

BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS
Board of Health Regular Meeting
MINUTES

December 21, 2020 - VIA CONFERENCE CALL ONLY

Meeting ID: **869 3580 8755**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86935808755>

DIAL: 1 (646) 558-8656

CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE

Chairwoman Layton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The flag salute and reading of the open public meetings statement was conducted in accordance with the law.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairwoman Marilyn Layton, Mayor Paul J. Vallone, MD, Councilwoman Sheila Tweedie, Mr. Rick Rinzler

Also Present: Board Attorney Joseph Sordillo, Board Secretary Samantha D'Antuono, Somerset County Health Department Deputy Director James Norgalis, Ferriero Engineering – Joseph Kosinski, Apgar Engineering – James O. Madsen

Absent: Mr. Barfuss and Mr. Lawlor

OATH OF OFFICE

Attorney Joseph Sordillo administered the Oath of Office to Paul J. Vallone, MD as a member of the Board of Health, Borough of Far Hills for a two-year term expiring December 31, 2021. This was outstanding from the January 2020 Reorganization meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 15, 2020 – Regular Meeting

Motion by Mr. Rick Rinzler, seconded by Councilwoman Sheila Tweedie, was unanimously carried that these minutes be approved for content and release.

APPLICATION

Application No. BOH-2020-07 – Amy & Daniel Neu, Block 3, Lot 8 – 210 Lake Road

Mr. James O. Madsen, Professional Engineer, Apgar Associates 13 DeMun Place Far Hills, NJ was present and sworn in by Attorney Sordillo. Mr. Madsen provided testimony with regard to the application to alter an Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal System, dated November 20, 2020.

Mr. Madsen provided a brief summary of his professional qualifications. Chairwoman Layton accepted the witness as a professional engineer, upon Mr. Sordillo's recommendation.

Mr. Madsen explained the applicants are looking to make improvements on their property after receiving approval and multiple extensions from the Borough of Far Hills Planning Board in 2016. At the request of the Planning Board, the applicants are completing all of the conditions to be compliant with the Planning Board approval. Mr. Madsen confirmed that the cabana in question will not be utilized as a living quarters per the resolution stating the one bathroom cabana will not be occupied as a dwelling would be included in a deed restriction (When asked by Mr. Sordillo regarding the requirement to forbid the dwelling be used as a living space, Mr. Madsen confirmed a condition of the Planning Board approval requires the pool house/cabana is not to be utilized as a living quarters). Additionally, the cabana will not have any air conditioning.

Mr. Madsen stated due to the elevation of the cabana and the location of the existing disposal system, a pump is necessary to drain effluent to a proposed septic tank and overflow into the pump pit which would then deliver the effluent to the existing disposal tank. When asked by Mr. Madsen, Mr. Kosinski suggested the disposal system should tie into the delivery line to avoid the displacement of any solids when the pump is active where any surge within the tank wouldn't be a concern. Mr. Kosinski stated the two tank code requirement is not necessary for a cabana this size. Mr. Kosinski continued recommending the two tank requirement be waived to allow connection to the force main below the tank so no solids in that tank are disturbed.

Mayor Vallone requested clarification on whether the existing septic system on site is large enough to accommodate the new influx anticipated from the use of the pool house. Mr. Kosinski confirmed there is no intensification of use. The homeowner would either use the bathroom inside the house, or as a matter of convenience, they would utilize the bathroom in the cabana.

Mr. Rinzler inquired as to the delay of the 2016 Planning Board approval in regards to the request for the Board of Health application approval in 2020. Mr. Madsen stated the Planning Board requested action be taken to complete the compliance of the Planning Board resolution from 2016.

Mayor Vallone queried when the start date of the construction process would begin, where Mr. Madsen stated he is unaware of plans past obtaining approval. Mr. Madsen stated he is unaware if COVID extensions are involved regarding the expiration of the permit. Mr. Sordillo concurred that there have been COVID related extensions however he will have to determine relevancy in this.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the start date on the project as it pertains to the many delays and extensions the project has already received. Attorney Sordillo stated the applicant is possibly at risk of losing the approval at the Planning Board level if they don't move forward with the project. Attorney Sordillo stated this application is one of the steps necessary prior to construction. Councilwoman Tweedie added the extension was possibly granted until November 30th, 2020 however she was unsure if it is a requirement for the applicant to come before the Planning Board for an update. Mr. Madsen stated there have been discussions with the Planning Board regarding various deed restrictions and conservation easements involving legal counsel.

Attorney Sordillo summarized the completeness of the application and waiver review which was based on the Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal System Alteration application as the project does not meet the existing requirements. Attorney Sordillo recommended a vote in favor of the application of the septic system improvements for the application filed as well as the granting of waivers for completeness with testimony provided, but recommended the approval include the condition mirroring the condition from the Planning Board approval that the cabana not be used as living quarters.

Motion by Councilwoman Tweedie, seconded by Mayor Vallone to approve application BOH-2020-07.

Roll Call:

Aye: Mr. Rinzler, Councilwoman Tweedie, Mayor Vallone and Chairwoman Layton

Nay:

Abstain:

Recused:

Motion Carried.

BILL LIST

None

VNA (PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE)

None

SOMERSET COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Deputy Director James Norgalis stated food establishment inspections were completed previously and there have been no nuisance complaints. Mr. Norgalis stated the Somerset County Health Department contract for services has been submitted for review with a 2% increase for the same services.

He continued with a brief overview of COVID19 and how it relates to the Somerset County Health Department as well as the Borough of Far Hills. Mr. Norgalis stated the COVID vaccine should be received from the State of New Jersey possibly as soon as next year. The Somerset County Health Department will be providing vaccines at multiple sites throughout the county in an effort to provide convenience for residents who have difficulty driving distances. Mr. Norgalis advised he will provide a vaccination webpage that is available through the Somerset County Health Department. Mr. Rinzler added a webpage is available that provides information regarding statistics as to the percentage of the population able to receive the vaccination before or after the resident utilizing the website. He added he will forward the web address to Mr. Norgalis per his request. Mr. Rinzler requested clarification as to whom is authorized to administer the vaccination in addition to the vaccination sites.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the identifying the location of deceased that have tested positive COVID19. General discussion continued regarding the difference between the current vaccines being disseminated to the public. Mr. Norgalis stated Somerset County is currently attempting to obtain appointment software compatible with the State of New Jersey Immunization Information System (IIS).

PUBLIC COMMENT – *The Board of Health welcomes comments from any member of the public. To help facilitate an orderly meeting and to permit the opportunity for anyone who wishes to be heard, speakers shall limit their comments to 5 minutes.*

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to conduct, and on a motion by Councilwoman Tweedie, seconded by Mayor Vallone, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Samantha D'Antuono
Board of Health Secretary

APPROVED – 1/19/2021