

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM

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
- Mr. Gerundo
- Mrs. Marte-Absent

Also, present AnneMarie Delacruz, Mr. Fedorko, Kayla Williams, Kelly Grippo, and Pam Lesnak.

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 Mr. Cabuhat seconded by Vice- President Pfannen and carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting of February 2024 be accepted as written.

BILLS TO BE PAID

Mrs. Delacruz stated that on behalf of President Cheriyan, Purchase Orders have been signed by Mrs. Delacruz and submitted. A motion was made by Vice-President Pfannen, seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried that the following bills were reviewed and approved.

Dr. Rothenberg	2,500.00
McKesson Medical – Surgical	206.17
Munidex	698.00
RR Donnelly	319.50
Scott Graphics	140.00
Scott Graphics	690.00
Tyco	3,146.66

REPORTS**Legal and Finance**

No Report due to the absence of Mrs. Marte.

Medical

President Cheriyan welcomed Mr. Gerundo and confirmed that he was appointed as the secretary for Medical Affairs.

Personnel

“No Report”

Publicity

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

Liaison To Mayor & Council

“No Report”

Legislature & Regulatory

Mr. Cabuhat will continue to work with Mr. Fedorko regarding the Feral cat ordinance.

Written Reports of the Department

Mr. Fedorko referred to his report and explained that mid Bergen is contracted with 15 towns in Bergen county. Mr. Fedorko mentioned it offers towns like Bergenfield a choice of choosing a commission, hiring their own Health Officer, or choosing a county or another commission. Mr. Fedorko stated that Mid Bergen regional health commission has expanded and according to the statute they need to have a representative from each town to participate in board meetings which are held via zoom once every quarter. Mr. Fedorko mentioned that the board decides how financial obligations are to be met. However, in the local board meetings they also discuss diseases, and health education. Mr. Fedorko stated that he will be in touch with President Cheriyan in the next month or two. Mr. Fedorko also discussed communicable diseases as part of his report. Mr. Fedorko thanked Mrs. Delacruz for her help with compiling the information for the years 2021-2023. Mr. Fedorko stated the leading cause of death in Bergenfield were heart disease and cancer, which is also throughout the Mid Bergen jurisdiction and New Jersey. There was also a discussion regarding drug overdose. Mr. Fedorko mentioned there were 4 overdoses due to Fentanyl. President Cheriyan also mentioned that over 50's overdose could be attributed to prescription drugs. Mr. Fedorko and President Cheriyan inquired about the 29-year-old overdose. Mrs. Delacruz confirmed the 29 year old death was due to Fentanyl overdose. Kelly Grippo discussed the Mayor's Wellness program. Kelly stated she was trying to reach out to the coordinator to get additional information on the program. Kelly would like to bring **HARP** to do overdose prevention. Mrs. Delacruz mentioned that Liz was not feeling well and unable to attend the meeting.

President Cheriyan thanked Kayla for the annual and monthly reports. Kayla stated she would like to focus on getting all the food establishments licensed in 2024, as of January 2024 Bergenfield has 123 licensed establishments. Kayla stated that 5 establishments were closed and there were 13 turnovers, schools remained the same. Kayla also mentioned that Ms. Barker has all the Cosmetology establishments licensed for 2024. Kayla stated she had several hoarding complaints which she worked on in conjunction with the Police Department, and she has sent information to residents on resources for those who were interested in the assistance.

Kayla reported she had several emergencies stemming from grease and sewage backup, and she stated she has done 21 grease trap inspections. Regarding the enforcement there were about 125 summonses, 16 of them still active. Kayla confirmed all summons totaled \$12,601 most of them were for unlicensed personnel in Cosmetology establishments. President Cheriyan asked Kayla if these hearings are at county level Kayla explained that these are all local complaints that are heard at the Court on Wednesday in Bergenfield. The only complaints that are at the County level was the woman that had a dog bite from a pitbull in Bergenfield.

Mrs. Delacruz discussed her Annual Report for the Health Department. Mr. Fedorko asked for the total was collected for marriage certificates, birth certificates, licenses. Mrs. Delacruz confirmed that the total that the Health Department collected for 2023 including Dog and Cat licenses was \$49,935. She confirmed no home births in Bergenfield. Mr. Fedorko inquired on how many funeral homes in Bergenfield and Mrs. Delacruz stated one funeral home, Riewerts and that they did about the same amount of death transcripts as last year which was about one thousand. Mrs. Delacruz confirmed 160 marriage licenses were issued for 2023. She also stated that most of the money came from collection of food licenses, bank fees, late fees, and daycares. President Cheriyan thanked Mrs. Delacruz for the update.

A motion was made by Vice-President Pfannen, seconded by Mr. Cabuhat, and carried that the written February 2024 Reports of the Department, be accepted as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

“No correspondence”

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Cheriyan inquired about the fetal cat ordinance. Mrs. Pfannen stated that the in-person meeting has not occurred and asked Mr. Cabuhat to let Mrs. Delacruz know when he is available to have a meeting. President Cheriyan mentioned this can be revisited when the move is completed. Mrs. Pfannen preferred an in-person meeting rather than a zoom meeting. She also mentioned that she had notification from Tyco that a cat had to be put to sleep due to a cranial injury and she asked that Tyco provide a monthly report of the cats that have been trapped and the disposition of each cat trapped. Mr. Cabuhat stated he wants the accountability of each cat once the cat is put down. President Cheriyan asked Mrs. Delacruz to go ahead with the reading, for the “special event ordinance”.

Mrs. Delacruz asked for a motion to accept the first reading. A motion was made to pass the 1st reading of the ordinance by Mrs. Pfannen and seconded by Dr. Cabuhat. Roll call was done, and all members present voted “yes”

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion regarding budget. Mrs. Pfannan suggested meeting with the staff to discuss Salary increase. Mrs. Delacruz mentioned that the first reading of the temporary budget will be on March 19 and any salary requests need to be in by March 5.

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

Mrs. Delacruz discussed the transition to the new building on March 11th. Mrs. Delacruz stated that record retention and packing are progressing, she stated much of the office has been packed and is ready for the transition. Mrs. Pfannen asked Mr. Cabuhat about the meeting regarding feral cats and suggested an in-person meeting at the Borough Hall or Conlon Hall. Mrs. Pfannen asked Mr. Cabuhat to confirm his availability so the discussion regarding the feral cat ordinance can move forward.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to come before the Board, on a motion by Vice-President Pfannen, seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried, the meeting was adjourned 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annemarie Delacruz
Registrar of Vital Statistics