

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Monday, June 13, 2011

Regular Meeting

Minutes

6:00 p.m.

The June meeting of the Hopewell Township Board of Health was held in the Municipal Building on the above-mentioned date.

The regular meeting of the Township Board of Health was called to order by Board of Health Chairperson, Kim Johnson at 6:00 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public meeting Act. Notice of this meeting has been posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and forwarded to the Hopewell Valley News and Trenton Times (the official newspapers) on May 19, 2011 P.L. 1975, Chapter 231.

Present: Mayor Burd, Mr. Markulec, Ms. Johnson

Absent: Ms. Sandom and Mr. Murphy

The first order of business was review and approval of May 9, 2011 minutes. Mayor Burd moved to approve, Mr. Markulec seconded.

Motion authorizing a MOU with City of Trenton for Public Health Nurse Case Management services for Childhood Lead Poisoning. This MOU is being required by the State, for a grant for case management for Trenton, which includes all of Mercer and Somerset counties. Mr. Guarino advised this is a renewal of the MOU signed last year and there is no cost to the Township. The grant provides funding for a nurse case manager for the above mentioned areas.

Next on the agenda was discussion regarding 3 applications which were reviewed by the Board or Health Advisory committee at its meeting on April 20, 2011. Mr. Guarino provided a draft of the minutes for Board members.

The first application for Lot size waiver for Kathleen & Kainer, Carolyn Demouth Block 43.24 Lot 44 - 8 Blue Spruce Drive. Mr. Guarino advised the lot was created as part of a subdivision in the 1970's and the current owners purchased the property in 2006. Numerous soil tests have been attempted with very few completed which demonstrated extremely limited permeability.

Mr. Guarino advised the lot will require a mound system and needs 2 acres (80,000 sq ft.) The existing lot is 1.5 acres and there is no available land adjoining to purchase. A waiver of lot size is required. The BOH needs to approve the design details of the septic system before the applicant can apply for a zoning variance.

Mr. Guarino's recommendations and conditions are based on the history of the lot, the difficulty in reproducing acceptable soil tests and the number of septic failures and replacements on the adjoining lots, noting that this office finds it difficult in supporting this application for new construction on this undersized lot.

The Advisory BOH and Mr. Guarino strongly recommend the following be required if the application is approved.

The septic system is to be built prior to issuance of the well permit and building permit.

- During the excavation, the engineer shall monitor and verify the permeability of the soils and fracturing within the bedrock conditions are as noted on the plan.
- If the soil conditions are not consistent then the permit would be repealed.
- The system upon completion should then be load tested twice to assure it is meeting design permeability rates.
- A minimum of two deep monitor ports are required.

Mr. Markulec moved to approve the application with the above mentioned conditions, Mayor Burd seconded. Motion was passed by a vote of 3:0.

Mr. Guarino advised the second application for Lot size waiver Robert & Maria Merrick Block 69 Lot 53 - 107 Corrine Drive had been denied by the Advisory Board of health because the lot is located on potential wetlands and water testing in the area indicates a higher elevation of nitrates in the ground water. This applicant has not made a formal appeal or application to the board of health at this time.

Review of public toilet facilities for Mercer County Park system on the Hopewell Lawrence trail. We have a request for 2 toilet facilities by the county for areas on the Hopewell Lawrence trail. The buildings are modular and use a holding tank system. There is no running water at either site and drilling of a well would be cost prohibitive.

Since the facilities are not using traditional septic systems, the county will need to secure a NJDEP treatment works approval. The township would need to sign off on the treatment works application before it can be submitted to NJDEP.

Mr. Guarino included copies of the site locations and a copy of the building design specification. The county will monitor and service the units on a regular basis. Mr. Markulec suggested posting direct contact numbers for the public to report on any issues with the toilet facilities

Mr. Guarino discussed drought issues and recommendation for an ordinance for Board of Health review. Mr. Guarino has been collating data on old well information and has been communicating with Jeff Wittkop of Pennington Borough Public works in an effort to determine the best method of gathering well information. A meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 21 to meet with Paul Pogorzelski, Matt Mulhall, Glen Carlton and Mike Aucott to discuss issues.

Mr. Guarino reported on the status of the RWJ foundation /Greater Mercer Public Health Partnership Grant. Mr. Guarino reported Hopewell was the first site visit out of the eight candidates and additional information will be available in July.

Mr. Guarino referenced correspondence from St. Lawrence Rehabilitation thanking the health department and Alliance for participating in the Bicycle Safety Rodeo which was held on May 7th.

Lengthy discussion was held regarding the implementation of an appointed autonomous Board of Health. Mr. Guarino provided information regarding NJSA 26:3-1 Establishment of Local Board, and noted he will research and gather additional information on the pros and cons of autonomous board versus an appointed board

Mr. Guarino provided a CDC Table on How Many people have disabilities? “A Tip Sheet for Public Health Professionals.”

There being no further business, Mr. Markulec moved to adjourn at 6:55 pm. Mr. Burd seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy PRassas