for 2022 was presented to the Board. Resolution #4-2022 was offered by Vice-President Pfannen, seconded by Dr. Quiroz as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Health of the Borough of Bergenfield that the compensation during 01/02/022-12/31/2022 of the officers and employees in Classified Service (Civil Service) be and the same is hereby amended, fixed and determined (35 hours week). On roll call, all members present voted yes, Resolution was adopted.
(Resolution on file in the Health Department).

NEW BUSINESS

“No new business”

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

A short conversation took place regarding the scheduled time for the Board of Health meetings. It was decided that it will remain for 7:30pm for the rest of the year and revisit it in January 2023. There being nothing further to come before the Board, on a motion by President Cheriyan, seconded by Dr. Quiroz and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Felicia Williams
Registrar of Vital Statistics