

RARITAN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
MARCH 17, 2016

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 February 26, 2016 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat and posted on the office bulletin board.

ATTENDANCE

In attendance were Board Members Deborah Hoskins, Venkata Lanka, Patrick Morlando, Carolee Zak, Tom Smith, Jeannie Geremia and Frank Nagy. Mark Peters and Tom Smith were absent. Also present was Tadhgh Rainey from the Hunterdon County Health Department.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 18, 2016

Present at this meeting were Chairman Frank Nagy, Board Members, Deborah Hoskins, Carolee Zak, Patrick Morlando, Mark Peters and Tom Smith.

Chairman Frank Nagy asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of February 18, 2016.

Motion was made by Carolee Zak and seconded by Patrick Morlando.

Roll Call Vote: Frank Nagy – yes
 Carolee Zak – yes
 Patrick Morlando – yes

Motion carried.

LIAISONS

STATE OF NEW JERSEY – Department of Health – Information on the Zika Virus. Guidelines for the testing and evaluation of infants with possible congenital Zika.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Tadhgh Raney of the Hunterdon County Health Department said that he would send a representative from the Health Department on a monthly basis. The Board requested that Daniel Wyckoff attend the monthly meetings, however, he has a conflict and cannot attend. In addition to that, he can provide a monthly report as to issues pertaining to Raritan Township. He also said that he will give an updated report on the septic systems that are newly installed or in need repair. The Board requested that this report be by address. Mr. Raney said that there is no license or certification to home inspections of septic systems. However, the County Health Department has some guidelines that there is some criteria in place for control. The inspectors must follow these guidelines by code when inspecting septic systems. Mr. Raney said he will send these guidelines to the Board.

Carolee Zak asked that she happened to see on facebook, a Flemington area woman had inspections done before she put her house on the market. They have never had a septic problem. The inspection passed. A prospective buyer comes along and has a person come in to inspect the septic system and it failed. The buyer walked away from the deal. She wanted to know how this could happen and what can be done to prevent this from happening again. She wanted to know if there is any mechanism in place to protect people who are in this situation.

Mr. Raney said that because there is no level of license, there is nothing that anyone can do. He usually suggests that people choose an inspector from outside of the area. There is also some conflicts of interest with some people. He mentioned that there is a lot of technology that is available that is more objective in terms of passing and failing septic systems. There are cameras and also pressure testing and dye testing. There is still a lot of grey areas. He felt that there should be proper certification and licensing. Mr. Raney said that inspection reports can be brought to the County Health Department for review from an objective point of view and check if anything stands out.

The Board discussed the possibility that if there are conflicting reports that the person could hire a licensed engineer to inspect the septic system. The homeowner/seller would have to pay for this inspection. The Board also discussed the possibility of having a County Seal in place on the report that they have reviewed it.

CORRESPONDENCE

RABIES UPDATE –

FOOD INSPECTION REPORTS – There were none.

RTMUA –

OLD BUSINESS

ABANDONED AND FORECLOSED PROPERTIES

The Secretary will obtain an updated list of abandoned and foreclosed properties in Raritan Township.

NEW BUSINESS

Block 73.03, Lot 6, 3 Garrett Drive – Septic Tank Distance Waiver

Engineer James Gillberg was present to explain why the waiver is requested. As per 7:9A-4.3, the distance can be reduced to five feet with special approval from the Board. This approval was as follows:

Carolee Zak made a motion to approve the foundation slab at 5.2 feet from the existing septic tank instead of the 10 foot setback requirement by code and seconded by Patrick Morlando.

Roll Call Vote: Venkata Lanka – yes
 Patrick Morlando – yes
 Carolee Zak – yes
 Jeannie Geremia – yes
 Frank Nagy – yes

Motion carried.

Block 15, Lot 89, 2 Britton Drive – Septic System Plans

Kurt Hoffman, Engineer, was present to explain that the toe of slope is less than 3.1 and the use of a boulder wall will be less than 10 feet from the property. .

Carolee Zak made a motion to approve the toe of slope less than 3.1 and the use of a boulder wall will be less than 10 feet from the property. This motion was seconded by Venkata Lanka. This is based on Item #2 of a letter from Robert Vaccarella of the County Health Department dated March 11, 2016.

Roll Call Vote: Deborah Hoskins – abstain
 Venkata Lanka – yes
 Patrick Morlando – yes
 Carolee Zak – yes
 Jeannie Geremia – yes
 Frank Nagy – yes

Motion carried.

Block 73, Lot 89 – Septic System Alternation (Peat System and Waiver) – 5 Garden Place

This matter was tabled.

EXPENDITURES – None

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Frank Nagy asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was made by Carolee Zak and seconded by Jeannie Geremia.

Vote: 6 – 0 motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Sollena, RMC/CMC
Secretary