

**MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM
DECEMBER 10, 2019**

Mrs. Plantemoli called the regular meeting of the Board of Health to order at 7:35 P.M.

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of Health was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both the *Chatham Courier* and the *Morris County Daily Record* on January 9, 2019; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on January 9, 2019; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on January 9, 2019.

Roll Call

Answering present to the roll call were Mrs. Chang, Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Plantemoli. Mr. Fitzpatrick and Mrs. Dolan were also present. Mr. Ritter were absent. Ms. Taormina was also absent.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2019 meeting. Mrs. Gardner seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Reports

Public Health Nurse

Mrs. Dolan noted that she is aware of an ongoing noise complaint being worked on by the Health Officer. Regarding lead, Mrs. Dolan said that the numbers in recent months have been normal. Mrs. Dolan also reported that school audits for vaccinations have begun to be scheduled. Preschools and child care facilities are scheduled for after January 1st so that flu vaccination information will be available. Mrs. Plantemoli asked about the deadlines for school children to have a flu vaccine. Mrs. Dolan said that January 1st is the deadline, and recommended the people do not delay getting vaccinated because doctors will run out of vaccine. She also said that some schools are better than others at enforcing the requirements, and that those who are unvaccinated as of January 1st cannot return to school until after March 31st or until they get vaccinated. Mrs. Dolan also commented on religious exemptions for vaccination, noting the recent measles outbreak in Brooklyn.

Mrs. Dolan reported that the Flu Clinic went well. There have been some reports of flu cases, most of which have been B-strains. A comprehensive metabolic profile clinic was also held, and there were 21 residents from the Township who attended. The Health Department also had a table at Bottle Hill Day, and Mrs. Dolan thanked Mrs. Chang for having reminded her about Pregnancy Loss Awareness Month.

Health Officer

Mr. Fitzpatrick commented on the Health Inspector report, and described the purpose for the spot checks that are performed. Mrs. Plantemoli asked if there have been any procedural changes since the recent outbreak of Hepatitis-A at a Shop-Rite in Somerset. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that currently the CDC does not advocate for Hepatitis-A vaccinations. He also discussed the food handler courses that are conducted.

Mr. Fitzpatrick also discussed a noise violation regarding a generator on Longwood Ave. He said that measurements were taken, and the generator exceeds the noise limits. He also noted that the property owner planted trees to help mitigate the noise. Mr. LaConte said that the Construction Official has informed him that there are not any regulations other than manufacturer recommendations regarding setbacks for generators, and that UCC codes are the main set of regulations. Mrs. Plantemoli asked if any such regulations would be forthcoming. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that there is a reasonable assumption that the installer will install a generator in accordance with manufacturer recommendations, and those recommendations address the

function of the unit rather than setbacks. Mr. Fitzpatrick also said that manufacturers have declined to answer the question of the minimum frequency that test runs can be performed to keep a generator functional. He also said that there is a concern what will happen if there are any long-term outages. Mr. LaConte opined that a prolonged outage like what the Township experienced following Hurricane Sandy is what it might take for the Township Committee to begin considering setbacks regulations for generators.

Registrar of Vital Statistics

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in October 2019:

4 Marriage Licenses	\$112
7 Marriage Certificates	<u>\$50</u>
Total	\$162

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in November 2019:

17 Marriage Certificates	\$115
2 Marriage Licenses	\$56
7 Death Certificates	<u>\$45</u>
Total	\$216

Board of Health Secretary

Mr. LaConte reported that the Annual Rabies Clinic was held on November 2, 2019 and there were 14 dogs and 7 cats vaccinated. He noted that the new Health Inspector, Melanie Bergstrom, was at the clinic to assist him.

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to accept the reports as presented. Mrs. Gardner seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Septic Application

479 River Road – Block 63 Lot 16.01

Design Engineer Steve Parker was present to address the application. He said that the property currently has a cesspool, and the property is served by public water. Mr. Parker further discussed the wetlands constraints and riparian buffer on the property. Mr. Parker also noted that it is only because there is an existing home on the property that a septic can be installed due to all the wetlands constraints. He also described the layout of the property.

Mr. Parker said that there is a proposed advance treatment system due to the groundwater conditions on the property, and he described the system. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked about the quality of the effluent output with the proposed system. Mr. Parker said that it provides enough treatment that the State allows a smaller mound. Mr. Fitzpatrick clarified for the Board that the effluent is a cleaner product. He also described how pressure distribution systems work,

Mr. Parker also addressed how excess capacity and said that the power would have to be out for a few days before there would be a problem. Mr. Fitzpatrick noted that pumping the tank can help avoid problems during power outages, and would be a cheaper option than getting a temporary generator. Mr. Parker added that there is additional capacity in the Coco unit.

Mr. Parker said that approval is needed from the Board of Health before an application can be submitted to the DEP for a GP24. He also said that the DEP will only be reviewing the wetlands aspects of the plan, not the technical details of the proposed system.

Mr. Fitzpatrick noted that what is proposed is an improvement to existing conditions, and he noted the environmental dangers of having raw sewage seep toward the Passaic River. He also said that the improvement would be substantial, and because there is an existing house there is a

right to make improvements. Mr. LaConte noted that the Board had approved the same type of advance treatment systems on prior applications.

Mrs. Plantemoli asked if soil logs were performed. Mr. Parker said that the data is on the plan, and Mr. Fitzpatrick said that Mr. Samara had witnessed the tests.

Mr. LaConte said that the review letter from the Board Engineer's office said that the Design Engineer should confirm compliance with Township Code Section BH:2-2.8 that there should be no change in grade which raises any portion of the lot within 5 feet of the property line. Mr. Parker confirmed compliance and referred to the information on the revised plans.

Mr. Fitzpatrick said that following construction of the system, a certification of compliance and as-built drawings will be submitted. Mr. Parker acknowledged that sometimes there are needs for field changes, which Mr. LaConte said would be in conjunction with Health Department inspections.

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to approve the septic application for 479 River Road, contingent upon the applicant obtaining a GP24 from the NJDEP. Mrs. Gardner seconded the motion.

Roll call: Mr. Ritter, Absent; Mrs. Chang, Aye; Mrs. Gardner, Aye; Mrs. Plantemoli, Aye.

Announcements

Mrs. Chang announced that as she is expecting her second child in March, she will not be remaining on the Board of Health following the expiration of her current term on December 31st. Mrs. Chang noted that she hopes to join the Board of Health again sometime in the future. Mrs. Plantemoli said she hopes Mrs. Chang will rejoin the Board again in the future.

Meeting Open to Public

Mrs. Plantemoli opened the meeting to the public.

1. Reunka Joshi, 420 River Road, thanked the Board for approving her septic application.

Seeing no further comment, the public hearing was closed.

Mrs. Gardner moved to adjourn at 8:39 PM. Mrs. Plantemoli seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Gregory J. LaConte
Board of Health Secretary