



MINUTES OF THE GREENFIELD BOARD OF HEALTH HELD AT THE GREENFIELD CITY HALL ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 2016, AT 6:30 PM

1. Meeting called to order @ 6:30 P.M.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

ROLL CALL:

Alderperson Pam Akers	Present
Darren J. Rausch, MS, CPH	Present
Andrew Martinez, Phar	Present
Allen Owen, D.D.S.	Present
Mary Kitten, R.N.	Present
Luanne Wielichowski, R.N.	Excused
Leon A. Saryan, Ph.D.	Present
Cindy Leranth	Absent
Richard Dettmann, Ph.D., M.Ed.	Present

Roger Pyzyk, City Attorney and Mary Kapelis, Environmental Health Specialist also attended

2. Approval of the July 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Approval of 7/14/16 Minutes

A motion was made by Luanne Wielichowski, seconded by Pam Akers to approve the July 14, 2016 minutes of the Board of Health meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizen Commentary

Citizen Commentary

None

4. Informational update related to 2017 departmental budget

Departmental Budget Update

No specific update. The departmental budget was submitted per discussion at the July Board of Health meeting. In discussion with the

Mayor in late August, he would be working with the Finance Director to complete a first draft and meet with department heads shortly after the Labor Day holiday. A request for an additional full time Environmental Health Specialist was included in the budget request.

5. Discussion and Decision related to Program Addendum to the College of Health Sciences Affiliation Agreement for Community Health Education (Carroll University) for the Public Health Program

Discussion and Decision Related to Program Addendum for Carroll University Public Health Program

This agenda item seeks to continue an affiliation with Carroll University's public health program. Carroll has been a good partner in the past and has supplied a number of quality students for internships and field placements over the past several years. Mr. Rausch continues to guest lecture at Carroll upon request.

A motion was made by Pam Akers, seconded by Leon Saryan to approve and accept the Program Addendum to the College of Health Sciences Affiliation Agreement for Community Health Education (Carroll University) for the Public Health Program. The motion carried unanimously.

Skipped to #10

6. Discussion and Decision related to keeping of chickens

Discussion and Decision related to keeping of chickens

Mr. Rausch provided the following recap of the keeping of chickens that was brought before the board in July. The Board of Health agenda in July included this agenda item at the request of two residents who had been keeping chickens. It is important to note that, despite their keeping chickens, it was done illegally as City Ordinance 12.11(5)(a) does not permit chickens within the City.

As part of the overall conversation at the July meeting, one Board member suggested a broader look at chickens in a fashion similar to how the Board considered honeybees in 2015. Thus, the final motion was to table this item until September with a directive to the Health Officer and staff to provide further education to the board on the topic.

So, here tonight, the Board is looking at the issue of keeping chickens at the global level. Mr. Rausch asked that the Board not consider the specifics related to Ms. Tubic or Mr. Ritt this evening, but consider what is best for the City of Greenfield and its residents in the context of the municipal code. That said, Mr. Rausch summarized the key findings from his urban chicken research that was shared with the Board in August (19th).

As a Health Department, we are concerned with the public health implications of any issue we discuss. One of the articles shared (Pollock

et al, 2011), titled “Raising Chickens in City Back Yards: the Public Health Role,” stated that there were positives associated with urban chickens (decreased household waste due to feeding scraps to chickens, use of chicken manure as garden fertilizer, decrease in garden pests and weeds due to chickens consuming these, and reduction in the carbon footprint). Conversely, there were several potential health risks with urban chickens (increased disease risks, recent CDC data indicated increased salmonella cases linked to urban chickens in 2015-16, odor of chicken waste and attraction of flies and insects, increase in predators including raccoons and coyotes, and increases in rodents). Admittedly, the risk of rodents is related to the security of the food and cleanliness of the chicken coops. Lastly, the article addressed the potential noise concerns, either directly related to the chickens or due to dogs that may bark at neighboring chickens. In final, the authors of this article could not quantify any of the risks or benefits based on published research and acknowledged that the decisions must be made on opinion and the betterment of the community.

Next, Mr. Rausch shared the matrix of chicken ordinances in comparable Wisconsin communities. He identified nine communities similar in either urbanicity or size to Greenfield that permit chickens, and analyzed their ordinances. Ordinances were compared using criteria related to zoning requirements, setbacks, size of coops, the number of hens, permitting criteria, and other factors. This matrix is designed to inform Board members about what is permitted in other jurisdictions, but doesn’t address that many like cities including Brookfield, Janesville, and Baraboo have recently voted to maintain the status quo and not allow chickens.

The last two pieces of information provided to Board members included information from the UW-Extension on raising healthy chickens and another document from the University of Minnesota-Extension related to practical tips for keeping backyard chickens.

At this point, Mary Kapelis, Environmental Health Specialist for the department, addressed the board. Ms. Kapelis reiterated Mr. Rausch’s comments regarding the potential increase of predators. In the event that the city were to allow for the keeping of chickens that there would be no warning letters as is current practice but would instead directly proceed to citations. Given the opportunity problems and violations can keep occurring, and the city cannot afford to allow residents more time to take care of issues especially related to livestock that is already prohibited. Some of the concerns are the type of chicken coops and properties would be because we already have activity with residents raising chickens. This can progress to these properties becoming urban farms, leading to the sale of eggs and chickens. Ms. Kapelis is concerned with how the city can inspect and enforce the keeping of chickens. There is a cost factor to consider for this as well as for MADACC dealing with strays.

Ms. Akers indicated that she understood the positives of keeping of

chickens however she does have many concerns. Things such as staff to manage the enforcement and concerns with predators and rodents. Ms. Kapelis said if an ordinance was developed it would need to be very tightly written.

Mr. Ritt addressed the board. He asked that board consider allowing chickens in some areas where it could be beneficial and not negatively affecting neighbors or the city.

Ms. Tubic indicated that she has the backing of her neighbor to continue to keep chickens.

A board member inquired if chicken keeping were allowed in Greenfield, how much extra staff time would be involved. Ms. Kapelis indicated that it would depend on how the program would be set up including details on the level of inspection and oversight.

A motion was made by Mary Kitten, seconded by Richard Dettmann that based on the facts presented by the Health Director to this committee and the discussions that have been had, that status quo of prohibiting the keeping of chickens within the Corporate Limits of the City of Greenfield remain. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Pam Akers, seconded by Leon Saryan to follow through with the enforcement of the municipal code giving the parties that have been previously contacted thirty days from the date of the letter issued by the Health Director to remove the chickens. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Discussion and Decision related to an ordinance to amend Chapter 12 of the Greenfield Municipal Code, 12.11(5)(a) related to prohibition of animals

Discussion and Decision to amend Chapter 12 of the Greenfield Municipal Code

This agenda item seeks to clean up language within existing Greenfield Municipal Code pertaining to the keeping of animals. For clarity, it is suggested by Mr. Rausch and the City Attorney that the following portion of 12.11(5)(a) be stricken: "... for educational purposes, a circus or similar recreational events. Applications for such events shall be made to the Health Officer."

A motion was made by Pam Akers, seconded by Richard Dettmann to amend Greenfield Municipal Code as recommended by the Health Officer and discussed herein. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Committee to go into Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes, Section 19.85(1)(f)(g) and 19.85(1)(c) to discuss the following:
- a. Communicable Disease Updates

Closed Session

- b. Environmental Health Updates
- c. Personnel Updates

The Board of Health did not go into closed session.

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| 9. | Adjourn Closed Session and Reconvene into Open Session | Open Session |
| | Not necessary due to lack of Closed Session | |
| 10. | Public Health Legislative Updates | Public Health
Legislative Updates |
| | State Legislation is not back in session yet. At the national level they will be back in session soon and the top public health issue will be funding for the Zika virus. | |
| 11. | Public Health Research | Public Health
Research |
| | No Report | |
| 12. | Executive Officer's Report | Executive Officer's
Report |
| | Mr. Rausch provided communicable disease numbers and data. Higher this year than in past years, are cases of tuberculosis, pertussis, and lyme disease. STI's have been steady and there have been no reported cases of Hepatitis C. | |
| 13. | Chairperson's Report | Chairperson's Report |
| | No Report | |
| 14. | Aldersperson's Report | Aldersperson's Report |
| | The Amp is doing well and the food truck day was a success. | |
| 15. | Miscellaneous Board Member's Report | Miscellaneous Board
Member's Report |
| | Mr. Rauch took the opportunity to provide a market update. The attendance numbers have been steady and even up some weeks. Average attendance has been in the 1800-2000 range. The market ends on October 31 st . | |
| | Skipped to item #6 | |

16. Items For Future Agendas

Future Agenda Items

2017 budget update on November agenda. Any urgent updates will be sent via email.

17. Adjournment

Adjournment

A motion was made by Luanne Wielichowski, seconded by Allen Owen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 PM. The motion carried unanimously.