

WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
December 28, 2020

The West Amwell Township Board of Health met on the above date.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Chairman Hart declared the meeting in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this special joint meeting with the Township Committee was published in the Hunterdon County Democrat's 12/10/20 edition. A copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Present: Jim Cally, John Dale, Ken Hart, Gary Hoyer, Lucas Lyons, Brian Mundhenk along with Board Secretary Maria Andrews and Township Attorney Katrina Campbell. Stephen Bergenfeld and Denise Balog were excused.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

A motion by Cally, seconded by Mundhenk to approve the Board's 9/24/20 regular meeting minutes was approved with Mr. Hoyer, Mr. Lyons and Mr. Dale abstaining.

AGENDA REVIEW

It was noted for the record that there were no changes to the posted agenda.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC/TOPICS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chairman Hart opened the floor to public comment. Gail Schiable of 264 Mt. Airy-Harbourton Road came forward and asked questions on the NJDEP water testing that was recently done on the well at the High School and some surrounding properties, including hers, to determine the source of polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) contamination. She wanted to know if additional testing was planned and asked for guidance on filling out the paperwork she received from NJDEP regarding the installation of the recommended water treatment system.

Mayor Cally commented that if NJDEP is recommending a water treatment system be installed, she should do so. Mr. Mundhenk remarked that he installed a reverse osmosis (RO) system in his home for the drinking water years ago.

Chairman Hart suggested Secretary Andrews reach out to NJDEP for additional details on the water testing.

Seeing no other members of the public come forward, Chairman Hart closed the floor to public comment.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND/OR PUBLIC HEARING AND/OR SPECIAL PRESENTATION

It was noted for the record that no ordinances were listed on the agenda for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Septic System Alteration with Waivers – Block 53 Lot 5 Property at 12 Lake Drive

Present for the application was Engineer Ted Bayer of Bayer-Risse Engineering.

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Engineer Bayer explained the septic plans are for an alteration to the septic located on the property at 12 Lake Drive which has an existing 3 bedroom dwelling with a malfunctioning system. He stated there are no plans for expansion and clarified he intends to incorporate the use of a HOOT H600A alternative treatment unit.

Engineer Bayer noted the design is not in full conformance with the code and requested the following waivers:

1. The existing on-site well and the neighboring well is 57 feet from the proposed disposal field which does not meet the minimum setback requirement of 100 feet. The Board waived the 100 ft. setback requirement.
2. The toe of the mound is shown at 5 feet which does not meet the minimum setback requirement of 10 feet to the property line. The Board waived the 10 ft. setback requirement with the condition that the Engineer inspect the final grading and provide certification that the grading does not adversely impact any surrounding properties.

Additionally, the Board requested a UV Water Treatment System be installed on the subject property and that a copy of the letter that Engineer Bayer sends to the neighbor noting the Township recommends a UV Water Treatment System be installed be provided to Secretary Andrews for the file.

Lastly, the Board requested that proof of the maintenance contract and any required reports on monitoring be provided to the West Amwell Township Board of Health and the Hunterdon County Division of Health and that a maintenance agreement be provided by the owner and kept with the house as maintenance will be required by a service provider for the life of the ATU system. A deed restriction must be recorded as well. It was also noted that an auto dialer device must be installed with a copy of the installer's NEHA certification provided for the Township's files and to the County Board of Health for their file.

A motion by Lyons, seconded by Dale to approve the requested waivers for Block 53 Lot 5 as outlined above was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Water Testing – 259 Mt. Airy Harbourton Road

Secretary Andrews noted that property owner Chris Rose had sent an email asking when the Township was going to schedule his well testing which prompted questions as to why the Township was continuing to conduct water testing on this property. Attorney Campbell clarified that she had reviewed the (salt) settlement agreement along with the deeds and noted that once the Township purchased this property from the original owners that ended the water testing obligation because the settlement agreement does not carry over to second parties. Additionally, Attorney Campbell noted there is no language in Mr. Rose's deed reflecting any testing obligation and the property was sold "as-is" which was reflected in the price Mr. Rose paid for it.

It was noted for the record that the Township will not be conducting any further water testing on this subject property.

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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Bill List for 12/28/20

A motion by Cally, seconded by Dale to approve the Board's 12/28/20 bill list was unanimously approved by voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

It was noted for the record that there were no comments made on any of the correspondence listed on the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Hart adjourned the meeting at 7:34 PM.

Maria Andrews, Secretary

APPROVED:1/28/21