

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES  
November 9, 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, Matt Grobert, Geoffrey Connor, Alt. #1 and Glenn Likus arrived at 7:50 p.m.

Absent: Mary Ace 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.

**MINUTES**

➤ October 19, 2015

The minutes of October 19, 2015 were approved by motion of Mr. Connor and seconded by Mr. Colitti with a correction to page two (2). All were in favor. Mr. Grobert abstained.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Teasdale opened the meeting up to the public.

Mara Tippet, Watershed Ambassador at the Raritan Headwaters Association (RHA) was present and explained that during the year she works with RHA and gives presentations to school and scout groups on various topics including stewardship, water quality, invasive species, stream health, etc. Ms. Tippet offered her assistance on any projects in Tewksbury and noted that she is aware of the ongoing effort to eradicate the water chestnuts from the Pascale Pond.

Mr. Teasdale noted that the Commission has been battling the water chestnuts for years and explained that the Township took every effort possible to rid the pond of the invasive before finally applying herbicide. When asked what methods were employed, Mr. Teasdale explained that volunteers tried to remove them by hand and then a grant was secured to pay for the use of a Truxor machine. Those methods were unsuccessful so the Township decided to have the herbicide applied to the pond which has been successful. Mr. Teasdale noted that the most recent grant was a small amount from ANJEC to help

pay for the herbicide treatment. The deliverables for the grant involved some public outreach and presentations and hands on participation with students from the Tewksbury Elementary School. He noted that the Township has decided to halt the herbicide application in 2016 in hopes that the re-growth could be hand harvested by volunteers.

Mr. Teasdale explained that while working with the third graders at the Tewksbury Elementary School the teachers expressed interest in exploring the invasives at the upper pond (smaller pond behind the school building) and he suggested that Ms. Tippet contact the teachers to see if they need help with that project.

Mr. Teasdale spoke briefly about the well testing and stream cleanup projects that Tewksbury participates in annually.

Ms. Tippet encouraged Commission members to contact her if there are any projects that she can help with in Tewksbury Township.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- None

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Updates – Land Use Board

Mr. Mackie noted that the Board reviewed and approved a request for a small addition to a home on Sawmill Road.

Mr. Teasdale noted that the Land Use Board approved the Preziosi application without much give back from the applicant and Mr. Teasdale opined that the Land Use Board abdicated on their responsibility to protect the Master Plan. While he was not present for the vote, Mr. Mackie noted that it was a split vote and that the Land Use Board Chairman thought the Board members should have had more debate about their feelings on the application before the vote took place.

Mr. Mackie noted that much of the Land Use Board's time has been spent talking about COAH and the looming deadline, build out numbers, etc.

- Community Well Test Program Update

Mr. Mackie thanked Mr. Teasdale and Mr. Connor for helping and noted that sales were a little lower this year but he noted that it goes up and down from year to year. Mr. Teasdale suggested that the Commission prepare an article on the test results and note that it is an annual event and encourage residents to participate. The Commission discussed different ways to encourage participation in the event.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Mackie made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. Mr.

Connor seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild  
Land Use Administrator