

BOARD OF HEALTH - TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM
REORG MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 2020 – 7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: *Wendy Parrinello, Board Secretary*

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Adequate Notice of this meeting of the Board of Health of the Township of Mendham was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to the Observer Tribune and Daily Record on January 29, 2019. Notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Township offices and notice was filed with the Township Clerk.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: *Led by Wendy Parrinello*

OATH OF OFFICE: Administered to Mr. Ken West by Mr. John Mills, Township Attorney.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Goswami
Ms. Reale
Mr. Smith
Mr. Weber
Mr. West

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE OF PRESTIDENT FOR 2020

1. Call for Nominations for President – Mr. Weber nominates Mr. Ken West. Mr. Smith seconds the motion.
2. Close nominations.
3. Roll call Vote: YES
 - Dr. Goswami
 - Ms. Reale
 - Mr. Smith
 - Mr. Weber
 - Mr. West

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR 2020

1. Call for Nominations – Mr. West nominates Mr. Benjamin Weber for President. Dr. Goswami seconds the motion.
2. Close nominations.
3. Roll call Vote: YES

Dr. Goswami
Ms. Reale
Mr. Smith
Mr. Weber *ABSTAINED*
Mr. West

PRESIDENT KEN WEST PRESIDING

RESOLUTION BH 20-1

RESOLUTION BH 20-2

RESOLUTION BH 20-3

RESOLUTION BH 20-4

Mr. West motions to adopt BH 20-1, BH 20-2, BH 20-3, BH 20-4. Mr. Weber seconds the motion.

ROLL CALL: Yes – Dr. Goswami, Ms. Reale, Mr. Smith, Mr. Weber, Mr. West

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 25, 2019 MINUTES.

- Approved with minor modification – to notes on page 3, under Health Officer’s Monthly Reports – *‘In the future, it was considered advisable to notify the Township Committee when an event of this nature occurs.’* Mr. West motions to approve. Mr. Weber seconds.

ROLL CALL: Yes – Dr. Goswami, Ms. Reale, Mr. Smith, Mr. Weber, Mr. West

BUSINESS:

BLOCK 131.01 LOTS 1.02 & 1.03 4 – APPLICANT: Anatol Siemienczuk and representation for Kastrud Engineering

APPLICATION: New Construction – Subdivision – Pitney Farm Estates

- Kurt Hoffman, of Kurt Hoffman Engineering, LLC is a licensed engineer in the state of New Jersey. Mr. Hoffman is the engineer who did the soil log testing for the Pitney subdivision. Mr. Kastrud is the engineer at record doing the subdivision that has gone through the Township planning board. Mr. Hoffman is familiar with Mr. Kastrud’s map and is in position to speak about his map.
- The current map that was submitted to the Township, labeled, Disposal System Plan, dated December 17, 2019, is the most current plan before this Board, which

addresses all of the required changes noted in the letters from the County – Ms. Freer and from Maser Consulting – Chris Korshalla. Based on review of Mr. Kastrud’s map and also review of comments from both Ms. Freer and Mr. Korshalla, all of these required changes or modifications have been satisfied. This current map meets all of the requirements and a favorable vote is sought.

- Ms. Freer confirms that the required changes stated in the letters from the County and from Mr. Korshalla have all been addressed and satisfied by Kastrud Engineering.
- Mr. West begins with questions or concerns from the Board.
- Mr. Weber confirms that the Board is not being asked to grant any waivers at this meeting and that the application is compliant. Yes, it is, says Mr. Hoffman.
- Mr. Smith speaks of several original concerns - not being provided a map, not knowing where the actual layout was and only having plans for the primary field.
- Dr. Goswami mentions one comment that was noted from our last meeting - that there are 5 lots on this map and we thought that based on the acreage that there was supposed to be 2 or 3. Mr. Anatol Siemieniczuk, Principal of Pitney Farm Development, LLC, introduces himself and states, that the original subdivision was for 3 lots done by Mendham Township. Mr. Siemieniczuk states that he submitted a new proposed subdivision for 5 lots, of which all tests for septic and distances of other septic neighboring lots were done and conform to Town requirements. Mr. West confirms that this development will be served by City water.
- Mr. West explains that this subdivision plan is conceptual and what needs to be established is feasibility of putting in septic systems. With appropriate tests that show feasibility, the next steps would require that the applicant come back with every lot with final design plan.
- Mr. Weber says to keep in mind that while the plans do work, if this is approved and the applicant comes back with architectural plans and asks for waivers because the spaces are too small, that there would be a lot of skepticism since it’s a tight fit.
- Mr. Mills had prepared a written resolution in accordance with the Boards direction of the November meeting. Mr. Mills suggests that the Board take formal action this evening by way of the approval of the suitability of the proposal, subject to, as it states on the map and the resolution of the applicant with individualized plans. Mr. Mills will update the resolution with the date of this December plan and he will also incorporate Ms. Freer’s and Mr. Korshalla’s letters and memorialize that at the next meeting.
- Mr. Weber makes a motion to accept based on the comments that Mr. Mills made, which would be to approve it, have the resolution circulated, with final approval at the next meeting.
- Mr. West asks if we need to wait until the next meeting and Mr. Weber asks if we can read the resolution aloud. Copies of the resolution are distributed.
- Mr. Mills, Mr. Weber and Mr. West point out two corrections that need to happen within the resolution
- Mr. West makes a new motion to approve resolution BH 20-5 with the minor correction of six lots to 5 lots and the addition of reference to the disposal system field map dated, December 17, 2019. Mr. Weber seconds the motion.

ROLL CALL: Yes – Dr. Goswami, Ms. Reale, Mr. Smith, Mr. Weber, Mr. West

HEALTH OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT

November, December 2019

Reviewed by Ms. Freer. Full reports available in the Board of Health Office.

Mr. West motioned to approve. Mr. Weber seconded.

ROLL CALL: YES: Dr. Goswami, Ms. Reale, Mr. Smith, Mr. Weber, Mr. West

SUCH MATTERS THAT MAY RIGHTFULLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Township Committee Member, Nicholas Monaghan to address the Board

- Mr. West invites Mr. Monaghan to address the Board.
- Mr. Monaghan explains that his reason for addressing the Board of Health is to update them on conversations that the Township Committee is having about Title 26 – the Title that governs Boards of Health in New Jersey - and the Mendham Township Board of Health. Title 26 allows township forms of government with under 20,000 people to have a separate board of health or the board of health powers could be incorporated into the Township Committee. Our Township Board of Health is in compliance with Title 26.
- Mr. Monaghan explains that the benefits of having the Township Committee take over for the Board of Health are:
 - a. Streamlined application and approval process (regular permits and review of applications would happen through the health department)
 - b. Speed decisions up for residents
 - c. Cost savings
 - d. Meetings on a quarterly basis
- Mr. Monaghan encourages the Board of Health to name concrete examples as to why it should continue to exist. He encourages the BOH to think, ask questions, attend Township Committee meetings to find out about what the structure is and how it might work.
- All members of the Board of Health agree that a body of practice has been developed overtime – maintaining consistency with advanced knowledge of septic and well communities that benefit its town residents. The Board of Health is spending 1-3 hours per month reviewing plans and documents that require a keen eye on the details of septic, well and land use. In addition to its knowledge base, the Board of Health provides a platform for residents, architects and engineers, who all may present plans or proposals that do not meet standards – the BOH provides direction on how best to address those errors or discrepancies. The Board of Health is thoroughly engaged in best practices for the Mendham Township community.
- In terms of clarity, the BOH feels that there was no clear presentation of the specific cost savings; there was no clear indication that resident complaints on delays

warranted the proposal of eliminating the BOH; there was no clarity on the exact next steps. Will there be a formal discussion at the Township Meeting to discuss the pros and cons of having a BOH or is the decision to eliminate the current BOH regardless of any discussion or conversation?

- Having a dedicated board makes community health matters more accessible. Monthly reports from the County ensures a greater level of engagement with the Township community.
- The Board of Health are asking the following questions:
 - a. Will the Township Committee have the time required to make precise and accurate decisions of applications for septic and well projects and how will the Township Committee handle the time required for a comprehensive and accurate review, if only meeting for one hour on a quarterly basis?
 - b. How would the Township Committee be able to address the level of detail, required for septic/well/architecture plans, that the Board of Health, with its knowledge base can?
 - c. How much savings is there in eliminating the Board of Health?
 - d. Will residents be required to go to Morris County in order to have their questions answered?
 - e. Will the Township Committee hear the monthly health reports and relay them to the community, if necessary?
- Dr. Goswami offers to draft a letter, circulate it amongst the Board.
- Mr. Monaghan states that at the first Township Committee meeting in March, the Board of Health letter will be discussed.
- Mr. Mills confirms that Dr. Goswami will be writing up a letter to circulate amongst the BOH committee. If the letter reaches an agreement, it can be forwarded to the Township Committee.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

ADJOURNMENT: 9:10 PM