

**MIDDLESEX BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023**

The meeting of the Middlesex Board of Health was held on the above date at the Middlesex Library and called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Ember with the following statement:

“This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law in that the requirements of the Law have been met by the Annual Meeting Notice forwarded to the Courier News, Star Ledger and posted in the Municipal Building on December 9, 2022, and filed in accordance with the law.”

Roll Call

Steve Ember	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Melissa Fedosh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Harrity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Karen Rutkowski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Robert Sherr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Laura Steinau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Others in attendance:

Terence Brundage – REHS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Councilman Quinn - Council Representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Borough Interim Administrator – Joe Costa	

Minutes – Board Member Sherr made a motion to accept the January 12, 2023, meeting minutes seconded by Vice President Harrity and carried by the following roll call vote by members present. Ayes: Ember, Fedosh, Harrity, Rutkowski, Sherr, and Steinau. No: None Abstain:

Public Hearing and Final Adoption of Ordinance No. 149-23.

ORDINANCE NO. 149-23, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 429 OF THE BOROUGH CODE BY-LAWS FOR THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX AMENDING ARTICLE II, MEMBERS, SECTION 429-9 MEETINGS; NOTICES, WAIVER OF NOTICE

SECTION 429-9 Meetings; Notices; Waiver of Notice; Section B; shall read as follows:

- B. Regular meetings of the Board of Health shall be held monthly on a day and time set by the Board. All meetings will be held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975: see also N.J.S.A. 10:4-6). Notice of regular meetings of the Board of Health shall be given to each Member by hand delivery, mail, or email at least three (3) days prior to the day of the meeting.

President Ember opened the public hearing on Ordinance No. 149-23. Seeing that there was no public participation, President Ember closed the hearing on Ordinance No. 149-23.

Board Member Sherr made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 149-23 second by Board Member Rutkowski and carried by the following roll call vote by members present. Ayes: Ember, Fedosh, Harrity, Rutkowski, Sherr, and Steinau No: None Abstain: None

Reports:

- A. Monthly REHS Activities Report – November and December 2022, January 2023 – Terry Brundage, REHS, read his reports. Complaints were abated. Board members discussed the conditions at the Route 28 Farmer’s Market. Members discussed conducting spot checks at other establishments that sell raw foods and fresh fish and inspections should be done more than once a year. Members also discussed the ratings of inspections completed. President Ember shared a list he had regarding places not inspected. Mr. Brundage stated that there were closed businesses and name changes that accounted for the apparent missed yearly inspections. He asked Mr. Brundage to email him a list of inspections.

Board Member Steinau made a motion to accept November, December 2022 and January 2023 Monthly REHS Activities Reports second by Board Member Rutkowski. All in favor.

- B. Monthly Environmental Statistics and Summary Reports – October, November, December 2022 – Members discussed Well Water reports received by affected residents. Mr. Brundage suggested to invite Kimberly Ho, REHS, Water & Pesticides Program Supervisor, to our next meeting to discuss well water issues. They discussed the cost and remediations of well water. Board Member Sherr stated that the Board should know about all well water issues. Interim Borough Administrator discussed the E. coli issues in Lake Creighton. He stated that he is looking to meet with the DEP to look into the matter. President Ember stated that he would like to have a Board of Health representative at the DEP meeting.

Board Member Rutkowski made a motion to accept the October, November, December 2022 monthly Environmental Statistics and Summary Reports second by Board Member Steinau. All in favor.

- C. Registrar’s Reports – November and December 2022, January 2023 – Board Secretary read the Registrar’s Report for November and December 2022 and January 2023.

Seeing that there were no comments or questions, Board Member Fedosh made a motion to accept the November, December 2022 and January 2023 Registrar’s Report seconded by Board Member Rutkowski and carried by the following roll call vote by members present. Ayes: Ember, Fedosh, Harrity, Rutkowski, Sherr and Steinau. No: None Abstain: None

- D. Board of Health Report – November and December 2022, January 2023 – Board Secretary read the Board of health Reports for November and December 2022 and January 2023.

President Ember noted that there was calculation error in the December 2022 report.

Seeing that there were no comments or questions, President Ember made a motion to accept the November, December 2022, and January 2023 Registrar’s Reports subject to the calculation correction to the December 2022 report seconded by Vice President Harrity and carried by the following roll call vote by members present. Ayes: Ember, Fedosh, Harrity, Rutkowski, Sherr and Steinau. No: None Abstain: None

E. Council Representative Report - No updates to report

Resolution to go into Executive Session:

A. Resolution #01-2023, Executive Session to discuss contract between the Middlesex Board of Health and Middlesex County.

Board Member Sherr made a motion to accept the Resolution #01-2023 to go into closed session, seconded by Vice President Harrity. All in favor upon a roll call vote. Meeting closed to the public.

Correspondence - None

Unfinished Business

A. Budget & Finance (includes License Fees) - President Ember stated that he corresponded with Linda Chismar regarding the BOH budget. He stated that adjustments can still be made to the budget during the year. He would like to form a committee to discuss current licensing fees. Board Member Sherr volunteered. The goal is to not raise fees if we don't have to, but we will compare our fees with other towns and make the necessary changes, if any.

B. Website – Board Member Rutkowski stated that there was nothing new to report. She has not updated the county links since the County contract has not been approved. President Ember stated that it was ok to proceed with the updates even though we don't have a signed contract.

C. NJ Local Board of Health Association (NJLBHA) – President Ember stated that he attended the November meeting. He discussed the organization of the Health Department State level and how they handle health issues. He stated that at the January meeting, they discussed not having enough health officers and inspectors. He also stated that Senate bill S652 unanimously passed in the Senate while its companion bill, A117, is still in the committee stage. The bills would allow the Mayor and Council to fulfill the role of a health board in towns with less than 30,000 people. Board Member Sherr informed members that the law already exists. If you don't have an autonomous board, the Mayor and Council serve that role. Board Secretary asked members if they want to renew the NJ Local Board of Health Association (NJLBHA) membership for 2023. All members agreed to renew the membership.

D. Publicity (includes Newsletter and other outreach) – President Ember would like to form a committee to discuss arranging presentations by AARP, the County, and others to discuss relevant topics. He mentioned June 3rd is Community Day and would like to have the Board present. Board Member Steinau volunteered. He also stated that he will be reaching out to the Police Chief regarding ideas for presentations to the public.

New Business

Council Representative Quinn stated that a new board member will be appointed at the February 14, 2023, mayor and council meeting.

Public Portion

President Ember opened the meeting to the public for anybody wishing to speak. Seeing that there were no public comments, President Ember closed the public portion of the meeting.

Adjournment

Board Member Fedosh moved for adjournment seconded by Board Member Steinau and carried by a unanimous vote. Next meeting will be held March 9, 2023.

Carmen Modica
Board Secretary