

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
July 14, 2014**

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 7:32 p.m., roll call taken and a quorum established.

Present: Chairman Chris Teasdale, Mario Colitti, Bruce Mackie, Glenn Stein, Mary Ace arrived at 7:39 p.m., Matt Grobert, Alt. #1 and Geoffrey Connor, Alt. #2.

Absent: Glenn Likus and Robert Hoffman.

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 16, 2014.

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 questions from the audience, Mr. Teasdale closed the public participation portion of the meeting.

MINUTES

- May 12, 2014 (tabled from June)

The minutes of May 12, 2014 were approved by motion of Mr. Colitti and seconded by Mr. Grobert. All were in favor. Mr. Stein and Mr. Mackie abstained.

- June 9, 2014

The minutes of June 9, 2014 were approved by motion of Mr. Mackie and seconded by Mr. Connor. All were in favor. Mr. Colitti and Mr. Grobert abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Stein 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 16, 2014 from the NJDEP Division of Water Monitoring & Standards re: the public hearing on the Total Maximum Daily Load Report for the Non-Tidal Raritan River Basin Addressing Total Phosphorus, Dissolved Oxygen, pH and Total Suspended Solids Impairments.
- b) 2014 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards application.
- c) ANJEC Report, summer 2014.

- d) A copy of a letter dated July 1, 2014 from NJDEP Division of Water Quality to Bellemead Development Corp. re: Final Surface Water Renewal Permit Action, NJPDES Permit No. NJ0102563, Route 78 Office Area WWTF.

The Commission discussed item d) and Mr. Teasdale noted that he briefly read through the report and one rationale given for approving the permit is that the Bellemead property is a potential area for transfer of development rights. He reminded Commission members that NJDEP held public meetings a few years ago where the NJDEP took public comment on the renewal of the permit for Bellemead's wastewater treatment plant. When asked if there is anything being built on the property, Mr. Teasdale responded in the negative.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Water Chestnut Treatment at Pascale

Mr. Grobert and Mr. Teasdale both reported that the ponds at Pascale are clear with the only sign of the water chestnuts being the black seed pods on the banks of the pond. Mr. Grobert mentioned that he saw a gentleman picking up the seed pods when he was there. Mr. Teasdale noted that he photographed the seed pods floating and the ones embedded in the muck to keep track of the process. Mr. Grobert explained that the pods that float won't sprout but the seeds in the sediment will grow.

- Updates – Land Use Board

Mr. Mackie reported that the attorney for the Cellco Partnership cell tower application has asked to postpone their hearing again in order to have more time to prepare revised plans and exhibits. When asked if there are alternate locations such as the church tower or existing transmission tower, Mr. Mackie noted that the Board has asked the applicant to look into those scenarios and return to the Board. Mr. Mackie spoke of the transmission tower off of Hill and Dale Road that was identified as a potential spot in the applicant's report but the property owner did not respond to the applicant's letters requesting to co-locate.

Mr. Mackie reported on the Sprint Spectrum cell tower application on Longview Road which was approved by the Land Use Board on July 2, 2014; it is proposed on an existing transmission tower. The questions raised by the Environmental Commission regarding lighting were addressed at the hearing; no lights at the top of the tower are proposed. The only lighting will be down facing lights on the equipment which will be on only when the service person is at the property. There will be no permanent generator on site; in the event of a power failure a portable generator will be brought to the site.

- Annual Community Well Test Program – review and discuss article for Times of Tewksbury

Mr. Mackie prepared a draft article for the Times of Tewksbury and shared it with the Commission for their approval; the language and pricing is the same as last year. The Commission had one (1) minor correction and approved the article for publication. Discussion ensued regarding mapping the results and Mr. Mackie noted that last year Raritan Headwaters

Association was starting to put together the software and data packages. Mr. Mackie offered to reach out to Raritan Headwaters Association about the project.

Mr. Mackie will prepare another article for September as a reminder to residents that the well test kits are on sale.

Mr. Teasdale noted that there was an article in a local paper regarding a deer survey being conducted. Mr. Grobert indicated that he received the survey via e-mail and offered to forward the link to the survey to the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Colitti made a motion to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. Mr. Mackie seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild
Land Use Administrator