

REGULAR WORK SESSION & QUARTERLY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024  
5:30 P.M.

The Regular Work Session of the City Council and the quarterly Board of Health meeting of the City of Vineland was called to order by the Council President, Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur.

The following members were present at roll call:

Councilman Ronald J. Franceschini, Jr.  
Councilman Albert Vargas  
Councilman Paul F. Spinelli  
President Dr. Elizabeth A. Arthur

Councilman David Acosta was absent.

Also present were:

Greg Gallo, Business Administration  
H. James Neher, Director of Public Works  
Macleod Carre, Director of Health  
Robert Dickinson, Health Officer

The President led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Deputy Municipal Clerk stated Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given on December 12, 2023 by the City Clerk in the following manner:

1. Posting written notice on the official bulletin board in the lobby of the City Hall;
2. Providing written notice to the offices of The Daily Journal and The Press of Atlantic City;
3. Filing written notice in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Vineland.

President Arthur entertained a motion by Councilman Spinelli, and seconded by Councilman Franceschini, to approve the minutes from the Board of Health meetings conducted on January 16, 2024.

The Deputy Clerk called the roll: YEAS: Councilman Franceschini  
Councilman Spinelli  
Councilman Vargas  
President Dr. Arthur

Director Macleod Carre provided a reporting of the Health Department of new hire RESH Trainee Gabrielle Fanelli. He also noted opiate funding is being received but not placed in the budget so they are limited in what they can do. Carre also mentioned the S. Ct. ruling in Purdue Pharma (Sackler family) will have an impact on award dollar amount. Digitization of health records are progressing however they are slowed by numerous OPRA requests. He lastly spoke about the STD clinic and a recent spike over 400% in syphilis cases.

Health Officer Bob Dickinson gave another report on the H5N1 virus update and also a COVID 19 after action review. They will have something for the governing body by the next quarterly meeting. Dickinson also spoke about the Lead Abatement Grant funding and program in that the City was awarded a 2 million that will provide money for lead abatement and remediation in homes and apartments in the community. They will need to hire a Lead Construction Manager for a 2 year period for the grant.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Health, the President entertained a motion by Councilman Franceschini, and seconded by Councilman Spinelli, to adjourn the quarterly Board of Health meeting at 6:22 P.M.

The Deputy Clerk called the roll: YEAS: Councilman Franceschini  
Councilman Spinelli  
Councilman Vargas  
President Dr. Arthur

President Dr. Arthur asked if anyone from the public would like to comment.

Steve Lewis from Vineland mentioned in speaking tonight about opioids, he again believes marijuana is a gateway to more serious and dangerous drugs. He asked how much money the City spends to fight drugs? Solicitor Tonetta answered police are under State directives not to arrest and there is only civil penalties for those using drugs. He stated the City has received funds but was unsure on an exact dollar amount but countered with due to the increase in cannabis sales, liquor sales are down conversely.

With no other public comment, the Deputy Clerk then reviewed the agenda.

Dr. Arthur mentioned they will be rededicating the Mother's Garden at Landis Park this coming Saturday July 6, 2024 from 11:00am – 1:00pm and will reveal a beautiful bronze statue.

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The President Dr. Arthur entertained a motion by Councilman Spinelli, and seconded by Councilman Franceschini, to adjourn the meeting. The Deputy Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Councilman Ronald J. Franceschini, Jr.  
Councilman Vargas  
Councilman Spinelli  
President Dr. Arthur

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 P.M

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Elizabeth A. Arthur  
Council President

ATTEST:

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Richard G. Franchetta, RMC, EJD  
Deputy Municipal Clerk