

Minutes of the Board of Health Meeting of the Township of Woodbridge, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey held on October 5, 2021 at 7:15 P.M. at the Municipal Building, 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095.

Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law have been satisfied concerning this meeting. The Home News Tribune and The Star Ledger published the Annual Notice Schedule on December 18, 2020. A copy of the Schedule was posted on the Municipal bulletin board. It should be so noted in the minutes of this meeting.

The Municipal Clerk took the Municipal Council attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cory Spillar, Gregg Ficarra, Debbie Meehan, Kyle Anderson, Lizbeth DeJesus, Howie Bauer, Brian Small.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nancy Drumm, Virbhadra N. Patel.

ALSO PRESENT: John E. McCormac, Mayor
John Mitch, Municipal Clerk
Vito Cimilluca, Business Administrator
Robert Hubner, Director of Police
George Brew, Director of Public Works
Dennis Green, Health Director
John Hagerty, Communications Director
Casey Wagner, Deputy Business Administrator
James P. Nolan, Esq.
Craig J. Coughlin, Esq.

Mr. Mitch: Mr. Green.

Director of Health Dennis Green: Thank you Council. So I'd like to update the Council on the Health Department's activities since our last Board of Health Meeting. The Health Department held a Rabies Clinic on September 21st and we had 131 animals that were vaccinated within the 3 hour clinic. The Health Department also held a school-aged immunization clinic through our Nursing Division for the standard required immunizations for school children. Both were well attended to capacity and another will be scheduled later on this month to meet the needs of the community. The Health Department held a skin cancer screening on September 24th in partnership with St. Peter's Hospital. 12 people attended which was capacity. The Health Department also hosted a Walk with the Doc on September 17th in Sewaren Park and there were 11 participants which we're excited to see. We also coordinated a Stroke, Science, and Symptoms Program with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Hickory Senior Center on September 15th which was well attended. This is all in addition to our ongoing COVID response. The Mayor is continually providing his weekly updates on the current COVID cases in the community. I just want to add that the Nursing Division and Environmental Division continue to interface and inform the local schools, preschools, and businesses on all the changes and the Executive Orders and Guidelines. Currently our COVID cases stand at 14,095 cases; 13,178 are community cases. We're currently running at an average of 10 cases per day over a three-day moving average which is down from approximately 20 a week or so ago so we're actually moving in the right direction which we're very happy to see. We continue to provide COVID-19 Clinics. To date we have provided 85 clinics administering 10,589 vaccinations. And that includes clinics held on Saturday's and Sunday's in September which we increased our vaccination clinics to help assist the schools and the school children getting vaccinated for return to school. We are also offering all three approved COVID vaccines; Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J. The vaccine is available for all persons 12 and up and subject to the CDC Guidelines of eligibility. We're also happy to report that the percent of vaccinated people in Woodbridge increases weekly. Currently for all persons 12 and up age group, at least 82% have at least one dose of vaccine and 75% are fully vaccinated. So we're very excited to see that continue to move up, and also we're excited to see that we're constantly having first doses at all our clinics that are held weekly, so the more people that get vaccinated the better. So in closing I want to encourage everyone who's still not vaccinated to get vaccinated against COVID-19. The vaccines are safe, effective, and they're free. You can make an appointment at the Woodbridge Health Center at 732-855-0600 Ext.5004. Clinics are every Thursday 3-6 P.M. at the Woodbridge Public Health Center, walk-ins are accepted. Thank you Council I appreciate your support.

Mr. Mitch: Any questions for Mr. Green?

Council President Small: Director Green on behalf of the Council we can't thank you and your staff enough, it's been a long journey through COVID and I know you have worked extremely hard so thank you.

Director of Health Dennis Green: Thank you Council President.

Councilwoman DeJesus: I just have one question. For children 12 and up which is the vaccine offered for them?

Director of Health Dennis Green: It's currently the Pfizer. So we're offering all three vaccines and still Pfizer for the 12 and up age group. We're waiting for Moderna to get approved for that group. We don't know when that'll be approved but we're still waiting for that.

Councilwoman DeJesus: Thank you.

Councilman Ficarra: Director I'm giving you a soft pitch here. I know the Governor just passed legislation about childcare? It was in the report that you gave me, could you share that?

Director of Health Dennis Green: Childcare Centers are required to do two things. One is require all children aged 2 and up to wear masks and also all their employees are required to either be vaccinated or tested just like in the public schools. The mask requirement took effect already I believe September 24th. The vaccine requirement is coming up soon so they're going to need to come in compliance with that. And we already sent that information to all those day care centers within our jurisdiction reminding them of what their responsibilities are. And we'll work with them and give them whatever guidance they need to make sure that they come in compliance. Thank you.

On a motion made by Councilman Bauer seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously, Council President Small adjourned the meeting at 7:20 P.M.

Brian Small,
Council President

John M. Mitch, RMC, CMC, CMR,
Municipal Clerk