

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
December 14, 2015**

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: Chris Teasdale, Chairman, Mario Colitti, Bruce Mackie, Geoffrey Connor, Alt. #1 and Mary Ace arrived at 7:41 p.m.

Absent: Matt Grobert, Glenn Likus and Robert Hoffman.

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 13, 2015.

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

➤ November 9, 2015

The minutes of November 9, 2015 were approved as submitted by motion of Mr. Teasdale and seconded by Mr. Colitti. All were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

- a) A letter dated November 23, 2015 from NJDEP to Margaret Stephens re: Block 15, Lot 8.03, Highlands Act – Exemption #1.
- b) Public notice dated November 11, 2015 from the Hunterdon County Engineering Department re: Application for request for NJDEP freshwater wetlands general permits #1 and flood hazard area individual permit for Structure No. T-38 (Homestead Rd over Hollow Brook).
- c) Public notice dated November 11, 2015 from the Hunterdon County Engineering Department re: Application for request for NJDEP freshwater wetlands general permits #1 and flood hazard area

individual permit for Structure No. T-28 (McCan Mill Rd over Hollow Brook).

- d) Public notice dated November 13, 2015 from the Hunterdon County Engineering Department re: Application for request for NJDEP freshwater wetlands general permits #1 and flood hazard area individual permit for Structure No. R-24 (Mill Rd over Rockaway Creek) – Readington Township.
- e) Public notice dated November 12, 2015 from the Hunterdon County Engineering Department re: Application for request for NJDEP freshwater wetlands general permits #1 and flood hazard area individual permit for Structure No. L-116 (Trimmer Rd over Teetertown Brook) – Lebanon Township.
- f) A letter dated December 1, 2015 from Gregory Meese to Shana Goodchild re: withdrawing Cellco Partnership application, Blk 44, Lot 26.
- g) A letter dated December 2, 2015 from Raritan Headwaters Assoc. re: 26th Annual Watershed-wide Annual Stream Cleanup.
- h) A letter dated December 9, 2015 from Shana Goodchild re: Appl. No. 15-16, Request for an Interpretation, Block 23, Lot 20.

Mr. Connor commented on the bridge being repaired near his home and when asked if it is being widened he responded in the negative.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the withdrawal of the Cellco Partnership application.

Discussing item g) above Mr. Colitti and Mr. Teasdale agreed to draft an article for the Times of Tewksbury for the February edition to announce the April Stream Clean-up event. Mr. Teasdale also suggested sending a notice to both the Old Turnpike and Tewksbury Elementary Schools.

The Commission discussed item h) above and the Commission agreed to make note that the applicant should be careful not to place the pillars within the 300 foot stream buffer and to also seek approval from the Scenic Roads and Bridges Commission. Mr. Teasdale offered to draft a memo to the Land Use Board.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Pascale Pond – Update on Water Chestnuts Eradication/ANJEC 2015 Grant

Mr. Teasdale noted that he spoke to Americorps intern Mara Tippet and she is still willing to help the Commission monitor and help pull water chestnuts from the pond if any crop up.

- Updates – Land Use Board

Mr. Mackie had nothing new to report. He noted that the Land Use Board is wading

through all of the COAH regulations.

Discussion ensued regarding the Merck site in Readington Township and its future.

Ms. Ace expressed her disappointment in the outcome of the Preziosi application that was approved by the Land Use Board. Mr. Mackie opined that the Board listens to the Environmental Commission's recommendations but he suspects that there are some members of the Land Use Board that view the Commission's comments as more conceptual/theoretical than legal. Mr. Mackie noted that the Land Use Board Chairman addressed the vote at the following meeting expressing his surprise at the outcome of the decision and the lack of a more robust discussion prior to the vote. The Land Use Board members agreed that going forward there should be more discussion prior to the vote. Mr. Teasdale agreed but noted that when the Land Use Board has taken a stand about applications they get overturned (i.e. the helistop and JCP&L substation). Ms. Ace suggested asking the Land Use Board to look back at certain types of applications that have been approved to revisit their processes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Mackie made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Ms. Ace seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild
Land Use Administrator