

ORDINANCE NO. 172 - 1998

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP, MERCER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE USE AND MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING AND NEW SEWAGE HOLDING TANKS/PRIVIES; PROVIDING FOR PERMITS, INSPECTIONS, REGULATION AND FEES REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 162-1995; AND IMPOSING FINES AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

WHEREAS, the Sewage Facilities Act of January 24, 1966, P.L. (1965) 1535, (35 P.S. §750.1 et seq.) as amended, authorizes townships to exercise authority relative to the installation, construction, and inspection of individual sewage systems, or community sewage systems; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that procedures for the use and maintenance of existing and/or new holding tanks/privies designed to receive and retain sewage from park or recreational areas or residential and commercial uses is necessary for the protection, benefit and preservation of the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of Pymatuning Township, Mercer County, Pennsylvania.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Pymatuning, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

Section 1. Purposes. The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish procedures for the use and maintenance of existing and new privies and holding tanks designed to receive and retain sewage whether from recreational, residential or commercial uses and it is hereby declared that the enactment of this Ordinance is necessary for the protection, benefit and preservation of the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of this municipality.

Section 2: Definitions. Unless the context specifically and clearly indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms used in this Ordinance shall be as follows:

(a) "Authority" shall mean Supervisors of Pymatuning Township, Mercer County, Pennsylvania.

(b) "Holding Tank/Privy" means a watertight receptacle, whether permanent or temporary which receives and retains sewage conveyed by a water carrying system and is designed and constructed to facilitate the ultimate disposal of the sewage at another site.

(c) "Improved Property" shall mean any property within the Township upon which there is

erected a structure intended for continuous or periodic habitation, occupancy or use by human beings or animals and from which structure sewage shall or may be discharged.

(d) "Owner" shall mean any person vested with ownership, legal or equitable, sole or partial, or leasehold, of any property located in the Township of Pymatuning.

(e) "Person" shall mean any individual, partnership, company, association, corporation or other group or entity.

(f) "Sewage" shall mean any substance that contains any of the waste products or excrement or other discharge from the bodies of human beings or animals and any noxious or deleterious substances being harmful or inimical to the public health, or to animal or aquatic life or to the use of water for domestic water supply or for recreation.

(g) "Municipality" shall mean the Township of Pymatuning, Mercer County, Pennsylvania.

Section 3: Right and Privileges Granted. That the Authority is hereby authorized and empowered to undertake within the Township the control and methods of holding tank/privy use, sewage disposal and sewage collection and transportation thereof.

Section 4: Rules and Regulations. That the Authority is hereby authorized and empowered to adopt such rules and regulations concerning sewage which it may deem necessary from time to time to effect the purposes herein.

Section 5: Rules and Regulations to be in Conformity with Applicable Law. All such rules and regulations adopted by the Authority shall be in conformity with the provisions herein, all other Ordinances of the Township, and all applicable laws, and applicable rules and regulations of administrative agencies of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Section 6: Rates and Charges. The Authority shall have the right and power to fix, alter, charge and collect rates, assessments, and other charges in the areas served by its facilities at reasonable and uniform rates as authorized by applicable law.

Section 7: Exclusiveness of Rights and Privileges.

- A. The collection and transportation of all sewage from any improved property utilizing

a holding tank/privy shall be done solely by or under the direction and control of the Authority, and the disposal thereof shall be made only at such site or sites as may be approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

- B. The Authority will receive, review and retain pumping receipts from permitted holding tanks/privies.
- C. The Authority will complete and retain annual inspection reports for each permitted tank/privy.

Section 8: Duties of Improved Property Owner. The owner of an improved property that utilizes a holding tank/privy shall:

- A. Maintain the holding tank/privy conformance with this or any Ordinance of this Township, the provisions of any applicable law, and the rules and regulations of the Authority and any administrative agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- B. Permit only the Authority or its agent to inspect holding tanks/privies on an annual basis.
- C. Permit only the Authority or its agent to collect, transport, and dispose of the contents therein.

Section 9: Violations. Any person who violates any provisions of Section 8, shall, upon conviction thereof by summary proceedings, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars and not more than Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars, and in default of said fine and costs shall undergo imprisonment in the County Prison for a period not in excess of thirty (30) days.

Section 10: Abatement of Nuisances. In addition to any other remedies provided in this Ordinance, any violation of Section 8 above shall constitute a nuisance and shall be abated by the Municipality or the Authority by either seeking mitigation of the nuisance or appropriate equitable or legal relief from a Court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 11: Repeal. Pymatuning Township Ordinance No. 162-1995 is hereby expressly repealed and all Ordinances or Resolutions

insofar as they are inconsistent herewith, shall be and the same are also hereby repealed. The provision of this Ordinance, so far as they are the same as those of Ordinances and Regulations now in full force and effect, prior to the enactment of this Ordinance, are intended as a continuation of such Ordinances and Regulations. The provisions of this Ordinance shall not affect any act done or liability incurred nor shall they affect any suit or prosecution pending or to be instituted to enforce any right or penalty or to punish any offense or offenses under the authority of any repealed Ordinances, Regulations, or parts thereof.

Section 12: Severability. If any sentence, clause, section or part of this Ordinance is for any reason found to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality or invalidity shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections, or parts of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Board of Supervisors of Pymatuning Township that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid sentence, clause, section or part thereof not been included therein.

Section 13: Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective five (5) days after its adoption.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED, into an Ordinance this 5th day of January, 199⁸ by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Pymatuning, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, in Lawful Session, duly assembled.

PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP, MERCER COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA

By: Joseph A. Schreck
George J. Lescisin
James J. Rowe
(Supervisors)

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

I hereby certify the foregoing to be an exact copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Pymatuning, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, at a regular meeting of the Board on the 5th day of January, 19⁹⁸.

Joyce E. Leventry
Joyce Leventry, Township Secretary