

**TOWNSHIP OF RARITAN
BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 21, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Frank Nagy at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, One Municipal Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822

MEETING ADVERTISED

The meeting was advertised in the March 4, 2017 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat and posted on the office bulletin board.

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Jeannie Geremia; Deborah Hoskins; Patrick Morlando; Mark Peters; Tom Smith (arrived at 7:50 p.m.); Rose Sollena, Chairman, Frank Nagy; Board Secretary; Lisa Fania; Committee Member Lou Reiner (arrived at 8:10 p.m.); Hunterdon County Division of Public Health, Carla Hobbs

ABSENT: Vankata Lanka, Carolee Zak

MINUTES

Motion by Mark Peters, seconded by Debora Hoskins to approve the August 17, 2017 meeting minutes.

ABSTAIN: Rose Sollena

MOTION CARRIED

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

**a. BLOCK 60, LOT 40.12 (12 STACEY ROAD) – SEPTIC SYSTEM
ALTERATION WAIVER REQUEST**

Steve Parker, Engineer, Parker Engineering & Surveying P.C., presented the waiver request.

Motion was made by Pat Morlando, seconded by Mark Peters to approve the following requested waivers:

1. The proposed disposal bed at 71 feet from the neighboring lot's (Lot 40.13) existing well which does not meet the minimum 100-foot setback requirement by code. Per N.J.A.C. 7:9A-4.3, the distance may be decreased by the administrative authority to a minimum of 50 feet only when the well is provided a water-tight casing to a depth of 50 feet or more. A well record on file for Lot 40.13 with the Hunterdon County Division of Public Health indicates that the well casing is 50 feet.
2. The proposed disposal bed at 91 feet from a second neighboring lot's (Lot 35.01) existing well which does not meet the minimum 100-foot setback requirement by code. Per N.J.A.C. 7:9A-4.3, the distance may be decreased by the administrative authority to a minimum of 50 feet only when the well is provided a water-tight casing to a depth of 50 feet or more. A well record on file for Lot 35.01 with the Hunterdon County Division of Public Health indicates that the well casing is 61 feet.
3. Documentation that neighboring property owners were notified of the proposed location.

This is based on a letter from Dawn Faltings of the County Health Department dated September 15, 2017.

ROLL CALL:

AYES:	Geremia, Hoskins, Morlando, Peters, Sollena, Chairman Nagy
NAYES:	None
ABSENT:	None

LIAISONS

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

No report

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Correspondence

None

*Food Inspection Reports

*Rabies Update

**RARITAN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
(RTMUA)**

No report. Board Members requested RTMUA minutes be included on future Board of Health agendas.

Carla Hobbs, Hunterdon County Division of Public Health provided an update on inspection reports including retail food establishments, temporary food events and pool inspections, August 17 through September 19, 2017. Ms. Hobbs reported on the status of rabies reporting one negative bat and an upward trend in rabid racoons. Ms. Hobbs also commented on the countywide issue of feral cats. Ms. Hobbs clarified inquires raised by Board Members during the August 17 meeting regarding "Conditional" inspection results for food establishments and advised that such reports are available online.

Board Members raised questions and concerns regarding the status of communicable diseases including Lyme disease and West Nile virus. Ms. Hobbs reported low activity of such and advised that future reports will be disseminated to members.

Discussion continued regarding the condition of Ash trees as a public health issue; school cafeteria inspections including ice machines and lead testing in water. Ms. Hobbs advised that the Department of Education performs water testing in the schools and that the County conducts cafeteria inspections twice per year. Ms. Hobbs further stated that lead comes from many sources other than water.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Foreclosed/Vacant Properties

Board Secretary, Lisa Fania, presented a spreadsheet detailing foreclosed or vacant properties registered with the Township. Information included registration date, property address, mortgage company, and fees paid.

Board Members raised questions regarding the number of unkempt properties; status of tax payments; and single-family home vs. townhouse/condo designation. Discussion was held regarding future action. It was the consensus of all members to carry discussion to a future scheduled meeting, as additional information was required.

b. Fees for Septic and Well Systems

Discussion was held regarding Board of Health fees for the alteration/repair of sewage disposal systems and wells; food and beverage vending machines; portable chemical toilets; and vital records including burial and removal permits.

Board Members raised questions and concerns regarding the process for tracking such repairs within the Township; rationale behind existing fees; and lack of compliance.

During the discussion, Ms. Hobbs advised that bed and breakfast establishments are no longer regulated and should be removed from the fee schedule as well. She also added that the County can provide monthly or quarterly reports regarding the status of septic and well repairs throughout the Township. It was the consensus of the Board that the County provide a monthly report at the next scheduled meeting and the frequency of future reports decided upon at that time.

It was also the consensus of Board Members to amend the Board of Health fee schedule and remove the \$10 fee for the filing of application and plans to alter or repair an individual sewage disposal system and issuance of permit; remove the \$10 fee for a permit to alter or repair a well; remove the \$150.00 fee for a bed and breakfast establishment; and remove all fees relating to permits for portable chemical toilets including \$40.00 application fee and \$5.00 permit fee for each portable toilet. The Board also concurred to carry discussion regarding fees for food and beverage vending machines and vital records to a future scheduled meeting as additional information was required.

Motion by Mark Peters, seconded by Jeannie Geremia to remove \$10 fees for septic/well repairs and all relative fees regarding portable chemical toilets and bed and breakfast establishments.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Geremia, Hoskins, Morlando, Peters, Smith, Sollena, Chairman Nagy
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

EXPENDITURES

No comment on monthly financial report.

COMMENTS

Ms. Fania advised Board Members that a late fee reduction for pet licensing was proposed at the September 19 Township Committee meeting. Ms. Fania explained that the proposed amendments to the ordinance included a \$5 late fee reduced from \$25.00 up to 3 months (\$15.00 maximum) per pet or \$50.00 maximum per household in addition to a 30-day grace period.

Board Members inquired as to the reason for the proposed change. Discussion was held regarding compliance at the reduced fee rate and potential health impacts to the community and animal population; and impact to workload in the Clerk's office, Animal Control Services and the Court. All Board Members expressed opposition to the proposed amendments and concurred that Ms. Fania notify Township Committee Members of such.

Board Members also inquired as to the status of the property on Cherryville Hollow Road and commented on septic inspections by licensed professionals. Discussion was held regarding septic systems including inspection report quality; inspector qualifications; and knowledge among realtors. Ms. Hobbs commented on the need to educate realtors and improve the dissemination of information regarding septic systems among the community. She advised that she and an associate will present information on septic systems at the November breakfast meeting of the Hunterdon County Planning Board. Board Members inquired as to the potential for state permits regulating septic maintenance and discussed improvements to the Board of Health website including a link to the County website for septic information.

Ms. Fania advised the Board that Ordinance language regarding perc witness tests is currently being revised by the Township attorney and will be submitted for Board review at a future regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Nagy asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Mark Peters, seconded by Pat Morlando.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Fania
Board of Health Secretary