

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE WESTWOOD BOARD OF HEALTH
HELD SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

Pres. Beckman called the Meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

President Beckman read the "Open Public Meeting Act" as follows:

In compliance with the "Open Public Meeting Act," P.L. 1975, C 231, the annual notice requirements have been satisfied. The meeting dates for the year were posted on the Borough Web Site on January 15, 2015. A copy of the meeting dates are on file with the Borough Clerk and a notice has been posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Complex.

Present: Mrs. Betsy Beckman, Mrs. Donna Bott, Ms. Maria Costello, Ms. Louise Cue, Mr. Dennis Farrell, Mrs. Sabrina Johnston, Dr. Theresa A. Lardaro (Alternate #1), Mr. Lee Tremble.

Excused
Absence: None.

Absent: None.

Present: Sharon Blehl–Secretary, Angela Musella–Health Officer.

Present: Christopher Montana–Council Liaison.

Guests: None.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Tremble led those present in the salute to the flag.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Tremble made a motion to open the floor to the public to discuss any topic; seconded by Mr. Farrell.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: All present voted in favor.

Nays: None.

Abstained: None.

Carried.

There being no public discussion, Mr. Tremble made a motion to close the public forum; seconded by Mr. Farrell.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: All present voted in favor.

Nays: None.

Abstained: None.

Carried.

ACTIVITIES REPORTS

1) AUGUST:

HEALTH OFFICER, PUBLIC HEALTH INVESTIGATOR, REGISTRAR, SECRETARIAL

The Board Members reviewed the following Activities Reports for August, 2015 which are on file and available to the public:

Administrative and Supporting Services

Animal Control

Laboratory Services

Vital Records

Monies Received

Environmental Health

Communicable Disease

Maternal and Child Health

Chronic Illness

Health Education

Nursing Supervision

Miscellaneous

A discussion was held.

Mr. Tremble made a motion that the Activities Reports for August, 2015 be approved; seconded by Mr. Farrell.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: All present voted in favor.

Nays: None.

Abstained: None.

Carried.

MINUTES

1) JULY 8, 2015 - REGULAR MEETING

Mr. Tremble made a motion that the Minutes of Regular Meeting held July 8, 2015 be approved; seconded by Mr. Farrell.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mrs. Beckman, Ms. Cue, Mr. Farrell, Mrs. Johnston, Dr. Lardaro, Mr. Tremble.

Nays: None.

Abstained: Mrs. Bott, Ms. Costello.

Carried.

2) AUGUST 12, 2015 - REGULAR MEETING

The Minutes from the August 12, 2015 Meeting will be available during the next meeting.

PURCHASE ORDERS

Bills for August, 2015 in the amount of \$193.55 were presented to the Board Members.

Mr. Tremble made a motion that the following be accepted for payment; seconded by Mr. Farrell.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mrs. Beckman, Mrs. Bott, Ms. Costello, Ms. Cue, Mr. Farrell, Mrs. Johnston, Dr. Lardaro, Mr. Tremble.

Nayes: None.

Abstained: None.

AUGUST PURCHASE ORDERS

North Jersey Newspapers
Ordinance 15-01 & 15-02

\$193.55

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

There is nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

1) 2015 BOARD OF HEALTH SALARY BUDGET

Council Liaison Montana explained that the 2015 Salary Budget has not yet been adopted, as it is still under review by the Finance Committee. The Board Members expressed their disappointment and frustration that the Salary Budget still has not been adopted. A discussion followed.

This item will remain on the Agenda until the Salary Budget is adopted.

2) FARMERS MARKET

Pres. Beckman explained that the Farmers Market is held every Saturday from July 4, 2015 and will run for twenty-one weeks until November 21, 2015. Ms. Blehl conducts the weekly inspections of the market. There are fifteen to twenty vendors depending on the week. To date Ms. Blehl has performed ten inspections. A discussion followed.

Mr. Tremble made a motion to pay Sharon Blehl \$1,212.16 to cover the cost of inspections for the period from July 4, 2015 through September 5, 2015; seconded by Mr. Farrell.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mrs. Beckman, Mrs. Bott, Ms. Costello, Ms. Cue, Mr. Farrell, Mrs. Johnston, Dr. Lardaro, Mr. Tremble.

Nayes: None.

Abstained: None.

Carried.

COUNCIL LIAISONS REPORT

There was nothing to report.

EMERGENT MATTERS:

Pres. Beckman explained that the Board of Health has been tremendously busy this summer with rodent complaints and public health nuisance complaints. The cause of the increase this year in these complaints is unknown. Pres. Beckman commended the department, and particularly Ms. Blehl, for consistent professionalism and dedication to the residents of this town. Some of the complaints that Ms. Blehl deals with become very upsetting to the residents/neighbors and thus the utmost of sensitivity and professionalism is important. Although many of the issues take time to resolve, often the residents want immediate solutions and it becomes important to educate them in the process of taking care of their particular situation.

One of the more serious and time consuming complaints occurred during Ms. Blehl's vacation and involved Bergen County Animal Control and Bergen County S.P.C.A. (Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). Ms. Blehl responded, while on vacation, and proceeded to follow up for the following three days, while still on vacation and then subsequently upon her return to the office. The nature of the problem required consistent and knowledgeable handling. It also required the involvement of more than one department in the borough and working with the county agencies. Pres. Beckman went on to say that even though she has been on the board over 15 years now, when she accompanied Ms. Blehl on one of the exterior inspections, she again was amazed at what was involved, and the conditions that Ms. Blehl must confront. Pres. Beckman said she realized that it would be hard for the board to wrap their head around the situation, but to understand and realize the dedication that the job takes and that we should be grateful we have someone so committed to her job and dedicated to the residents of Westwood.

A discussion followed.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:00 P.M. Mr. Farrell made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters; seconded by Mr. Tremble.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mrs. Beckman, Mrs. Bott, Ms. Costello, Ms. Cue, Mr. Farrell, Mrs. Johnston, Dr. Lardaro, Mr. Tremble.

Nays: None.

Abstained: None.

Carried.

At 8:07 P.M. Mr. Farrell made a motion to reopen the meeting; seconded by Mr. Tremble.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mrs. Beckman, Mrs. Bott, Ms. Costello, Ms. Cue, Mr. Farrell, Mrs. Johnston, Dr. Lardaro, Mr. Tremble.

Nayes: None.

Abstained: None.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Farrell made a motion that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Ms. Costello.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: All present voted in favor.

Nayes: None.

Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Sharon Blehl
Secretary

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, October 14, 2015 at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Complex.

These Minutes were approved at a meeting of the Board of Health of the Borough of Westwood held on the 10th day of November, 2015.