

BOARD OF HEALTH – TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM
MEETING MINUTES
August 22, 2023 – 7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: *Wendy Parrinello, Board Secretary*

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Adequate Notice of this meeting of the Board of Health of the Township of Mendham was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to the Observer Tribune and Daily Record on January 31, 2023. Notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Township offices and notice was filed with the Township Clerk.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: *Led by Mr. John Atkins*

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. John Atkins
Mr. Nickolas Mitilenes
Mr. Benjamin Weber
Ms. Diane Tolley

APPROVAL OF JULY 25, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Weber makes a motion to approve the minutes with the two corrections stated. Mr. Atkins seconds the motion.

ROLL CALL: YES

Mr. Atkins
Mr. Mitilenes
Mr. Weber
Ms. Tolley

BUSINESS:

BLOCK 142 LOT 58

APPLICANT: Margaret Parker, 5 Indian Hollow Road

APPLICATION: Septic Alteration, Cottage Connection; Parker Engineering & Surveying P.C.

- Mr. Steve Parker, Parker Engineering & Surveying P.C. is in attendance and is representing the applicant for the septic alteration project at 5 Indian Hollow Road. Mr. Parker explains that there is a secondary unit on the property that the owners would like to use as a cottage for a caretaker. The original septic system for the primary structure was designed and installed in 1968, and at the time, was designed for a much larger home than what is there now. Mr. Parker explains that because of the oversized septic tank and field, there is sufficient capacity for the system to handle the flow from the proposed cottage. No changes to the existing septic field are required. A new septic

tank is required for the cottage, which would connect to the existing house and into the existing septic field. Mr. Parker states that the current system is in good working order and while the connection from the cottage to the existing home is considered an expansion, the proposed waste flow is still under what the system was designed for.

- Mr. Parker states that the cottage has not yet been built. Prior to the idea of the cottage, there was a garage unit that was destroyed by a fallen tree. The proposed cottage is to be built on the slab that remains from the previous structure.
- Mr. Weber asks what the standard age of a septic system is before it needs to be repaired or replaced? Mr. Parker states that all systems are different in terms of how long they will last. While this particular system is more than 50 years old, it was oversized and not used to its capacity, and therefore is still in good shape. The soil conditions are very favorable for a septic system. Mr. Parker states that he examined the system, however, he has not looked at the piping.
- Mr. Weber asks if there are any documents that can validate that the system is in fact 1750g now. Mr. Parker states that the original application and design plan are on file, however, there is no final as-built plan, as they were not typically completed back then.
- Mr. Parker and the Board discuss the memos provided by Ms. Freer and Mr. Korshalla.
- Architectural drawings were submitted for the cottage and indicate that the structure will be designed as a one-bedroom dwelling, however, the septic for the cottage will have the capacity to handle the flow of two-bedrooms – this is because the minimum flow of a septic system is 350g.
- Mr. Weber states that a note will need to be added to the plan which indicates that the cottage is currently designed for one-bedroom, but the septic system qualifies for a two-bedroom dwelling under current septic criteria. If there are any future physical modifications to the cottage, they will be subject to Township approvals, including Board of Health approval.
- Mr. Mills states that Zoning Officer, Len Perre, should be contacted regarding a secondary structure on one lot. Board of Health approval will not determine zoning approval. Mr. Parker states that the intention is to begin construction once all Board of Health and Board of Adjustment approvals are satisfied. Mr. Parker will be in touch with Mr. Perre.
- Mr. Weber states that a sketch or diagram of the layout of the interior of the home will be an acceptable measure to validate that the main house is a four-bedroom dwelling.
- Mr. Parker states that the oversizing of the septic system had to do with the accommodation of a garbage disposal system, however, is not sure that the disposal was ever installed, as there is not a final as-built on file.
- Mr. Weber asks if there is an alternate field for the septic system in the event that would be necessary. Mr. Parker states that there are nearly 20 acres – plenty of room to put in a new system if ever required.
- Mr. Weber proposes that the plans are approved with the following conditions:
 1. An inspection of the existing septic system to determine that the tank is sized accordingly and is functioning properly.
 2. Confirmation that a garbage disposal will not be used in either building.

3. Architecture or draft drawing that will satisfy Mr. Korshalla that the existing home is only a four-bedroom dwelling.
4. Add a note to the plan that states, if there are any future physical modifications to the cottage, they will be subject to Township approvals, including clearing the design and architectural with the Board of Health, and it would be subject to what is required of a two-bedroom cottage at that time.
5. The new septic tank will not be connected to the existing system until all Mendham Township zoning and building approvals have been satisfied.

ROLL CALL: YES

Mr. Atkins

Mr. Mitilenes

Mr. Weber

Ms. Tolley

BLOCK 139 LOT 99

APPLICANT: James Winter, 3 Colonial Road

APPLICATION: Septic Expansion; Careaga Engineering, Inc.

- Mr. Jeffrey Careaga, Careaga Engineering, Inc., is in attendance and is representing the applicant for the septic expansion at 3 Colonial Road. Mr. Careaga explains that the home is currently a three-bedroom dwelling with the intention to add two additional bedrooms. The design meets all state and local codes for a septic system. The proposed design is a pump system going up to a distribution box. The flow is designed for 800g per day, 1250g tank, reserve disposal area, fill enclosed system that fits in the rear yard and is appropriate for a 5-bedroom home.
- Mr. Careaga and the Board discuss the memos provided by Ms. Freer and Mr. Korshalla.
- Mr. Weber asks about the drainage pipe that will need to be removed. Mr. Winter, owner of 3 Colonial Road, explains that that pipe is part of the current drainage system. It's part of the roof leader that helps to transfer excess water from the gutters, which feeds into a drainage ditch, that ultimately drains off site.
- Mr. Weber asks what will happen to the water that was previously being collected and drained from that pipe. Mr. Careaga suggests that the roof leaders of the new addition are to be tied into that pipe. Mr. Careaga does not foresee the pipes being taken out of the ground past the building. It will likely be connections of the roof leaders to the new catch basin right next to the building.
- Mr. Weber asks if there are any questions from the Board.
- Mr. Weber make a motion to accept the application plans as presented. Mr. Mitilenes seconds the motion.

ROLL CALL: YES

Mr. Atkins
Mr. Mitilenes
Mr. Weber
Ms. Tolley

HEALTH OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORTS

Reviewed by Ms. Freer. Full reports available in the Board of Health Office

July, 2023

- Dr. Carlos Perez, Health Officer, continues to participate in conference calls hosted by the New Jersey Department of Health relative to grant funding.
- Dr. Perez reviewed Covid-19 clinic and homebound immunization reports and updates.
- Dr. Perez and Assistant Health Officer continue to work on the New Jersey Department of Health Enhancing Local Public Health Capacity (ELC) grant. Ms. Freer states that the County has received new supplies for septic and retail food inspections. In addition, dog waste dispensers with bags have been put in place in local municipalities.
- Mr. Mitilenes asks if there are any vaccine programs planned, particularly with children under 5 years of age. Ms. Freer has no information on that, but will inquire with her team.
- Immunization audits were conducted at the Sunrise Lake Camp and the Backer Farm Day Camp.
- The Health Education, Field Representative is creating weekly health and wellness flyers to be uploaded to municipal webpages.
- Mr. Weber asks if there have been any more issues with E. coli at the swimming facilities. Ms. Freer states that Sunrise Lake tested positive for E. coli several time over the past month. This is likely due to seasonal influence and environmental variables. Ms. Freer has suggested an aerator as a preventative maintenance plan.
- Ms. Freer created an informative packet regarding Mendham Township Board of Health Ordinance *Chapter 397: Water Supply Systems, Individual* requirements in comparison to New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection standards and surrounding municipalities.
- The booklet includes an analysis of the following:
 - a. A comparison of Mendham Township well testing requirements to other jurisdictions and the State of New Jersey.
 - b. The New Jersey Private Well Testing Act (PWTa) Primary and Secondary Drinking Water Standards
 - c. Mendham Township Required Water and Corrosivity Standards
 - d. New Jersey Private Well Test Reporting Form
 - e. Total Hardness, Calcium, Magnesium, and Private Well information Sheet
 - f. Corrosivity Fact Sheet
- A full copy of the report is available in the Board of Health Office.
- There was a brief discussion with the Board and Ms. Freer with regards to the Langelier Index test – the cost and the timing for results.

- Mr. Weber made a motion to accept the Health Officer's Report for the month of July as presented. Mr. Atkins seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: YES

Mr. Atkins

Mr. Mitilenes

Mr. Weber

Ms. Tolley

Meeting Adjourned: 8:42 pm