

TOWNSHIP OF AMITY
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE # 16

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF AMITY BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING CERTAIN RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING BUILDING SEWERS AND THEIR CONNECTIONS TO THE SEWER SYSTEM, PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO DO WORK ON BUILDING SEWERS, AND THE CONNECTION OF FUTURE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS TO THE SEWER SYSTEM.

The Board of Supervisors of the Township of Amity, Berks County, Pennsylvania, hereby enacts and ordains as follows:

SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS

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

A. "Township" shall mean the Township of Amity, Berks County, Pennsylvania, a municipal corporation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting by and through its Board of Supervisors or, in appropriate cases acting by and through its authorized representatives.

B. "Building Sewer" shall mean the extension from the sewage drainage system of any structure to the Lateral of a Sewer.

C. "Connection Unit" shall mean each individual building or house whether constructed as a detached unit or as one of a pair or row which is designed or adaptable to separate ownership for use as a family dwelling unit or for commercial or industrial purposes. A school, factory, apartment house, office building or other multiple unit structure whose individual apartments or units are connected to a common internal sewage

system and which are not commonly subject to separate ownership shall be considered as one Connection Unit.

D. "Board of Supervisors" shall mean the group of elected officials acting as the governing body of the Township.

E. "Improved Property" shall mean any property within the Sewered Area 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 Sanitary Sewage and/or Industrial Wastes shall be or may be discharged.

F. "Industrial Wastes" shall mean any solid, liquid or gaseous substance of energy rejected or escaping in the course of any industrial, manufacturing, trade or business process or in the course of the development, recovery or processing of natural resources, as distinct from Sanitary Sewage, including such ground, surface or storm water as may be present.

G. "Lateral" shall mean that part of the Sewer System extending from a Sewer to the curb line or, if there shall be no curb line, then 15 feet from the center line of the street.

H. "Owner" shall mean any Person vested with ownership, legal or equitable, sole or partial, of any property located within the Township.

I. "Person" shall mean any individual, firm, partnership, company, association, society, trust, corporation or other group or entity.

J. "Sanitary Sewage" shall mean normal water-carried household and toilet wastes from any Improved Property, including such ground, surface or storm water as may be present.

K. "Sewer" shall mean any pipe, main or conduit constituting a part of the Sewer System used or usable for sewage collection purposes and to which ground, surface and storm water is not admitted intentionally.

L. "Sewer System" shall mean all facilities, as of any particular time, for collecting, transporting, pumping, treating and disposing of sanitary sewage and Industrial Wastes, situate in the Township, owned by the Township for operation and use in collecting, transporting, pumping, treating and disposing

of Domestic Sewage and Industrial Wastes.

M. "Street" shall mean and include any street, road, lane, court, alley and public square.

SECTION 2 - BUILDING SEWERS AND CONNECTIONS

A. No Person shall uncover, connect with, make any opening into or use, alter or disturb, in any manner, any Sewer or the Sewer System without first obtaining a permit, in writing, from the Township. Such permit shall be issued to Owners required to connect to a Sewer by Ordinance of the Township subject always to compliance with these Rules and Regulations and may be issued by the Township to Owners not so required to connect in accordance with such fees as may be established from time to time by the Board of Supervisors of the Township.

B. Application for a permit required under 2A shall be made by the Owner of the Improved Property to be served.

C. No Person shall make or cause to be made a connection of any Improved Property with a Sewer until such Person shall have fulfilled each of the following conditions:

(1) Such Person shall have notified the Secretary of the Township of the desire and intention to connect to a Sewer.

(2) Such Person shall have applied for and obtained a permit as required by Section 2A.

(3) Such Person shall have given the Secretary of the Township at least twenty-four (24) hours' notice of the time when such connection will be made so that the Township may supervise and inspect the work of connection and necessary testing.

D. Except as otherwise provided in this section 2A, each Connection Unit on each Improved Property shall be connected separately and independently with a Sewer through a Building Sewer. Grouping of more than one Connection Unit on one Building Sewer shall not be permitted.

E. All costs and expenses of construction of a Building Sewer and all costs and expenses of connection of a Building Sewer to a Sewer shall be borne by the Owner of the Improved

Property to be connected; and such Owner shall indemnify and save harmless the Township from all loss or damage that may be occasioned, directly or indirectly, as a result of construction of a Building Sewer or of connection of a Building Sewer to a Sewer.

F. Materials for a Building Sewer, jointing materials and methods of installation shall be in accordance with requirements of Section 3 and shall be subject to approval by the Township.

G. The permit required by Section 2A shall be displayed prominently upon the Improved Property to be connected to a Sewer at all times during construction of the Building Sewer and connection of the Building Sewer to a Sewer.

H. A Building Sewer shall be connected to a Sewer at the Lateral. No Person shall make a connection directly to or temper with a Sewer in any manner.

The invert of a Building Sewer at the point of connection to a Lateral shall be at the same or a higher elevation than the invert of a Sewer. A smooth, neat joint shall be made and the connection of a Building Sewer to a Lateral shall be made secure and water-tight. Special fittings for connection of a Building Sewer to a Lateral may be used only after approval of the Township has been secured.

SECTION 3 - RULES AND REGULATIONS COVERING BUILDING SEWERS AND CONNECTIONS TO SEWERS

A. Building Sewer shall be no less than four (4) inches in diameter.

B. Pipe used in a Building Sewer shall be one of the following types:

- (1) Cast iron soil pipe - "medium" weight.
- (2) Vitrified clay sewer pipe - "standard strength".
- (3) Cement asbestos sewer pipe.
- (4) Wrought iron.

C. Uniform bearing shall be provided along the entire length of a Building Sewer; and all joints of a Building Sewer shall be watertight and rust-proof. No cement mortar joints shall be used. When hot-poured joints are used, the trench shall be free of water.

D. Where an Improved Property, at the time of securing a permit under Section 2A to connect to a Sewer, shall be served

by its own sewage disposal system or device, the existing house sewer line shall be broken on the structure side of such sewage disposal system or device and attachment shall be made, with proper fittings, to continue such house sewer line, as a Building Sewer, undiminished in inside diameter, but not less than four (4) inches, to the Lateral.

E. A Building Sewer to serve one Improved Property may occupy the same trench as a Building Sewer to serve the next adjoining Improved Property; Provided, however, that the common trench is on or immediately adjacent to the common property line and such joint occupancy is by mutual agreement of the Owners concerned. There shall be a minimum clear distance of twelve inches (12") between Building Sewers so constructed.

This Section 3E is subject in all respects to Section 2D.

F. Cast iron soil pipe or wrought iron pipe of a Building Sewer laid in a trench must be supported properly at each joint. When vitrified clay sewer pipe or cement asbestos sewer pipe is used in a Building Sewer, the entire length of such pipe, as well as the joint, must have uniform bearing. Vitrified clay sewer pipe in a Building Sewer may be laid only in virgin soil and may not be laid in fill.

G. Fittings in a Building Sewer shall conform to the type of pipe used in construction.

H. Changes in direction in a Building Sewer must be made by use of "Y" branches or of 1/8 or 1/16 bends.

I. Fittings or connections in a Building Sewer which have an enlargement, chanber or recess with a ledge, shoulder or reduction of pipe area that shall offer any obstruction to flow shall not be allowed.

J. Joints in cast iron soil pipe and wrought iron pipe in a Building Sewer shall be packed with oakum in the bell and spigot terminations and thereafter shall be filled with molten lead to a depth of at least one (1) inch and not to be depressed more than one-eighth (1/8) inch below the rim of the hub.

The lead then must be caulked in place. No paint, varnish or other coating shall be permitted on the jointing material until after the Building Sewer has been tested and approved.

K. Bell and spigot joints in vitrified clay sewer pipe in a Building Sewer shall be packed with oakum, jute or hemp at the base and thereafter shall be poured with hot compound as required for the purpose. Such hot compound shall be poured against dry surfaces having a bond strength of no less than one hundred (100) pounds per square inch; shall not soften at temperatures up to 160° F.; shall not be soluble in the waste to be carried by the Building Sewer and shall be root repellent. Each such joint shall be poured completely in one continuous operation and shall not be tested until at least one hour after completion of such pouring. Mechanical joints of plastic or synthetic, rubber-like materials, commonly known as compression joints, may be used with approval of the Township.

L. Joints in cement asbestos sewer pipe in a Building Sewer shall be made with sleeve couplings of the same composition as the pipe and shall be sealed with rubber rings.

M. Joints between cast iron soil pipe and vitrified clay sewer pipe in a Building Sewer shall be made by inserting the cast iron soil pipe into the bell of the vitrified clay sewer pipe. Such joints shall be made as provided in Section 3E dealing with hot poured joints.

N. A Building Sewer shall be provided with approved horizontal trap, known as an interceptor trap, of not less than four (4) inches inside diameter, of cast iron equivalent to cast iron soil pipe. Such trap shall be provided with a vent and clean-out openings each to be at a level at least equal to the finished grade level and to be provided with vent cowls. Lines from such trap to such finished grade level shall be of the same size and material as the Building Sewer.

O. The interceptor trap required under Section 3N shall be located at a point to be determined and approved by the Township Inspector in accordance with rules and regulations applicable thereto as adopted by the Township. Such trap and

its vent shall be on the property side of the curb.

P. The slope or grade of a Building Sewer, when the inside diameter is four (4) inches or more, shall be no less than one-quarter ($1/4$) inch per foot of length and shall be downward in the direction of flow. When absolutely necessary, a grade of not less than one-eighth ($1/8$) inch per foot of length may be specifically permitted.

Q. The Township shall observe all testing of a Building Sewer. All equipment and material required for testing shall be furnished by the Owner of the Improved Property to be connected to a Sewer.

In the event a Building Sewer is not approved by the Township Inspector a further test or tests shall be made following completion of necessary corrections. A fee of \$10.00 will be charged by the Township for observation of each test subsequent to the initial test.

R. No Building Sewer shall be covered until it has been inspected, tested, as provided in Section 3Q, and approved. If any part of a Building Sewer is covered before so being inspected, tested and accepted, it shall be uncovered for inspection and tested at the cost and expense of the Owner of the Improved Property to be connected to a Sewer.

S. Every Building Sewer shall be tested by filling the same with water, completely, so that every section shall be tested with not less than a ten (10) foot head of water. Water shall be kept in the Building Sewer for fifteen (15) minutes before inspection starts and no leakage shall be observable at the time of inspection.

Upon approval of the test of a Building Sewer by the Township Inspector a certificate of approval will be issued to the Owner of the Improved Property to be connected to a Sewer.

T. Whenever the Township has reason to believe any Building Sewer has become defective, such Building Sewer shall be subject to test and inspection. If any defects are found in the Building Sewer, they shall be corrected

at the cost and expense of the Owner of the Improved Property served through such Building Sewer.

U. Every Building Sewer of any Improved Property shall be maintained in a sanitary and safe operating condition by the Owner of such Improved Property.

V. Every excavation for a Building Sewer shall be guarded adequately with barricades and lights to protect all Persons from damage and injury. Streets, sidewalks and other public property disturbed in the course of installation of a Building Sewer shall be restored, at the cost and expense of the Owner of the Improved Property being connected, in a manner satisfactory to the Township.

SECTION 4 - PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO DO WORK RELATING TO CONNECTIONS

A. Any Person desiring to do plumbing work upon any Improved Property which is connected or which is to be connected to A Sewer shall obtain from the Township a registration permit authorizing such Person to engage in such plumbing work. Such registration permits shall be issued on a calendar year basis. A registration fee of Two Dollars (\$2.00) shall be charged for issuance of each permit. Such permits shall be issued to such Persons who have demonstrated by past performance to the satisfaction of the Township that they are qualified and capable of performing plumbing work in accordance with good plumbing practice and shall be revocable by the Township for negligent or willful failure to comply with these Rules and Regulations. Such permits shall be reissued from calendar year to calendar year by appropriate endorsement of the Township or by issuance of a new permit, at the discretion of the Township, upon payment of the required fee.

Owners, their agents, employees or independent contractors may do ditch preparation work independently of the plumbing work involved, subject to compliance with these

regulations and inspection requirements.

B. Any Person not possessing a permit as required under Section 4A shall not perform any plumbing work upon any Improved Property which is connected to a Sewer or which is to be connected to a Sewer.

C. Any Improved Property upon which plumbing work is performed by a Person not possessing a permit as required under Section 4A will not be approved for connection to a Sewer.

SECTION 5 - HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

A. Construction of Extensions.

In case where a builder or developer desires to install sewer mains, service laterals and house connections to every housing unit within a housing development prior to their individual sale, he may do so upon meeting all conditions as set forth in this paragraph and in other sections of these Rules and Regulations. Plot plans for such a development must be submitted to the Township for approval prior to any construction. Sewer plans conforming to all original specifications established by the Township, as to type of pipe, location of mains, size of pipe, grades, methods of laying pipe, and the type and construction of all necessary appurtenances shall be approved by the Township Engineer and approval obtained from the necessary State agencies. The engineering fees and charges for permits will be paid by the builder or developer. In no case will lesser standards than exist in the presently constructed sewer system and as outlined in these Rules and Regulations be permitted for any future extensions. Upon approval of such plans by the Township, the extensions may be constructed by, and at the expense of, the builder or developer, but only under the inspection of an inspector designated by the Township and/or its Engineer. The cost of such inspection, including salaries and expenses,

shall be borne by the builder or developer making the extensions.

SECTION 6 - EFFECTIVE DATE

In the event any provision, section, sentence, clause or part of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect or impair any remaining provision, section, sentence, clause or part of this Ordinance, it being the intent of the Township that such remainder shall be and shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8 - DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

It hereby is 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 the Township.

SECTION 9 - REPEALER

All other ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith hereby shall be and the same hereby expressly are repealed.

DULY ENACTED AND ORDAINED this 2nd day of December 1961, by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Amity, Berks County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, TOWNSHIP OF AMITY, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

s/ Irwin L. Geiger

s/ Norman C. Smith

s/ Irvin Miller
Supervisors

ATTEST:

s/ Russell H. High
Secretary

(SEAL)