

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES  
July 8, 2013**

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 7:37 p.m., roll call taken and a quorum established.

Present: Chairman Chris Teasdale, Mary Ace, Bruce Mackie and Glenn Stein, Alt. #1.

Absent: Mario Colitti, Glenn Likus, Robert Hoffman, Joe Weber and Matt Grobert, Alt. #2.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

Chairman Teasdale 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 15, 2013.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Those present stood and pledged allegiance to the American flag.

**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**

➤ June 10, 2013

Ms. Ace made a motion to approve the June 10, 2013 minutes. Mr. Stein seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

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

- a) A letter dated June 17, 2013 from Robert Horton re: dysfunctional septic systems and the impact on wells.
- b) A letter dated June 25, 2013 from Shana Goodchild re: Appl. No. 13-10, Snyder, Block 11, Lot 8.04.
- c) A letter dated July 8, 2013 from Shana Goodchild re: Appl. No. 13-09, Pomerantz, Block 34, Lot 19.13.

Mr. Teasdale noted that he called Mr. Horton regarding his letter of June 17<sup>th</sup> and discuss the letter. Mr. Teasdale noted that there are two (2) sewage treatment areas in Tewksbury (Oldwick and Pottersville) and residents are encouraged to test their wells annually. Ms. Ace noted that her property is served by the Oldwick system and residents are typically

alerted by the Township if there is a problem. She also noted that she has not had any trouble with the well on her property. Mr. Teasdale opined that it would be interesting to see a map of the sewer lines and location of wells in Oldwick. He suggested that the articles in the Times of Tewksbury regarding the annual well test program should encourage people to test their wells.

The Commission reviewed the Snyder application, Appl. No. 13-10, Block 11, Lot 8.04. The Commission noted that the applicant seeks relief from the impervious coverage limits in order to construct a circular driveway that would increase the lot coverage from 8.57% to 11.45%. The applicant should provide rationale as to why they need relief from the ordinance and why the ordinance poses a hardship. Mr. Teasdale noted that the application indicates that circular driveways are common in the area of the township; the Commission opined that it was not a valid reason for a hardship.

The Commission found no evidence in any of the material as to why the proposed coverage is justified and found that the proposed mitigation was irrelevant and the coverage limit should not be trivially overturned. The Commission authorized Mr. Teasdale to draft a letter to the Land Use Board outlining the above.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### ➤ Pascale Pond – Water Chestnut Harvesting – July 10, 2013

Mr. Teasdale announced that harvesting was scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup> and volunteers will help throughout the day. He noted that Mario discovered that a township in Hunterdon County is using a herbicide to kill the water chestnuts and he was provided with the spec sheets from the product used; it is unclear which process is more efficient (herbicide treatment vs. removing the vegetation).

#### ➤ Annual Water Testing Dates

Mr. Teasdale and Mr. Mackie noted that the water test sample return dates will be October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and kits will go on sale in September. Mr. Teasdale offered to put an article in the Times of Tewksbury.

Mr. Stein recused himself from the meeting at 8:11 p.m. so the Commission could discuss the Pomerantz application.

The Commission reviewed the Pomerantz application, Block 34, Lot 19.13. It was noted that the applicant was seeking relief from impervious coverage and steep slope limits in order to construct an in-ground swimming pool; the coverage would increase from 6.8% to 7.42%. Because of the small area of steep slopes (86 sq. ft.) the Commission did not have any concerns about the minimal disturbance. The Commission opined that the applicant could maintain their current coverage percentage by removing the donut-shaped loop of driveway. The elimination of the existing turn around driveway would allow the Land Use Board to hold firm on the maximum permitted coverage which furthers the Master Plan and DRO. The Commission authorized Mr. Teasdale to draft a letter to the Land Use Board outlining the above comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Ms. Ace made a motion to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. Mr. Mackie seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild