

DOVER BOARD OF HEALTH
Regular Meeting
June 10, 2024 5:15 pm

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER / SUNSHINE STATEMENT

President Darlene Kasko called the meeting to order and stated the rescheduled meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, also known as the Sunshine Law, and duly posted and advertised.

Board Secretary Ary Orama-Galloza called the **ROLL**.

Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Darlene Kasko, President	X		
Rosita Scinto, V.P.	X		
Rhoda Myles	X		
Janice Anthony	X		
Irene Hansen	X		
Alessandra Scarneo, Alternate	X		

ALSO PRESENT

Sarah Perramant, Health Officer
Ary Orama Galloza, Board Sec’y/Registrar
Sandra Wittner, Councilwoman/Liaison
Claudia P. Toro, Councilwoman
Daniel Lorenzo, 21 Locust Avenue
Maribel Feliciano, 21 Locust Avenue

President Kasko entertained a motion to accept the minutes from the April 8, 2024, regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Health.

A motion to accept the minutes from the April 8, 2024, regularly scheduled meeting was made by Janice Anthony and duly seconded by Rosita Scinto.

Board Secretary Ary Orama-Galloza conducted a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Name	Motion	Second	Ayes	Noes	Abstain
Darlene Kasko, President			X		
Rosita Scinto, V.P.		X	X		
Rhoda Myles			X		
Janice Anthony	X		X		
Irene Hansen			X		
Alessandra Scarneo, Alternate					

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from Dover resident, Daniel Lorenzo, 21 Locust Avenue, to the Board of Health requesting a hearing to keep pigeons at 21 Locust Avenue.

NEW BUSINESS

Sarah Perramant, Health Officer, proceeded to provide the Board a summary of the following new business.

- Daniel Lorenzo's **Application for a Pigeon Permit: 21 Locust Avenue** (see below).

Summary Overview:

- The health department received a referred complaint regarding the keeping of pigeons at 21 Locust Avenue. The property is owned by Mr. Daniel Lorenzo (in attendance).
- Maria Cuevas-Greco, the health department's Sr. REHS, conducted an inspection of the property. The Sr. REHS took measurements and conferred with the Health Officer regarding her findings and the local pigeon ordinance.
- The health department determined that Mr. Lorenzo was keeping pigeons at 21 Locust Avenue that could not meet minimum distance requirements based on the ordinance.
- The HO recommended the pigeons be removed based on the minimum standards prescribed in the ordinance; and, expressed concern about communicable diseases associated with bird excrement and the keeping of pigeons. The HO was not concerned with animal abuse, nor the cleanliness of the coops as they were observed to be maintained.
- The HO suggested the pigeons be moved to another property that is larger and more accommodating.
- Mr. Lorenzo stated he has kept pigeons a long time and pointed out that the complaint came from Code Enforcement; not a neighbor. Mr. Lorenzo's neighbors have not complained of any problems with his pigeons, nor shown any concern about them.
- Alt. Board Member, Alessandra Scarneo asked how many pigeons are currently kept at 21 Locust Avenue. Mr. Lorenzo stated he has approximately 30 birds. Alt. Board member Alessandra Scarneo asked why he had pigeons. Mr. Lorenzo responded he thinks of them as his pets.

- Alt. Board member Alessandra Scarneo asked Mr. Lorenzo why he did not ask for a permit when he originally obtained the pigeons. Mr. Lorenzo responded that he was not aware of the ordinance and that his interest in pigeons originated in Puerto Rico.
- Alt. Board member Alessandra Scarneo also asked Mr. Lorenzo if his original pigeons were quarantined following transport from Puerto Rico to the US. Mr. Lorenzo said his pigeons were not the original birds but descendants of those birds.
- Alt. Board member Alessandra Scarneo asked about the life span of pigeons. Mr. Lorenzo stated they live about 10 years.
- The Health Officer stated the application to keep the pigeons at 21 Locust Avenue required Board of Health approval; and, the board can specify conditions or requirements as part of its decision-making.

A motion to approve the keeping of pigeons at 21 Locust Avenue, Dover, subject to conditions specified in the following resolution was made by Darlene Kasko and duly seconded by Rosita Scinto

The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PIGEON PERMIT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, Daniel Lorenzo, 21 Locust Ave, Dover, New Jersey (the “Applicant” or “Owner”) has filed an application with the Town of Dover Health Department seeking approval the keep pigeons pursuant to Dover Ordinance § 395-5 *et seq.* regulating the harboring of pigeons; and

WHEREAS, public hearing on said Application was held on June 10, 2024; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Board of Health of the Town of Dover, Morris County, New Jersey hereby approves the application of Daniel Lorenzo, subject to the following conditions:

1. The number of pigeons kept in the coop at 21 Locust Avenue shall not exceed 30.
2. The pigeons shall be inspected annually by the Dover Health Department to ensure that neither number of pigeons has increased, nor the size of the coop has increased beyond the currently estimated footprint (approximately 1176 ft³), and that Town of Dover Board of Health Legislation §395-6 D “Pigeons: Sanitary conditions & noise” is not being violated.

3. Should Mr. Lorenzo vacate or sell the property at 21 Locust Avenue, the permit shall be non-transferrable.
4. Should Mr. Lorenzo sell the adjacent property at 48 Maple Avenue, the Board of Health shall review the permit.
5. Should additional complaints about the pigeons be received and substantiated by the Dover Health Department, the Department may take additional enforcement actions or refer findings to the Dover Board of Health for review.

Board Secretary Ary Orama-Galloza conducted a ROLL CALL VOTE

Name	Motion	Second	Ayes	Noes	Abstain
Darlene Kasko, President	X		X		
Rosita Scinto, V.P.		X	X		
Rhoda Myles			X		
Janice Anthony			X		
Irene Hansen				X	
Alessandra Scarneo, Alternate					

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

- The Health Officer reported on other department activities conducted through May.
- Annual Rabies Vaccination Clinic to be held on Saturday, October 26th, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at the DPW Garage, 211 N Sussex St. Request for Board approval (see resolution below).

Summary Overview – **Rabies Clinic, Fall 2024:**

- The Health Officer informed the board that this year, the format for conducting rabies vaccinations will return to the one-day rabies clinic. This year's proposal is scheduled for Saturday, October 26th from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon and will cost \$612.50. The new location will be the Department of Public Works at 211 N. Sussex Street.
- The Health Officer asked the Board of Health for its approval to conduct a rabies clinic as described.

A motion to approve the rabies clinic as described by the Health Officer and memorialized in the following resolution was made by Irene Hansen and duly seconded by Rosita Scinto

The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE DOVER BOARD OF HEALTH APPROVING AN ANNUAL RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC

WHEREAS, the Dover Health Department conducts an annual Rabies Vaccination Clinic to encourage all pet owners to vaccinate their pets at the Dover DPW Main Garage on 211 N. Sussex Street; and,

WHEREAS, the NJDOH will provide the rabies vaccine free of cost; and

WHEREAS, Hodes Veterinary Group is to provide veterinary services; and

WHEREAS, the Health Officer, Sarah Perramant, serves as point of contact for the clinic; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Dover Board of Health that the Annual Rabies Vaccination Clinic for 2024 will be held on Thursday, October 26, 2024 from 10am to 12 pm with a budget of approximately of \$612.50 and a five Health Department/Town of Dover staff for clerical duties is hereby approved.

Board Secretary Ary Orama-Galloza conducted a ROLL CALL VOTE

Name	Motion	Second	Ayes	Noes	Abstain
Darlene Kasko, President			X		
Rosita Scinto, V.P.		X	X		
Rhoda Myles					excused
Janice Anthony			X		
Irene Hansen	X		X		
Alessandra Scarneo, Alternate			X		

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

- Amending Chapter 407. 2nd reading of ordinance amending Chapter 407, Article I, Food Handling Establishments, Section 4 (fees) [see motion below].

Summary Overview – **Amending Chapter 407, 2nd reading:**

- At its April 8, 2024, meeting, the Board of Health introduced, passed and published the following ordinance amendment on first reading:

An ordinance of the Board of Health of the Town of Dover, County of Morris and State of New Jersey, amending & supplementing Chapter 407, Article I, “Food-Handling Establishments, Retail,” Section 4, Subsections B, a.2, & a.3, of the Revised General Code of the Town of Dover

- The above ordinance amendment was introduced and passed at the April 8, 2024, meeting on first reading and was published in the Daily Record on May 24, 2024.
- Following a discussion that offered all meeting attendees the opportunity to speak, the Board proceeded to entertain a motion to pass the ordinance amendment on second reading.
- Ary Orama, Secretary, read the following ordinance amendment by title to all meeting attendees prior to the Board entertaining a motion:

An ordinance of the Board of Health of the Town of Dover, County of Morris and State of New Jersey, amending & supplementing Chapter 407, Article I, “Food-Handling Establishments, Retail,” Section 4, Subsections B, a.2, & a.3, of the Revised General Code of the Town of Dover

Darlene Kasko, President, asked for a motion to pass the above-read ordinance amendment *on second reading*. The motion to pass the above-read ordinance amendment was made by Darlene Kasko, and duly seconded by Rosita Scinto.

Board Secretary Ary Orama-Galloza conducted a ROLL CALL VOTE

Name	Motion	Second	Ayes	Noes	Abstain
Darlene Kasko, President	X		X		
Rosita Scinto, V.P.		X	X		
Rhoda Myles					excused
Janice Anthony			X		
Irene Hansen			X		
Alessandra Scarneo, Alternate					not present 1 st reading

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

- Recommendation from Sarah Perramant, HO, to the BOH seeking authorization from Board to provide oversight of septic installation at 105 E. Munson Avenue and to authorize the HO & REHS to review, approve, inspect and provide oversight of septic system repairs, alterations and new installations in the future (see resolution below).

Summary Overview – Septic System Application Oversight:

- Based on an application to repair a septic system at 105 E. Munson Avenue, the Health Officer asked the board to approve permit application and to authorize the HO & REHS to review, approve, inspect and provide oversight of septic system repairs, alterations and new installations in the future.

A motion to approve the application to repair the septic system at 105 East Munson Avenue and to authorize HO & REHS to review, approve, inspect and provide oversight of septic system repairs, alteration and new installations as described to the board by the Health Officer and memorialized in the following resolution was made by Irene Hansen and duly seconded by Rosita Scinto

RESOLUTION OF THE DOVER BOARD OF HEALTH GRANTING AUTHORITY TO DOVER REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST TO APPROVE INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERMIT FOR ALTERATION AND/OR REPAIR AT 105 EAST MUNSON AVENUE, DOVER

WHEREAS, Chapter 434 of Dover Municipal Code requires that certificates of compliance and Permits must be issued by the Dover Board of Health to certify the installation, alteration, or repair of an individual sewage disposal system;

WHEREAS, the Registered Environmental Health Specialist serves as a duly authorized agent of the Dover Board of Health;

WHEREAS, the Registered Environmental Health Specialist has received specific training in the review of individual sewage disposal systems and N.J.A.C. 7:9A;

WHEREAS, Dover Health Department Senior Registered Environmental Health Specialist Maria Cuevas-Greco has investigated a complaint regarding the individual sewage disposal system at 105 East Munson Avenue, Dover, NJ;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Dover Board of Health grants authority to Dover Health Department Senior Registered Environmental Health Specialist Maria Cuevas-Greco to review the repair application and approve the

certificate of compliance and permit for the repair of the individual sewage disposal system at 105 East Munson Avenue, Dover, NJ based on her recommendation.

Board Secretary Ary Orama-Galloza conducted a ROLL CALL VOTE

Name	Motion	Second	Ayes	Noes	Abstain
Darlene Kasko, President			X		
Rosita Scinto, V.P.		X	X		
Rhoda Myles					excused
Janice Anthony			X		
Irene Hansen	X		X		
Alessandra Scarneo, Alternate			X		

CONCLUDING NEW BUSINESS

- Sarah Perramant, Health Officer, recommended to the BOH that the septic system ordinance fee schedule be updated fees. A copy of the proposed, amended ordinance was distributed to the board.
- The HO provided updates regarding: personnel & grants; health department renovations; strategic plan.

➤ Personnel:

- Grant will be concluding soon.
- Potentially, three (3) members of the staff might be released or discharged since the positions are funded by the grant.
- Nursing position remain open as the briefly employed nurse left for personal reasons.
- Andressa Duro, the Health Educator is seeking certification as a Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS). The HO proposed a dual title for her (Health Educator & REHS) that would be funded by grants.
- With regard to funding sunsets and the potential loss of communicable disease and health education personnel, the HO stated she can cover for a short period of time. However, the town would be in non-compliance with Public Health Standards regarding the employment of key, essential workers.

➤ Renovations: Renovations are out for bid.

➤ Strategic Plan:

The HO summarized the strategic plan for the board, providing an overview of its priorities, goals and objectives.

- 2024 Health Department Budget. The HO informed the Board that the budget was still pending.
- 303 S. Morris St. [special breed of chickens]: the topic of keeping a special breed of chickens at this location came up due to a complaint of a rooster crowing. This case came before the Board of Health in 1999 at which time the board granted Richard Krause approval to keep what was described as a specialized breed of prized chickens. At that time, the matter was referred to municipal court where the case was dismissed, as the Judge ruled the keeping of the chickens was grandfathered. Following the current complaint, the HO reached out to legal council and is waiting for a response.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED TO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Board member Alessandra Scarneo had a complaint from Maureen McGrath, a resident living in Salem Village, regarding 11 Court Dr. where a dog was running at large.

The HO stated the complaint will be followed-up by Animal Control.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED TO OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT

Claudia Toro raised the subject of announcing or advertising to residents the requirement to obtain an annual dog/cat license.

The HO responded affirming Ms. Toro's concern and emphasizing the need to conduct a dog census.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Irene Hansen and duly seconded by Rosita Scinto.

Board Secretary Ary Orama-Galloza conducted a ROLL CALL VOTE

Name	Motion	Second	Ayes	Noes	Abstain
Darlene Kasko			X		
Rosita Scinto		X	X		
Rhoda Myles					excused
Janice Anthony			X		
Irene Hansen	X		X		
Alessandra Scarneo, Alternate			X		

**MEETING ADJOURNED
6:59 pm**