

**HARDING TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF HEALTH
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2020
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

Regular Meeting Minutes

Dr. Cervone, Chairman, called Meeting of the Harding Township Board of Health to order on November 12, 2020 at 7:31 p.m., and announced the meeting was called in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey.

ROLL CALL:

Secretary Sharp called the following Board of Health members in attendance.

BOH Attendance: Mr. Boyan, Dr. Cervone, Dr. Kao (via Telephone), Mrs. McKittrick

Absent: Mrs. DiTosto, Dr. Lacz, and Mr. Platt

Health Department Attendance: Mrs. Lisa Sharp and Mr. George Byrnes

Morris Country Office of Public Health Attendance: Miss Casey Brady

BOH Counsel: Mr. Joseph Sordillo, Board of Health Attorney

Public: 4

BOH WAIVER REQUEST – MARISA MARKS, 74 DICKSON’S MILL ROAD, BLOCK 10, LOT 3:

Mr. Sordillo, Board of Health Attorney, conducted the swearing in of Mr. John Ferrante, PE, E2 Project Management, LLC. Mr. John Ferrante is here this evening as engineer representing his client Marisa Marks who resides at 74 Dickson’s Mill Road, Block 10, Lot 3. This property is an existing three bedroom dwelling and the project consists of the construction of a new septic disposal system.

Mr. Ferrante explained due to the limited lot size of the subject property and neighboring properties, waivers are required. Mr. Ferrante displayed exhibits for the Board of Lot 3 to show the distance from the neighboring Lot 2. The exhibit shows Lot 4 and Lot 3 as less than ¼ acre and are similar in size, Lot 2 is to the west and is narrower. The adjacent property has a septic tank, disposal field, and a well which are in close proximity to each other where Lot 4 the well is in the front of the property, and our clients well for Lot 3 is in the front of their property. Mr. Ferrante explained we are proposing an advanced treatment system with pressurized dosing. A discussion ensued.

Dr. Cervone commented if the State setback for the potable well to the septic tank is 50 ft., does the Board have jurisdiction to overrule a State requirement. Mr. Byrnes explained due to it is a failing system, the Board has jurisdiction. Dr. Cervone commented if the septic tank could be moved toward Lot 4. Mr. Ferrante explained it can be moved toward Lot 4, but they were trying to avoid having the tank in the rear yard. Mr. Byrnes explained yes the tank could be moved, but we were worried about the field. A discussion ensued.

Mrs. McKittrick commented that this is an area that the Board is familiar with where there have been engineers standing on their heads trying to improve the situation with the existing properties. Mrs. McKittrick asked if Lot 12 and Lot 10 are unbuildable. Mr. Ferrante commented yes. A further discussion ensued. Mrs. McKittrick commented that the proposed septic is an improvement over the existing conditions with the setbacks distances.

Mr. Boyan commented about the septic setback of the proposed 10 feet to Lot 4. Where is the setback to disposal field of the property line within Lot 4? Mr. Ferrante explained it is 12 feet to the disposal field.

Dr. Cervone asked if there were any further questions. Mr. Byrnes explained this system is better than what is currently there. Dr. Cervone asked for a motion to approve the three waivers. Mr. Sordillo explained that there is actually three waivers with multiple waivers in each one.

1. There are three waivers regarding the setback from the property line,
2. Two waivers with regard to the distance to the well; one for the septic tank and one for the disposal field, and
3. One waiver for the distance to the proposal disposal field and the existing disposal field.

Dr. Cervone asked for a motion to approve the six requested waivers. Mr. Ferrante commented that he will try to move the septic tank closer to the 50 feet. Dr. Cervone mentioned if this could be done, the Board would appreciate it. A motion was made by Mr. Boyan, seconded by Mrs. McKittrick, and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed, the waiver requests for 74 Dickson's Mill Road were approved.

ACCEPTANCE OF BOH MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 8, 2020:

Dr. Cervone asked if there were any questions with regard to the October 8, 2020 meeting minutes. Upon a motion made by Mrs. McKittrick, seconded by Mr. Boyan, and with votes of all ayes, none opposed, the minutes for the October 8, 2020 meeting were accepted.

ACCEPTANCE OF BOH MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2020:

Dr. Cervone asked if there were any questions regarding the monthly Health Department report for October 2020. Dr. Cervone asked for a motion to accept the October monthly Health Department report. A motion was made by Mrs. McKittrick seconded by Mr. Boyan, and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed, the monthly Health Department report for October was accepted.

ACCEPTANCE OF MORRIS COUNTY MONTHLY REPORTS FOR OCTOBER 2020:

Dr. Cervone asked if there were any comments or questions with regard to the Morris County Monthly Report for October 2020. Miss Brady explained that the County continues to work on COVID, the public health nurses attended the two flu clinics, and the health educator is developing education materials on COVID for Thanksgiving. Mrs. McKittrick commented that the flu is not an issue to date. A discussion regarding the flu season ensued.

With no further comments a motion was made by Mr. Boyan, seconded by Mrs. McKittrick and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed, the Morris County Monthly report for October 2020 was accepted.

BOH FORMAL REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF SEPTIC PERMIT – UHRAN, BLOCK 26.01, LOT 23, 67 ANTHONY WAYNE ROAD

Mr. Byrnes reported that this septic system was approved two years ago. The applicant has not started the system to date, so they are requesting a second extension.

Dr. Cervone asked for a motion to grant the septic extension. Upon a motion made by Mrs. McKittrick, seconded by Mr. Boyan, and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed, the request for second and final extension of a septic permit for 67 Anthony Wayne Road was granted.

OTHER MATTERS AND HEARING PERSONS PRESENT:

Rabies Clinic Update - Mrs. Sharp provided an update regarding the rabies clinic that was held on November 7, 2020 at the New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department. It was a nice day so the clinic registration was moved outside with everyone socially distanced and the veterinarian was inside. The clinic vaccinated more cats this year than dogs. The clinic went very well.

Mr. Allyn, resident – commented that he is immune compromised and is not comfortable coming in to the Municipal Building and would appreciate if the Board would continue a way for the public to join in for the meeting. A discussion ensued. The Board agreed that the December 2020 meeting would be a hybrid meeting of in-person and GoToMeeting. Mrs. Sharp will prepare the legal notice for Mr. Sordillo’s review for advertisement in the Observer Tribune.

Mr. Allyn – commented that the COVID incidents in Harding from looking at Morris County data has jumped 25%. Mr. Allyn commented it looks like a lot and would like to hear what is going on, is it something specific to Harding. Dr. Cervone commented that the State is seeing a rise in COVID cases, the hospitals are preparing for the increase, however, Morris and Essex Counties have not seen this increase to date. Morristown is placing tents up again to accommodate an increase, there is a transition of care teams to handle patients that do not need to be hospitalized but can be monitored on a virtual daily basis. Mr. Allyn asked if Harding has contract tracing. Dr. Cervone comments he is not sure anyone does. Miss Brady commented that Morris County is conducting contact tracing. Mr. Allyn commented what is going on in Harding for the increase. Dr. Cervone explained there are so much flux of patients, people who cross town lines and county lines that it is not easy to separate. Mr. Allyn commented if there is any information regarding deaths in Harding. Mrs. Sharp and Dr. Cervone commented that information does not come to us it goes to the State. Mr. Allyn commented that information would be important for people who are following this. A discussion ensued. Mr. Allyn commented if we could ask for more information so we know what is going on with Harding. Mrs. Sharp commented that she will speak with the Health Officer regarding Mr. Allyn’s comments. A further discussion ensued regarding COVID-19. Dr. Cervone commented to not rely on hype local data.

ADJOURNMENT:

Seeing no further business, a motion to adjourn was duly made by Mr. Boyan, seconded by Mrs. McKittrick, and with a vote of all ayes, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa A. Sharp
Secretary, Board of Health