

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES  
December 12, 2016**

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 7:35 p.m., roll call taken and a quorum established.

Present: Chris Teasdale, Chairman, Bruce Mackie, Mary Ace, Matt Grobert, Mario Colitti, Geoffrey Connor and Rodney McCatharn, Alt. #1 arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Absent: Glenn Likus

**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, 2016.

**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 14, 2016

The minutes of November 14, 2016 were approved by motion of Mr. Connor and seconded by Mr. Teasdale. All were in favor. Ms. Ace, Mr. Grobert and Mr. Colitte abstained.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Mackie made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the following items of correspondence. Mr. Connor seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- a) Notice of a Highlands Applicability Determination Application from Cellco Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, Block 11, Lot 38.01.
- b) A copy of a letter dated December 2, 2016 from E2 Project Management LLC to the NJ Highlands Council re: Notification of NJDEP Highlands Exemption Application for Verizon Wireless, Block 11, Lot 38.01.
- c) A letter dated December 1, 2016 from Shana Goodchild re: Appl. No. 16-15, Nirchio, Block 35, Lot 9, Use, setback and sign variances.

The Commission reviewed and discussed the application in items a and b above and agreed that Mr. Mackie would communicate concerns at the Land Use Board regarding access to the pad by construction and/or maintenance equipment and lighting/noise for equipment/generator. It was noted the Land Use Board may have already heard this application.

The Commission reviewed and discussed the application in item c above and the Commission did not see any environmental concerns, although proximity to water/Class I stream was apparent; there was no map of water courses or topography. Mr. Mackie noted that the applicant appeared before the Land Use Board informally and he does not believe they will be offering retail space. The Commission opined that the application is really a zoning issue for both use and setbacks although the Commission asked Mr. Mackie to ask if the aromas would impact neighbors and what the traffic impact would be for deliveries/purchases.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### ➤ Updates – Land Use Board

Mr. Mackie noted that the Melick Bernards LLC bought the former Oldwick Fire House in Oldwick and they applied to the Land Use Board for a use variance for storage and also food preparation. He noted that the building currently contains a kitchen and there is no expansion allowed because the building is surrounded by a cemetery. The applicant testified that the existing building would be used to store farm equipment and food would be prepared in the existing kitchen and sold at the Melick Farm Market and other locations. Mr. Teasdale noted that when the Commission reviewed the application the only concern was whether the Oldwick sewer could handle the increase in sewer from the proposed food preparation. Mr. Mackie explained that the testimony was that this type of operation is rated lower than a residential use. When asked if the Board approved the application, Mr. Mackie responded in the positive and noted that a condition of approval requires that the applicant demonstrate to the Township Sewer Engineer that the capacity would not exceed the one (1) sewer unit that they currently have allocated.

Mr. Mackie also noted that the Board will receive an affordable housing update at the next Land Use Board meeting.

#### ➤ Pascale Pond – Water Chestnuts

Mr. Teasdale reiterated that herbicides would be applied in the Spring.

#### ➤ 2017 Budget

Mr. Teasdale noted Ms. Goodchild always covers in the Land Use budget the basics for membership dues, training, etc. The Commission requested a ceiling mounted or portable projector in Mountainville (\$900 Epson projector) for slides/map projections at township meetings to be used by the Township Committee, Land Use Board and

Environmental Commission, etc.

Mr. Colitti reported that he received an e-mail from the Raritan Headwaters asking if Tewksbury would like to focus the 2017 Annual Stream Cleanup on the Route 78 park and ride area rather than having a combined cleanup with Califon. The Commission was in favor of concentrating on the Tewksbury site noting that it is adjacent to a C1 stream and asked Mr. Colitti to relay that message to Raritan Headwaters. Mr. Teasdale suggested discussing the 2017 Annual Stream Cleanup at the January meeting along with a blurb for the Times of Tewksbury February edition.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Grobert made a motion to adjourn at 8:33 p.m. Mr. Mackie seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild  
Land Use Administrator