

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN
BOARD OF HEALTH**

MINUTES

9:00 am

October 13, 2021

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

1. PROCEDURAL

a. Call to Order –

b. Flag Salute

c. Open Public Meetings Act Statement.

STATEMENT: Pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was properly provided by sending a copy of the Notice of Meeting to the Asbury Park Press and the Atlantic City Press. Notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Administration Office.

Roll Call -	Joan Tredy _____	X
	Nick Bonamassa _____	X
	Dana Covitz _____	X
	Mary Neafie _____	X
	Kelsey Denning _____	Absent
	Aaron Shapiro Alt. #1 _____	X
	John Panebianco Alt. #2 _____	X

2. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

a. Approve Reorganization Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2020

A motion to approve the Reorganization Meeting minutes of January 8, 2020 was moved by Aaron Shapiro, seconded by Dana Covitz. All in Favor: Aye. None opposed.

b. Approve Regular Business Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2020

A motion to approve the Regular Business Meeting minutes of January 8, 2020 was moved by Aaron Shapiro, seconded by Dana Covitz. All in Favor: Aye. None opposed.

**c. Activity Report Review– January-December 2020
January-September 2021**

Nick Bonamassa discussed the 2021 dog licenses are 100 less than 2020 and inquired if the Township keeps a record of residents who do not license their animals.

Secretary Giardino discussed, yes. An initial renewal notice is mailed out to all animal owners' homes the day after January 1st every year, with a second notice being emailed out to unlicensed animal owners before March 1st, letting the public know there is a \$10.00 late fee on March 1st. This year, the late fee was extended to April 1st, due to the Township offices being closed to the public due to COVID.

A third notice is mailed out to unlicensed animal owners after March 1st, letting the public know the late fee has been applied and that all dogs and cats are required to be licensed to avoid a summons. Township emails are also sent on a monthly basis, reminding residents to license their animals. Residents cannot license their animals without a valid Rabies Vaccination certificate, and there was a low count at the Rabies Clinic as well. Hopefully 2022 will have better numbers.

Nick Bonamassa inquired if the Township is competitive with the licensing fees that are being charged. The fee was raised years back.

Dana Covitz discussed the licenses cost \$12.00, which is very low.

Mary Neafie discussed the \$12.00 fee is low.

Secretary Giardino discussed the fee was raised to \$12.00 spayed/neutered and \$15.00 non-spayed/non-neutered 14 years ago in 2007. The fees have not been raised since. Lacey Township fees are the same as Ocean Township.

c. Correspondence – 1st - 4th Quarter 2020 and 1st - 3rd Quarter 2021

No comments regarding correspondence.

3. OLD BUSINESS

• Animal Licensing – 2020

In 2020, 760 dogs and 114 cats were licensed. Renewal notices were mailed to all animal owners Thursday, January 2, 2020. A Township email was sent on February 6 and February 26, 2020 to the public reminding residents there is a \$10.00 late fee applied March 1, 2020 and to please license their animals. A fourth notice was mailed at the end of April 2020 to unlicensed owners reminding them to please license their cats and dogs.

- **Animal Licensing – 2021**

Currently there are 665 dogs and 140 cats licensed. Renewal notices were mailed to all animal owners Monday, January 4, 2021. A Township email was sent on March 23, 2021 to the public announcing to residents the \$10.00 late fee deadline has been extended to April 1, 2021 due to Township offices being closed due to COVID. Monthly Township emails were sent out beginning May 1, 2021 reminding residents to please license their cats and dogs.

- **Animal Licensing – 2022**

Animal license renewal postcards will be mailed to all animal owners' homes on January 3, 2022. Late fees will be applied March 1, 2022.

4. NEW BUSINESS.

- **Rabies Clinic – February 13, 2021**

Secretary Giardino discussed the 2021 Rabies Clinic was a success. Appointments were scheduled prior to the event, making social distancing effortless. Dr. Wurst and his assistant administered vaccinations to 22 cats and 95 dogs. Board of Health member Dana Covitz and a friend, Aaron Shapiro and Deputy Mayor LoParo assisted with crowd control and walk-ins. Secretary Giardino and Shelly Damato from the Clerk's office assisted with scheduling and registration.

- **Rabies Clinic – February 12, 2022**

Secretary Giardino discussed the Rabies Clinic will be held at the Community Center at 239 11th Street. Cats will be 9:30am-10am and Dogs will be 10am-11am. The Rabies Clinic Notice will be advertised in the Mailbag, posted on the Township Website, on the bulletin board at Town Hall and Homeowners Associations, on the flashing signs on Route 9 and sent out in a Township Email.

Chairman Joan Tredy inquired if Board of Health members will be needed to assist with the 2022 Rabies Clinic.

Secretary Giardino discussed if the Township schedules appointments for the Rabies Clinic, only a few members will be needed to assist. If the Township does not take appointments, then all members will be needed to assist with registration and crowd control.

Secretary Giardino discussed if scheduling is allowed, the residents will fill out the vaccination form, email it to the Township, put in the drop box at Town Hall or deliver to the Clerk's office.

Dana Covitz discussed the positive side is the forms are already filled out prior to the clinic. The forms are very time consuming on the day of the clinic and leave room for error. It is very loud in the Community Center and the High School volunteers could not hear and are not familiar

with the form. There are also less animals together inside the building at one time. Walk-ins are still accepted at the Rabies Clinic.

A motion requesting Mayor Dodd ask the Township Administrator and Township Committee to allow appointment scheduling at the 2022 Rabies Clinic was moved by Mary Neafie, seconded by Dana Covitz. All in Favor: Aye. None opposed.

Chairman Tredy discussed the Ocean County Health Department will be holding a Flu/Pneu Clinic today, Wednesday, October 13, 2021, 3pm-7pm and Saturday October 23, 2021, 10am-1pm at the Ocean County Fire and EMS Training Center, 200 Volunteer Way, Waretown, NJ 08758. COVID vaccines will be available at all Ocean County Flu Clinics.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT.

No comment from the public.

6. BOARD COMMENTS.

Chairperson Tredy thanked the Board of Health members for accepting her back as Chairperson.

Vice Chairperson Neafie thanked the Board of Health members for voting her as Vice Chairperson.

NEXT MEETING IS January 12, 2022.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was moved by John Panebianco, seconded by Aaron Shapiro. All in Favor: Aye. None opposed.

Michele Giardino, Secretary
Township of Ocean Board of Health