

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
October 15, 2012**

The Tewksbury Township Environmental Commission met at a regular meeting on the above date in the Municipal Meeting Hall, 60 Water Street, Mountainville, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m., roll call taken and a quorum established.

Present: Chairman Chris Teasdale, Mario Colitti, Joe Weber, Tom Schroth, Matt Grobert and Glenn Likus

Absent: Bruce Mackie, Mary Ace and Robert Hoffman

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

It was announced that adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by posting a copy thereof on the Municipal Building bulletin board, mailing a copy to the Hunterdon Review and the Hunterdon County Democrat, and filing with the municipal clerk, all on January 10, 2012.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Per the Commission discussion at the April 9, 2012 meeting the pledge of allegiance was not recited by the Commission members. Mr. Teasdale read into the record the Preamble of the Constitution:

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Teasdale opened the meeting up to the public. There being no one in the audience, Mr. Teasdale closed the public participation portion of the meeting.

MINUTES

The minutes of September 10, 2012 were approved by motion of Mr. Weber and seconded by Mr. Schroth. All were in favor. Mr. Grobert abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Weber made a motion acknowledging receipt of the following items of correspondence. Mr. Schroth seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- a) ANJEC Report – Autumn 2012.
- b) Information from the Raritan Headwaters Association re: Old Fashioned Country Fair, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2012.

Mr. Teasdale noted that he received a draft article on best practices regarding deer management. Mr. Likus remarked on the number of fawns and Mr. Grobert explained that a number of doe die

in harsh winters so not as many fawns are born but because of the mild winter last year there are more fawns. There has also been an increase in the number of fawns born to one doe; they used to have one (1) or maybe two (2) and lately it's been two (2) or three (3). When asked if the article mentions sterilization, Mr. Teasdale responded in the positive and noted that it points out the problem with delivery of the sterilization and the cost of delivery.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Forestry Advisory Board – Mr. Schroth noted that Ms. Goodchild forwarded an e-mail regarding a CEU seminar scheduled for Wednesday on invasive animal species and their impact on trees.

Mr. Schroth also noted that the FAB has added two (2) student representatives, a seventh and eighth grader that sit in on the meetings.

Pascale Advisory Committee – Mr. Teasdale had nothing to report.

Land Use Board – Due to Mr. Mackie's absence there was nothing to report. Mr. Schroth indicated that he heard that the Johnson family applied to the State to override the Land Use Board's decision. Mr. Teasdale thought that the Township Committee authorized the attorney to send a letter to the State supporting the Land Use Board's decision.

➤ Community Well Testing

Mr. Weber and Mr. Likus reported on the testing program and indicated that it ran smoothly with approximately 40 to 50 kits sold for each of the two (2) return dates. Mr. Teasdale thanked everyone for their involvement.

➤ Pascale Pond

Mr. Teasdale reported that a neighbor brought to the Township's attention that he had water chestnuts in his pond across the street from the Pascale Pond. Mr. Teasdale explained that he went to the Pascale pond to take a look and all of the lilies have died but the black seed pods are present. Mr. Schroth noted that the water chestnuts have started to appear in the rear pond on Pascale. When asked by Mr. Schroth if there is anything to inhibit the growth in the Spring, Mr. Teasdale was not sure but noted that he has heard that removal of the invasives is at least a five (5) year commitment. Mr. Grobert noted that it is more prevalent in shallow water. Mr. Teasdale suggested that the topic remain on the agenda so that it doesn't get forgotten. He suggested that the Commission write two (2) articles for the Times of Tewksbury alerting people to the issue, specifically in the Spring and Summer to raise awareness and then call on people to volunteer in the late summer to begin removal.

Mr. Colitti noted that he received a report of a discharge of chlorinated pool water in the vicinity of Dege Farm Road. The person that reported it to him took photographs of the offending homeowner. Mr. Colitti opined that the Zoning Officer should address the issue rather than the Environmental Commission taking action. Mr. Likus noted that every pool gets pumped out and Mr. Weber noted that much if not all of the chlorine evaporates after a period of time. Mr.

Teasdale opined that it would be best management advice to people with pools to not renew the chlorine a few weeks before they will be pumping their pool. Mr. Schroth opined that most people wouldn't waste money chlorinating their pool right before they drain it. Mr. Teasdale opined that it would be another great article for the Times of Tewksbury. A lengthy discussion ensued about pool water, runoff from roads and its cumulative impact on the streams and rivers.

Mr. Likus was curious if there are published best management practices for emptying a pool and Mr. Colitti agreed to research it.

Mr. Teasdale asked Mr. Grobert if he had the film of the dredging of the river he spoke about a few meetings ago and Mr. Grobert agreed to e-mail everyone the short film of the dredging. Mr. Grobert explained the process of the dredging and noted that they brought in 50,000 tons of stone and boulders to build the stream beds. A discussion ensued regarding the dams in Califon and High Bridge and various areas in need of restoration.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Schroth made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Mr. Colitti seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild