

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF HEALTH
Regular Meeting
July 17, 2024, 7:00 PM**

Chair Colburn called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and announced that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

A. SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

B. ROLL CALL:

Jodi Bettermann	Present	Theresa Brown Biondo	Present	Chair Colburn	Present
John Kalinich	Present	Karen Mittleman	Present	David Olsen	Present
Helen Pollack	Present	Wendy Sheay	Absent		

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

1. BOH Meeting Minutes of 5/15/2024

A motion was made by Ms. Mittleman to table the minutes and seconded by Mr. Olsen. All in favor.

2. BOH Meeting Minutes of 6/19/2024

A motion was made by Ms. Mittleman to table the minutes and seconded by Mr. Olsen. All in favor.

D. APPROVALS - ALTERATION/NO EXPANSION:

1. Block 14/Lot 30 – -AKRF Engineering – 3592 Route 22

Time heard 7:04 p.m.

John Hansen, a licensed engineer in the states of New Jersey and Pennsylvania introduced himself and discussed the application. The application is for an existing 2,232 SF professional office that was previously converted from a cape cod style home built in 1930. The owners purchased the building in 2005 and are looking to sell the building and the existing septic system failed inspection. The new septic system will be in the rear of the property. The new septic bed will be farther away from the existing well, however it does not meet the 100 ft desired setback and are requesting a waiver for the disposal bed to be 55 ft away. The current owners have stated they have had no issues with the existing well. The engineer is also seeking approval for the pump system in the new design because the invert of the disposal system does not allow for a gravity system.

The board asked Mr. Hansen:

1. Do you know if the well has 50 feet of casing?
2. You had the survey done, but it wasn't verified at that time exactly where the well is located?
3. Have they had the water tested since they are selling?
4. You have 50 ft to the pump tank on the drawing and you said 55 ft.
5. Septic tanks must be tested but what about the pump tank?
6. The current design looks more like a cesspool
7. The back of the survey is marked cleanout. What are those cleanouts of?
8. I did not see the ground water testing data, is it there?
9. That should be captured in this application and the county application. Can you provide that information to us?
10. As far as the septic tank itself goes, it does mention there is an effluent filter on the output of it. Are there any other specs besides a 4 inch output pipe?
11. Can you confirm when the ground water monitoring was done? Was it done this year?
12. The perc test was this year.

13. The biggest issue is the probable well location. If they do anything to it, it will be brought up to grade and capped.
14. If they are going to drill a new well, we need to know that because where is it going to be?
15. If we approve this, we are assuming the location of the well and we aren't here to make assumptions. Can that be verified?
16. The water must come into the house somewhere
17. Were documents checked location of the well for this building?
18. The quality of the water could be compromised by the existing system. We need location data and water quality data and data on the ground water before making a decision.
19. If the water test comes back favorable and the new system is an improvement, we can feel fairly comfortable making an approval

Mr. Hansen responded:

1. No, I don't. No records of the well were found.
2. No, I met with the owner today, but it is his understanding that is where the well is located. He has never seen it and it is below grade.
3. I don't believe they have, but it will get tested of course prior to any sale.
4. The pump tank will be 51 ft, and the disposal bed will be 55 ft.
5. We test those as well to ensure they are watertight. The most important thing is with the new designs there is better treatment of the effluent.
6. The disposal bed we are designing now has 4 ft of select fill treatment which created a greater quality of effluent that goes into the ground at the end of the day
7. Those were the monitor wells during the wet season testing. They were installed and the surveyor marked it as a clean out.
8. We reviewed the ground water every week and there was no evidence of mottling or ground water at all.
9. Yes.
10. It's a scheduled poly lock pipe on the second page at the bottom.
11. It was this year for sure.
12. Even if it is outside the wet season, we still do the monitoring wells because it is good data and easy to do and good practice.
13. Because of the location they won't be able to modify this well, if anything needs to be done, they will most likely need to drill a new well.
14. They don't plan to drill a new well, we are only here to request a wavier for the distance to the disposal system based on the current condition of the well and the approval for the pump system.
15. We can certainly try if that is the board's position we can carry the meeting, and I will discuss it with my client.
16. With the cape cod it is underneath the concrete slab
17. Yes, we made an OPRA request for everything within 200 ft. and nothing was found.
18. I will see if we can find someone to locate the well and test the tap water.
19. Okay I will formally request an adjournment for tonight and postponed until that can be done.

Karen Mittleman made a motion to postpone this application until the next meeting to obtain more information on the placement of the well, the testing of the water and the groundwater monitoring. The motion was seconded by Theresa Brown Biondo. On roll call vote, the following was recorded:

Jodi Bettermann	Aye	Theresa Brown Biondo	Aye	Chair Colburn	Aye
John Kalinich	Aye	Karen Mittleman	Aye	David Olsen	Aye
Helen Pollack	Aue	Wendy Sheay	Absent		

E. APPROVALS - EXPANSION/NEW CONSTRUCTION:

None.

F. EMPLOYEE REPORTS:

F.1 HCHD Reports.

Members reviewed the two reports provided by the HCHD regarding septic repairs YTD in Readington Township. Members would like to see what type of repair was done, Members questioned if there is a limit to the number of repairs that can be done. Ask the county for a copy of the repair sheet that residents/applications submit to the county for all Readington properties.

G. CORRESPONDENCE:

G.1 Rockaway E. Coli Contamination

G.2 Public Health Advisory: Increased Risk of Dengue Virus Infections in the United States

G.3 Public Health Update: Updates for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccination Recommendation for Adults

G.4 Public Health Recall: Food Recalls

G.5 Public Health Update: Information on H5N1 Avian Influenza in Cats and Surveillance of Rabies Negative Cats for Avian Influenza

G.6 Public Health Info: Tickborne Disease Continuing Education for Healthcare Providers

G.7 Public Health Alert: Patients at risk of benzodiazepine withdrawal due to disruption in access to medications in Atlantic County, NJ

G.8 Public Health Info: NJDOH Vector-borne disease surveillance report, week 26

G.9 Public Health Update: Mosquito-borne Disease Update and Public Health Testing Services

G.10 Public Health Alert: COVID-19 and Respiratory Illness Activity Report for week ending 6_29_24

G.11 Public Health Advisory: Preventing Heat-Related Illness in Vulnerable Populations

G.12 Public Health Info: COVID-19 and Respiratory Illness Activity Report for week ending 7_6_24

Members discussed G.1. and how to understand the data provided. Susan Masinda is invited to the next meeting to explain the report and answer questions. The link to food recalls (G.4) has been posted to the website to be conveniently available to the public.

H. OLD BUSINESS:

H.1 Septic Pumping Documentation

Montgomery Township requires a signed pump slip every 3 years and is submitted when you pay your taxes. Members will find out more information on the reporting system details. Members discussed Readington having their own inspector. Members also discussed possible funds from the Corey Booker legislation previously discussed.

H.2 New Resident Info Packet

Members discussed information. No information packets or drafts have been created yet. The Chair found an older mailer booklet from Long Hill with great information to use as an idea. The budget was discussed and what funds are available.

I. NEW BUSINESS:

I.1 Readington Township TWA - Authorization for the county

A motion was made By Karen Mittleman to authorize a representative of the Hunterdon County Health Department to sign the TWA application providing flow determination to be submitted to DEP as requested by the applicants for Block 81 Lot 1. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Kalinich. On roll call vote, the following was recorded:

Jodi Bettermann	Aye	Theresa Brown Biondo	Aye	Chair Colburn	Aye
John Kalinich	Aye	Karen Mittleman	Aye	David Olsen	Aye
Helen Pollack	Aue	Wendy Sheay	Absent		

J. COMMUNICATION PLAN:

National Night Out is scheduled for August 6th from 5-7 PM. Members will provide space requirements, material requirements such as table and chairs, and have something to give out since it is a kid friendly event. Members discussed possibly recycling the heat stress information from last year. Teri said that September is preparedness month to investigate. Member discussed sending out an alert on Nixle to notify residents of the food recall link on the BOH webpage. The information packet found by the Chair will be scanned and sent out to the members.

K. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

L. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Ms. Brown-Biondo to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m., seconded by Ms. Mittleman, with a vote of Ayes all, Nays none recorded.

Respectfully submitted:

Danielle Monaghan, Board of Health Secretary