

RARITAN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

May 19, 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 Mark Peters, Frank Nagy, Jeannie Geremia, Carolee Zak, Patrick Morlando, and Deborah Hoskins were absent. Venkata Lanka arrived at 7:45 pm Also present was Carla Hobbs and Christie Visokay from the Hunterdon County Health Department.

MINUTES OF May 21, 2016

Mark Peters made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 21 meeting, seconded by Patrick Morlando.

Roll Call-

Mark Peters Yes

Jeannie Geremia abstain
Deborah Hoskins abstain
Venkata Lanka yes
Patrick Morlando yes
Mark Peters yes
Carolee Zak abstain
Frank Nagy yes

Motion carried

LIAISONS

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT –

RABIES UPDATE – There were no positive test for Raritan Township for the month of April.

Christie Visokay distributed reports on rabies, food and septic reports.

SEPTIC SYSTEMS:

The County Health Department will investigate a home with a septic system reportedly discharging into an open trench.

Pinewood Court upgrade, Over 40 year old system with one trench.

10 Deer Trail, large tree roots disrupted bed, caused malfunction.

RTMUA – No report.

OLD BUSINESS –

FAILING SEPTIC SYSTEMS -

Douglas Fine, septic system engineer, told the board the many systems the need repairs end up requiring a redesign because the repair can't bring a system up to current standards. Fine said standards are largely based on the number of bedrooms, not bathrooms. Fine said each bedroom require additional size of the drainage bed. Many homes only have trenches, without beds or undersized beds.

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NEW BUSINESS

**BLOCK 41, LOT 16 OLD CROPTON ROAD – SEPTIC SYSTEM ALTERATION
WAIVER APPLICATION**

Douglas Fine was present to give an overview of this repair of a malfunctioning septic system. Fine told the board that soil conditions result in a high season water table but they will provide 48 inches of separation. Fine informed the board that the site also has a lot on impermeable rock so they cannot provide a 48 inch zone of disposal.

Motion was made by Frank Nagy and seconded by Carolee Zak to grant the waiver from the requirement of regional water table and the zone of disposal requirements.

Roll Call Vote: Venkata Lanka – yes
 Patrick Morlando – yes
 Mark Peters – yes
 Carolee Zak – yes
 Deborah Haskins – yes
 Jeannie Geremia - yes
 Frank Nagy - yes

Motion carried.

HOME INSPECTIONS FOR SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Morlando felt that too many septic systems are failing after a home inspection. Douglas Fine told the board that they could restrict who conducts septic test for home sales. Fine told the board that there are recommended protocols for septic tests but not all inspectors follow the protocol. Fine said the township could adopt a code to define qualification for septic inspectors. Carolee Zak asked if setting a standard would help weed out bad septic inspectors and reduce false fails of systems. Fines said licensed professionals would do a better job. He said he charges \$800 for an inspection. Patrick Morlando said \$800 is better than the cost installing a new system

ABANDONED AND FORECLOSED PROPERTIES – The Zoning Office has submitted an update list of abandoned and foreclosed properties. According to the Township’s ordinances, the owners of these properties must register with the Township.

Rose Sollena told the board that owners of 24 Sutphin Road were due back in court on a property maintenance violation.

COMMENTS:

EXPENDITURES – None

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion was made by Patrick Morlando Venkata Lanka and seconded by Frank Nagy.

Vote: 7 – 0 motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Bray
Secretary