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TO: Echoes Sentinel, Courier News, Star Ledger, Independent Press, Warren Township Committee, Warren Cablevision, Warren Webmaster, Recorder Newspapers, Alternative Press, Renna Media, Warren Showcase, Warren-Watchung Connection, NJN Publishing, Town Square Media, NJ Press Media, WKXW 101.5.

DATE: **May 19, 2017**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STREAMLINING LAND DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES

The Township Committee, under the leadership of Committeeman George Lazo, Board of Health liaison, introduced Ordinance 2017-08 on April 19, 2017, which was adopted on May 18, 2017. The Ordinance amends the land development process to eliminate the requirement that an applicant to the Planning Board or Board of Adjustment be required to appear before a meeting of the Board of Health to receive approval for a development application that is served by public water and public sewer. This certification can now be issued by the Health Officer, consistent with New Jersey statutes. This change of procedure does not eliminate the Board of Health staff's review of the application, but will eliminate the requirement of a formal appearance before the Board. An application requiring the construction of a well and/or septic system will require an appearance before a meeting of the Board of Health.

This procedure is in addition to changes adopted by the Township Committee in 2013, which eliminated the requirement for applicants to appear before the Board of Health and Sewer Authority prior to review by the Planning Board or Board of Adjustment and instituted a process by which an applicant could appear in front of all Boards simultaneously.

This Ordinance continues Mr. Lazo's and the Committee's goal of streamlining Township procedures to reduce costs to property owners seeking to improve their homes or businesses. The Township Committee is focused upon instituting procedures which protect the public, but do not place onerous requirements upon the applicants.

For further information, please contact Mark Krane at (908) 753-8000, x-250.