

Regular Meeting
Milford Board of Health
August 22, 2023

Members Present: Paul Mazzuchelli and Leonard Izzo.

Others present: Daniel Syriala, Director of Public Health, Joan Clarico, Minutes Clerk, store owners Maria Chimborazo, Maria O. Guaman, Maria Guaman, Segundo Chimborazo.

At 4:30 pm Member Paul Mazzuchelli called the meeting to order.

Approve Minutes from August 8, 2023

Paul Mazzuchelli made a motion to approve the minutes, Leonard Izzo seconded, they were approved unanimously.

Three markets selling exempt USDA poultry across state lines.

Family Mini Mart located at 96 Main Street owned by Maria Manuela Chimborazo, Mini Variedades Ecuatoriano 104 Main Street owned by Maria Guaman, and The Latin Store 118 Main Street owned by Maria Guaman were all selling chickens they purchased from an establishment in Rhode Island that is USDA exempt from inspection.

Health Inspector Joan Clarico said an increasing number of small poultry producers, also called “growers,” are raising, slaughtering, and processing their poultry on their farms and selling the poultry directly to customers at the farms or at farmers’ markets. Other producers and businesses are building processing plants to supply poultry that meets special religious dietary requirements such as Kosher and Halaal or (Halal), and niche markets, such as organically grown poultry and live poultry markets. Selling these are completely legal in the state which they are slaughtered but without a USDA inspected symbol and number, they cannot cross state lines.

This has been an ongoing problem since inspectors Joan Clarico and Lisa Tamagni first discovered them in the markets on 7/31/2021. For many of the Ecuadorian Markets on Main Street this is a second and third offense. Board Member Paul Mazzuchelli said he would like to see compliance from these stores and said we don’t want to put anyone out of business, but public safety is our biggest concern.

Health Director Daniel Syriala recommended a 1-month suspension of their retail food permit and Joan Clarico recommended completing Food Handler Training and Certification. The suspension could be lifted earlier when Food Handler Safety Certification is completed by each of the store managers. Board Member Leonard Izzo also added he wanted the exams to be proctored in the Board of Health office.

Paul Mazzuchelli made a motion to approve the suspension and allow suspension to be lifted earlier with completion of certification, Leonard Izzo seconded, and it was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 PM
Minutes respectfully submitted by Joan Clarico, minute clerk.