

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN  
BOARD OF HEALTH**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**9:00 am**

**January 10, 2024**

**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 -	<b>Dana Covitz</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>Nick Bonamassa</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>Valerie Tate</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>Mary Neafie</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>Aaron Shapiro</b>	<b>Absent</b>
	<b>John Panebianco Alt. #1</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>Alt. #2</b>	<b>Vacant</b>

**2. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

**a. Approve Regular Business Meeting Minutes of October 11, 2023**

Motion to approve was moved by John Panebianco, seconded by Mary Neafie.

All in Favor: Aye. None opposed.

Nick Bonamassa inquired if the Township is giving out the new COVID vaccines.

Secretary Giardino discussed the Ocean County Health Department is administering COVID vaccines.

Chairperson Covitz discussed the Township has not held a Flu Clinic since the COVID pandemic in 2020.

Nick Bonamassa inquired what is Animal Control and will they help with rats.

Secretary Giardino discussed the Township is contracted with the Humane Society, located at the Popcorn Park Zoo, for their animal control services for the Township. They will not come out for rats, but you can report a sick or injured wild animal, loose dog, etc.

Chairperson Covitz discussed residents have to hire their own pest control services for rats. Chairperson Covitz discussed she called animal control for a loose goat she found in her yard.

**b. Activity Report Review – October - December 2023**

No comments from the Board regarding the activity reports.

**c. Correspondence – 4th Quarter 2023**

No comments from the Board regarding correspondence.

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

**• Animal Licensing – 2023**

Secretary Giardino discussed 626 dogs and 108 cats were licensed in 2023. Currently in 2024 95 dogs and 16 cats are licensed. Township emails are sent out regularly encouraging residents to license their cats and dogs. Secretary Giardino discussed she will be licensing animals during the Rabies Clinic at the Community Center, from a laptop.

**4. NEW BUSINESS.**

**• Rabies Clinic – February 10, 2024**

Secretary Giardino discussed the Township is making appointments for the Rabies Clinic. Cats will be vaccinated 9:30 am–10:00 am. Dogs will be vaccinated 10:00 am–11:00 am.

Residents will fill out their own forms, which can be downloaded from the Township website, submit the form to the Township via email, fax, US Mail, in-person at Town Hall or place in drop box in front of Town Hall and Secretary Giardino will call with an appointment time.

Board of Health members Dana Covitz, Valerie Tate, Mary Neafie, Secretary Michele Giardino, Deputy Mayor Lydia Dodd and Mayor Ben LoParo offered to volunteer at the Rabies Clinic. Volunteers should show up at 9:00 am.

Public Works will set the room up and provide paper towels, garbage bags and Windex for pet clean up.

Secretary Giardino discussed she will be licensing animals at the Community Center, from a laptop during the clinic.

Secretary Giardino discussed the rabies clinic was advertised in an online publication called TAPinto and the SandPaper (Leader) Newspaper, posted on the Township website, Township emails are sent out regularly, flyers were emailed to all homeowners associations and posted on the flashing signs on Route 9.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

No comment from the public.

**6. BOARD COMMENTS.**

No comment from Board members.

**NEXT MEETING IS April 10, 2024.**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn meeting was moved by Nick Bonamassa, seconded by Valerie Tate.  
All in Favor: Yes. None opposed.

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Michele Giardino, Secretary  
Township of Ocean Board of Health