

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
April 9, 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 7:34 p.m., roll call taken and a quorum established.

Present: Chairman Chris Teasdale, Glenn Likus, Robert Hoffman, Mary Ace, Bruce Mackie, Joe Weber, Tom Schroth, Alt. #1 and Matt Grobert, Alt. #2.

Absent: Mario Colitti

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

Mr. Teasdale noted that there have been some questions about why the agenda includes the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Schroth explained that he brought it up at the last meeting and felt that a pledge of allegiance to a national flag and federation of states that are represented has no applicability to a local municipal Environmental Commission. He opined that it is irrelevant and on that basis objected to it being on the agenda. Mr. Hoffman noted that he didn't have an issue with it being on the agenda. Mrs. Ace found it to be arbitrary and noted that the Commission should have a say in what goes on the agenda. Mr. Weber didn't think reciting the pledge of allegiance would make the Commission do their work any better or any more patriotic. Others present didn't have a strong opinion one way or the other. Based on comments from the members Mr. Teasdale indicated that the Commission would skip the pledge of allegiance and he reminded the Commission that all of the members signed an Oath of Office.

Mr. Grobert arrived at this time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman 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 March 12, 2012 were approved with minor corrections on page 2 and 3 by motion of Mr. Schroth and seconded by Ms. Ace. All were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

- a) Notice from JCP&L dated March 26, 2012 regarding application to NJDEP for permits for driveways at Block 17, Lots 2.01 & 2.02 (related to LUB Appl. No. 12-04).
- b) Notice from Tewksbury Township regarding application to NJDEP Block 42, Lot 2 (29 Vliettown Road).
- c) A letter dated March 1, 2012 from NJDEP to Nextel regarding Highlands Act Exemption for Block 11, Lot 38.01.
- d) ANJEC Report, Spring 2012.
- e) A letter dated March 23, 2012 from Shana Goodchild re: JCP&L, Block 17, Lots 2.01 & 2.02 for individual driveways.
- f) A letter dated April 2, 2012 from Shana Goodchild re: Newell, Block 34, Lot 13.01 for variances for an addition to an existing structure.
- g) A letter dated April 4, 2012 from Shana Goodchild re: Cahill (Emmet), Block 42, Lot 6.01 for a conditional use for a low/moderate income apartment in an existing barn.

Item e) – Mr. Mackie explained that JCP&L appeared before the Land Use Board on April 4th for approval to construct new driveways to both the Kalb and Hernick residences from County Road 517. The purpose of the application is to also run conduit underground (through an existing easement) from the substation to the County road to get power from the substation to the County roadway. Mr. Mackie explained that the Board discussed the need for additional landscaping near the entrance onto Fox Hill Road and the applicant was instructed to work things out with the property owners and return in May. Mr. Teasdale offered to draft a letter indicating that the Commission did a cursory review and felt that the application was incomplete because the applicant didn't address the landscaping; the Commission agreed.

Item f) – The Commission reviewed the plans and application material and concluded that the recommendation will be to encourage the applicant to narrow some of the driveway to make up for the coverage. Mr. Likus agreed to draft a letter and get it to the Land Use Board prior to the public hearing.

Item g) – The Commission reviewed the plans and application material and concluded that the applicant should be required to make the unit COAH qualified. Mr. Mackie agreed to communicate the recommendation to the Land Use Board.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Update on E.C. Liaisons to other Boards/Committees (eg. Forestry Advisory Board, Land Use Board and Pascale Advisory Committee)

Forestry Advisory Board – Mr. Schroth explained that the current focus is on the Arbor Day ceremony scheduled for April 27, 2012. A gentleman from the Audubon Society is scheduled to speak to the Third Graders about bird habitat and birds. He explained that there was a desire to expand the program to other grades however Arbor Day falls on a State testing date; the Forestry Advisory Board would like to do a separate program in

May.

Land Use Board – Mr. Mackie noted that the final hearing for the Johnson Helistop will be in early May.

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Schroth made a motion to adjourn at 8:38 p.m. Mr. Weber seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild