



TOWN OF VERNON

Office of the Mayor

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Daniel A. Champagne
Mayor

Michael J. Purcaro
Town Administrator

Dawn R. Maselek
Assistant Town Administrator

APPROVED
DRAFT MINUTES *JW*

Town of Vernon Recovery and Reopening Advisory Committee
Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 11:00AM
Via Zoom Audio Teleconference

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1. Roll Call

Members Present: Julie Clay, Town Council Member; Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator and Recovery Officer; James Kenny, Chief of Police; Bruce Klötter, President of Vernon Swis Cleaners; Andrew Marchese, Zoning Enforcement Officer; George McGregor, Town Planner; Steven Prattson, Building Official; Michael Purcaro, Town Administrator and Emergency Management Director; Pauline Schaefer, Town Council Member; Patrice Sulik, Director North Central District Health Department; and Daniel Wasilewski, Fire Marshal.

Members Absent: Russell DeBella, General Manager of Reins New York Style Deli Restaurant and Lou Spadaccini, Town Attorney

Additional: Jeffrey O'Neill, Finance Officer and Cassandra Santoro, Recording Secretary

Roll call was performed at 11:02 AM by Cassandra Santoro.

2. Public Comment

None

3. COVID-19 Incident Command Update

Michael Purcaro updated the committee on the following items:

- Dr. Alyssa Sexton will be joining us for the next Local Recovery and Reopening Advisory Committee Meeting on September 24, 2020. Dr. Sexton brings a lot of experience to Vernon and will be continuing her focus on COVID 19, as well as the other issues that are still present, such as the opioid crisis.
- Paul Liistro was quoted in an article from C-Hit.org discussing the financial impact COVID-19 has taken on the nursing homes.

- Governor Lamont is keeping schools open. Every case is difference and the State is checking the data to make the most informed decisions- not emotional or reactionary.
- Library and Senior Center have started their phased reopening and will start opening other services as time progresses.
- Reopening of Vernon schools is going very well.
- Flu Vaccine will be offered to municipal and Board of Education workers as well as residents. Very important to promote and encourage people to get the flu vaccine amid the COVID pandemic. There are not funding sources currently at this time. We have a very good working relationship with Priority Urgent Care and have worked with residents. It will be a flat \$29.00 fee for individuals without insurance.
- The Town of Vernon has held a total of 5 blood drives and 2 more have been scheduled. So far the Town of Vernon has donated 481 units of blood through our drives.

4. FEMA Update

Jeffrey O'Neill Finance officer updated the Committee to the status of the COVID FEMA and OPM assistance and the Tropical Storm Isaias FEMA assistance. COVID costs incurred \$222,000.00 first reimbursement request March – June 30th and the deadline is September 30, 2020. We are expecting 2 more reimbursement requests. Isaias costs incurred is \$140,000.00 at this time.

Michael Purcaro explained to the Committee that for each reimbursement there are a lot of rules and stipulations and that the Town of Vernon is going to work to get as much of our incurred expenses reimbursed.

Discussion ensued.

5. Current Guidance and Orders

Shaun Gately explained one new executive order has been released since our last meeting: 9B. Mr. Gately summarized the new executive order.

Discussion ensued.

6. Local Recovery and Reopening Strategy

Patrice Sulik explained that the Health District is working with school systems and working on contact tracing with school staff. The Health District is making itself available for whatever is needed during this time.

Patrice Sulik further explained that flu clinics in all districts are currently being worked on and they are also partnering with Ellington Priority Urgent Care to fill in any gaps that the Health District cannot accommodate. Ms. Sulik further explained the importance for everyone to get a flu vaccine.

Discussion ensued.

7. Next Steps

The Local Recovery and Reopening Advisory Committee will continue to meet weekly.

8. Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2020.

Approval of the minutes for September 10, 2020 meeting were moved by Julie Clay and seconded by Daniel Wasilewski. No discussion. The motion passed with 1 abstention, Pauline Schaefer.

9. Adjournment

Pauline Schaefer made a motion to adjourn at 12:01PM. Julie Clay seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

NOT ORIGINAL SIGNATURE



Cassandra Santoro,
Recording Secretary