

TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-06

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 152 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK AND PROHIBITING SUMP PUMP CONNECTIONS TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Pequannock, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 152 "Sewers" of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Pequannock are hereby amended by the inclusion of new **Subsection 152.07** to be entitled "Sump Pump Connection to Sanitary Sewer Prohibited," which shall read in its entirety as follows:

Section 152.07 Sump pump connection to sanitary sewer prohibited.

Subsection 152.07.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this subsection is to limit and reduce the inflow of additional water into the sanitary sewer system. By prohibiting the discharge of any storm, ground, well, sump pump, swimming pool, other natural precipitation or other sources of inflow into the Township's sanitary sewer system, the Township is seeking to reduce costs as well as protect against other damaging effects. The Township's sanitary sewer will and has on occasion been overloaded thereby creating the potential to cause significant damage or threat to the system. Further, all water that enters the system must be treated at the sewage treatment plant. Therefore, by reducing and eliminating this inflow of "clean water" into the sanitary sewer system and the subsequent unnecessary treatment, the expenses to the Township and the citizens will be reduced and will assist in protecting the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Township.

Subsection 152.07.020 Definitions:

WATERCOURSE – A natural or artificial channel through which water flows.

PROPERTY OWNER – Any person who along, jointly or severally with others, shall have legal or equitable title to any premises, with or without accompanying actual possession.

SANITARY SEWAGE - The water carrying household and toilet waste from residences, business buildings, institutions, commercial and industrial establishments.

SEWERAGE SYSTEM - All facilities and appurtenances connected with the collection and conveyance system.

SUMP PUMP - A device used to convey water from areas of lower elevation in a building or yard to prevent accumulation of water or flooding.

SUMP PUMP PIPING – That part of the sump pump through which the effluents are carried to their discharge point.

Subsection 152.07.030 Regulation of Sump Pumps, Floor Drains, Roof Drains and Related Apparatus

- A. No person shall connect any sump pump, floor drain, roof drain, and/or related apparatus to any sanitary sewer line. No property owner shall allow any sump pump,

floor drain, roof drain, and/or related apparatus which has been connected to remain connected to any sanitary line.

- B. Any sump pump which was connected to the sanitary sewer system may, upon disconnection from the system after adoption of this Ordinance, discharge into an established watercourse (i.e. a catch basin, storm sewer, street gutter) or a natural drainage course. Where an established watercourse is not available sump pumps may discharge into a seepage pit or a rear or side yard, if such rear or side yard is capable of absorbing the discharge without draining onto neighboring properties. If a seepage pit is used it shall not be constructed within ten (10) feet of an adjoining property line whether public or private.

Subsection 152.07.040 Correction of Icy or Unsafe Conditions.

- A. Notwithstanding compliance with the regulations in this Section whenever sump pump discharge causes an icy condition on either a sidewalk or street, the owner of record must:
 - (1) Spread an abrasive material on the street and/or sidewalk to provide traction for the safe progress of vehicles and/or pedestrians thereon.
 - (2) Immediately cease discharging in the manner which creates such a condition.
 - (3) Install/provide a permanent remedy within one hundred eighty (180) days.

Subsection 152.07.050 Violations.

- A. Prohibited Discharges. No person or entity shall discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water, ground water, roof runoff, yard drainage, yard fountain, swimming pool, pond overflow or any other substance other than sanitary sewage into the sanitary sewer collection system. No person, business or other entity shall discharge or cause to be discharged any hazardous substances into any public sewers.
- B. Amnesty Period for Disconnection.
 - (1) On or before December 31, 2016 any person, business or other entity who shall have a connection described above and who shall voluntarily report said connection to the Township, so that said illegal connection shall be remedied, shall have any and all permit and inspection fees waived by the Township. This waiver of fees applies only to Township fees and does not include the actual cost of remediation or any State surcharges.
 - (2) After December 31, 2016, any person, business or other entity in violation of subsection 152.07.050 A. that fails to voluntarily report such connection by December 31, 2016, shall be liable for all permit fees, inspection fees and connection fees as required by the Township, to remedy the illegal connection.

Subsection 152.07.060 Enforcement.

The Township Engineer, plumbing inspector or other duly authorized representative is hereby authorized to request entrance to any property for the purpose of inspecting, observing, testing

and sampling to confirm that there is no sump pump and/or other prohibited discharge into the sanitary sewer system in violation of the regulations.

Subsection 152.07.070 Compliance.

- A. A surcharge as provided in subsection 152.07.080 will be imposed on any property found to have a sump pump connected to the sanitary sewer system after December 31, 2016. The surcharge will continue until the sump pump has been inspected and found to be proper disconnected from the sanitary sewer system. The surcharge shall be in addition to any fine or other penalty provided for the violation of this Chapter.
- B. A surcharge as provided in subsection 152.07.080 will be imposed on any property which has sanitary sewer service where the owner or occupant has failed to schedule an appointment with the Township for inspection to determine compliance with this Chapter within sixty (60) days of receiving a notice to schedule the inspection from the Township. Said property shall remain subject to the surcharge until it is determined there is no violation or the violation has been abated. The surcharge shall be in addition to any fine or other penalty provided for the violation of this Chapter.
- C. All disconnections of said illicit connections shall be accomplished by a complete and permanent method and performed in a competent manner and inspected by the Township Engineer or other duly authorized representative. Any disconnection, plugging, capping, re-routing, altering or modifying must be done in accordance with all applicable State and municipal construction codes.
- D. After issuance of the surcharge pursuant to subsection 152.07.080, if the property owner, tenant, landlord or other person with a property interest remedies the illicit connection, said property owner, tenant, landlord or other person with a property interest shall call the Township Engineer for a follow-up inspection by the Township Engineer or other duly authorized representative. Upon certification that the illicit connection has been remedied, the surcharge shall be lifted, beginning the quarter following the inspection for which a property was subject to the surcharge.

Subsection 152.07.080 Surcharge.

A surcharge of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) per quarter is hereby imposed upon every sewer utility bill to property owners, tenants, landlords or other persons with a property interest for the following conditions:

- (1) Not in compliance with this Ordinance.
- (2) Failure to schedule a property inspection.

Section 2. If any section or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid in any Court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect the other sections or provisions of this Ordinance, except so far as the section or provision so declared invalid shall be inseparable from the remainder or any portion thereof.

Section 3. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

Introduced: April 12, 2016

Adopted: April 26, 2016



Carol J. Marsh, Township Clerk



David G. Kohle, Mayor