

Ordinance No. 17

AN ORDINANCE TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE PUBLIC HEALTH BY REGULATING THE LOCATION, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF SOIL ABSORPTION SYSTEMS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF HUMAN EXCRETA.

The village council of Shelly do ordain as follows:

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to construct, operate or maintain any soil absorption system for the disposal of human excreta or to cause or permit the same to be done on any premises owned, occupied or controlled by him except in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 2. The term "soil absorption system" shall be construed to include all methods of disposing of human excreta except through a general sewer system, flushed by water and installed under the approval of the state department of health, and shall include all privies, septic tanks, and cesspools.

Section 3. All soil absorption systems for the disposal of human excreta shall be constructed hereafter in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor adopted by the council and on file in the office of the village recorder or in such other manner as may be approved by the health officer and by motion of the council.

Section 4. Privies heretofore or hereafter constructed in this village shall be located and maintained in accordance with the following rules:

- (a) They shall not be located closer than twenty feet to any place of human habitation, nor closer than fifty feet to any well or spring from which water is obtained for drinking or culinary purposes, nor so that seepage from the privy vault will drain into any such well or spring.
- (b) They shall be located and constructed so that no surface water will drain into the privy vault.
- (c) The roof shall be tight. The door shall be tight and self-closing. The privy and privy vault shall be fly-tight. Adequate ventilation shall be provided.
- (d) The privy seat shall be kept clean. The building shall be kept painted on the outside and in good repair.
- (e) When the vault has become filled with excreta within one foot of the surface of the ground, the privy shall be moved if possible, over a new vault. The excreta in the old vault shall be covered with earth to the level of the surrounding ground and the fill shall be protected from disturbance for a period of three months. If it is not practicable to move the privy, when the vault is filled within one foot of the surface of the ground, the excreta shall be treated with a strong disinfectant and may be removed only by the permission and under the direction of the health officer.

Section 5. Septic tanks, cesspools and other means of sewage disposal, depending upon absorption of the liquids into the soil for their operation heretofore or hereafter constructed in this village, shall be located and maintained in accordance with the following rules:

- (a) The tanks, cesspools, or overflow soil absorption pipes extending therefrom shall not be located within 50 feet of any well or spring from which

water is obtained for drinking or culinary purposes.

- (b) When sludge accumulates in the tank in sufficient quantity to interfere with its efficient operation, it shall be removed under the direction of the health officer and buried so as to be inaccessible to human beings or animals and so as not to endanger any domestic or public water supply.
- (c) When the soil around any cesspool or drain tile absorption system becomes so clogged that it will no longer absorb the liquids placed therein, additional soil absorption facilities shall be provided, and any abandoned cesspool shall be condemned by the health officer and filled with earth to the level of the surrounding ground.
- (d) Every septic tank shall be so constructed as to be easily accessible for cleaning and inspection from the top through suitable manhole openings. Covers for such manhole openings shall be rigid, durable and securely fastened. Ventilation shall be provided through the main house drain and house stack. The main drain to the tank shall be laid without a trap.
- (e) It shall be the duty of every person constructing a septic tank or cesspool to file a record of the exact location of the tank and all appurtenances thereto, in the office of the village recorder. The recorder shall keep the record of all such installations in a securely bound book.

Section 6. It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose of any human excreta except in a privy, septic tank or cesspool constructed and maintained in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 7. No person shall place any human excreta or sludge from privies, septic tanks or cesspools, or any other source of excreta in any stream, lake, or body of water or any abandoned or deep well within this village or dispose of the same by placing it on the surface of the ground without burying it.

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the street commissioner, under the direction of the health officer to see that the provisions of this ordinance are obeyed. He shall make an annual inspection of all soil absorption systems and shall make a report to the health officer as to their condition.

Section 9. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

Passed the village council this 30th day of November, 1937.

A. Branson
President of the Council

(Seal)

Attest:

A. E. Silver
Village Recorder