

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**

Mr. Nachtigal called the regular meeting of the Board of Health to order at 7:34 P.M.

**Adequate notice** of this meeting of the Board of Health was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both the *Chatham Courier* and the *Morris County Daily Record* on January 9, 2019; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on January 9, 2019; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on January 9, 2019.

**Roll Call**

Answering present to the roll call were Mrs. Chang, Mrs. Plantemoli and Mr. Nachtigal. Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Dolan and Mr. Samara were also present. Mrs. Gardner and Mr. Ritter were absent. Ms. Taormina was also absent.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2019 meeting. Mr. Nachtigal seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Reports**

**Public Health Nurse**

Mrs. Dolan gave a report for July and August. She said that all lead investigations have been within normal limits. During August, immunization workshops were scheduled with preschool directors and school nurses, but were ultimately were not able to be held, Mrs. Dolan said that she will try to reschedule the workshops. Regarding communicable diseases, Mrs. Dolan said that she wanted to bring attention to Cyclospora, which is a gastro-intestinal illness caused by a parasite. She said that there have been an increase in cases in the United States, and there have been some cases in Chatham. Common sources are imported produce. Mrs. Dolan said that hepatitis-A was also an issue this year, and an outbreak at a country club in Mendham was discussed. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that health officers have often suggested that food handlers should have a hepatitis-A vaccination. Mrs. Dolan also reported that the flu clinics have been scheduled, and the inter-nasal live vaccine will be available. The Health Department is also hosting a comprehensive blood test profile clinic in September.

**Registered Environmental Health Specialist**

Mr. Samara gave a report for July. He noted that Charlie Brown's had a satisfactory inspection following a prior conditional approval. He also reported that the other retail food inspections were satisfactory. Pool inspections were also performed. A septic tank abandonment inspection was also conducted.

In August, Mr. Samara reported that Woodland Bakery was shut down for a few days upon discovery that the business had changed hands without proper licensure and inspections. They have since reopened following the inspection process, and any issues were rectified. All other retail food establishments inspected were satisfactory. Additional pool inspections were conducted, and all were satisfactory. A septic alarm inspection was performed at 11 Loantaka Lane,

**Health Officer**

Mr. Fitzpatrick addressed the temporary closure of Woodland Bakery, and said that there were some violations that needed to be corrected before they could reopen. He also said that the new owner thought they could use the previous owner's retail food license. Mrs. Plantemoli asked how the issues were discovered. Mr. Samara said that he was next door when someone indicated to him the change in ownership.

Mr. Fitzpatrick also addressed the circumstance of a hoarder, and said that the resident has received assistance from their church congregation. Mr. Fitzpatrick also updated the Board on the cleanup efforts at the resident's home, and said that the house is not ready for the resident to return home yet.

Mr. Fitzpatrick also said that there are some noise issues being addressed. Mr. Samara said that a resident had changed the run-time on their generator to satisfy their neighbor, and the neighbor has begun complaining again. Mr. Fitzpatrick commented on the setback requirements for generators to comply with the noise ordinance. Mr. Nachtigal said that the land use setbacks for generators are 15 feet. Mr. Samara noted a circumstance on Pembroke where a resident is bothered by a neighbor's generator. The frequency of power outages was also discussed. Mrs. Plantemoli asked if generators can be covered, and Mr. Nachtigal said that they need to have ventilation because they burn fuel. Mr. Nachtigal said that the Township Committee should address setbacks.

Mr. Samara announced that he is retiring, and his last day at work is October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Registrar of Vital Statistics

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in July 2019:

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 4 Marriage Licenses    | \$112       |
| 1 Marriage Certificate | <u>\$10</u> |
| Total                  | \$122       |

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in August 2019:

|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 3 Marriage Licenses     | \$84        |
| 5 Marriage Certificates | <u>\$30</u> |
| Total                   | \$114       |

Board of Health Secretary

Mr. LaConte reported that the rabies clinic will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM at the DPW Garage.

Mr. Nachtigal moved to accept the reports as read. Mrs. Plantemoli seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Discussion**

Plastic Bag Regulation Enforcement

Mr. LaConte said that the Township Committee is considering a draft ordinance to prohibit certain types of single-use plastic bags, and the proposal is to have the Health Department enforce the ordinance. Mr. Fitzpatrick commented on the exemptions for loose items such as produce and meat, and the proposed prohibition is for the bags at the register. He also commented on the fee to be charged by retailers for paper bags.

Regarding enforcement, Mr. Fitzpatrick said he does not have a problem enforcing this ordinance in retail food establishments. He added that he does not think that the Health Department should be called out on weekends for community events where there would not otherwise be a health inspection.

Mrs. Plantemoli asked about the implementation of the ordinance. Mr. LaConte said that if adopted, the anticipated effective date would be in March so that stores can be informed and have time to implement new bags.

Mr. Fitzpatrick suggested that the minimum fine should be \$500 in case and establishments are resistant.

Mrs. Plantemoli asked about such regulations in other towns. Mr. LaConte said that other towns are considering similar ordinances, but the proposed ordinance would only be effective in Chatham Township. Mrs. Plantemoli noted that people may still be able to get plastic bags in

other towns, and said that some people reuse the bags. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that the initial switch to plastic bags was for a reduction in the number of trees cut down to make paper bags. He said he will forward comments to the Township Clerk to be passed on to the Township Committee.

Message from Board of Health President

Mr. Nachtigal read a prepared statement announcing his resignation. He said that he is resigning because he is moving to another town. Mr. Nachtigal commented on efforts that should be made to address noise nuisances. He also thanked Mr. LaConte for his work, as well as the Madison Health Department for their services. Mr. Nachtigal further recognized Mr. Samara and Mr. Fitzpatrick for their years of service in the public health field.

The Board thanked Mr. Nachtigal for his years of service to the Township and the Board of Health.

Meeting Open to Public

Mr. Nachtigal opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no comment, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Nachtigal moved to adjourn at 8:29 PM. Mrs. Plantemoli seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

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Gregory J. LaConte  
Board of Health Secretary