

MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING
ORONOCO TOWN BOARD
October 13, 2020 4:30 PM

A Special Meeting of the Oronoco Town Board was called to order on October 13, 2020 by Chair Charlie Lacy. Present: Supervisors Charlie Lacy, Ken Mergen and Tammy Matzke; Treasurer Kim Stanton, Clerk Lucy Shonyo. There were about 10 citizens in attendance as well as Pat Loomis from Gopher Septic, the septic system maintenance provider.

This meeting was held outdoors at the Cedar Beach septic site, 11371 Cedar Beach Drive NW.

Charlie Lacy stated the meeting was educational in purpose as most current supervisors were not on the town board for the planning and installation phases of the Cedar Beach system.

Charlie Lacy asked Pat Loomis from Gopher Septic to outline the issues at Cedar Beach. Pat Loomis made these observations:

- the issue is “the toes are leaking”, the mounds are not accepting the water; all leaking (the surface water coming to the surface) is coming from the bottom
- this has been a problem since day one, more problematic during wet weather
- all mounds are affected; one was fixed last year but that one remains a problem
- the problem is with construction, not design; there is insufficient absorption width; the 5’ absorption width is not present
- the system contains four cells that are being rotated on and off; the system can handle the flow with 2 - 3 working cells but the system is not functioning as it should in that the soil is not accepting water; each mound has a flow sensor which Gopher Septic monitors
- the solution is to add more fill and extend the toe
- water quality is good

About the odor noted by neighbors, Pat Loomis observed that this happens in the morning when the septic system is most active. Air must leave the system to allow water in. Pat Loomis suggested that the covers be replaced and vented, then covered with cedar chips. **Tammy Matzke moved to replace current covers with vented covers and top with cedar chips. Ken Mergen second, motion carried 3-0.** This will be done spring 2021.

Ken Mergen moved to adjourn at 5:50. Tammy Matzke second, motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lucy Shonyo, Clerk

Charlie Lacy, Chair