

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
February 10, 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 7:30 p.m., roll call taken and a quorum established.

Present: Chairman Chris Teasdale, Mario Colitti, Mary Ace, Bruce Mackie, Glenn Likus and Glenn Stein.

Absent: Robert Hoffman, Matt Grobert, Alt. #1, and Geoffrey Connor, Alt. #2.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Chris 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 one in the audience, Mr. Teasdale closed the public participation portion of the meeting.

MINUTES

➤ January 13, 2014

Mr. Stein made a motion to approve the January 13, 2014 minutes. Mr. Mackie seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Likus abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

- a) A letter dated January 13, 2014 from Thomas Sheppard of the County of Hunterdon Division of Parks and Recreation re: the Fourteenth Annual Earth Day Celebration scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2014.
- b) A copy of a letter dated January 24, 2014 from Gregory Meese to S. Goodchild re: revised site plan exhibits for Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon, 19 King Street, Block 44, Lot 26.

The Commission passed on participating in the County Annual Earth Day for 2014.

Mr. Teasdale displayed for the Commission the site plan from Cellco/Verizon which shows an alternative design of a silo. He noted that the silo has been proposed on the

ridge which in turn requires a shorter structure (86 feet as opposed to 130 foot windmill). Mr. Teasdale noted that on page 9 of 13 (alternate locations) the applicant calls out several PSE&G towers that were rejected however one (1) tower (#13-1) was approved by Verizon however, according to the report, the landowner failed to respond to numerous letters to locate the equipment on their property. Mr. Teasdale opined that the Commission should urge the Township to talk to the owner of the property where the tower is located; several Commission members speculated that the tower is located on either the Oei or Reynolds property.

The Commission discussed sending a letter to the Township Committee recommending that someone from the Township contact the landowner to discuss siting the cell tower on the PSE&G tower located on their land.

The Commission reviewed the exhibits and photographs provided by the applicant showing the renderings of the proposed silo and proposed windmill. Mr. Teasdale opined that the access drive to the proposed silo appeared shorter than the access drive to the proposed windmill. Mr. Colitti noted that there is no provision in the applicants application for removal of the structure when the technology becomes obsolete.

At approximately 7:55 p.m. Mr. Stein had to leave the meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the future of the quarry and any impact that will have on a silo that is located on the ridge.

After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Teasdale agreed to send a letter to the Land Use Board requesting views of the silo from the west side as it appears that it may be unnaturally high as well as requesting obsolescence plans. Also, he agreed to send a letter to the Township Committee recommending that they form a panel to further explore the possibility of tower #13-1 as identified in the applicant's report (with a copy to the Land Use Board).

DISCUSSION ITEMS

➤ 2014 ANJEC Grant

Mr. Teasdale noted that last year the Commission was awarded grant money to pay for one (1) day with the Truxor to remove water chestnuts from the Pascale Pond. He suggested applying for a grant to pay for the herbicide treatments but the grant needs community involvement; the application of herbicides doesn't call for community involvement. Ms. Ace suggested a public awareness project for a class at the Tewksbury Elementary School. Mr. Teasdale noted that the kids would be on summer vacation during the period when the chestnuts bloom. He offered to send an e-mail to Jim Miller, Principal, to inquire about involving the kids at the school.

Mr. Teasdale noted that he will not be present at the March 10th meeting but would report back via e-mail prior to that meeting. If there is no interest with the school, plan B could be a public event of some type. If there are any other ideas for an ANJEC grant Mr.

Teasdale asked Commission members to contact him.

➤ Updates – Land Use Board

Mr. Mackie noted that the next public hearing for the Cellco/Verizon cell tower application is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Old Turnpike School.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Mackie made a motion to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. Mr. Likus seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild