

TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

October 2, 2006

Chairman, Stephen Sangle, called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Maryellen Gabay (Left early), Gillian Hemstead, Timothy Metcalf, Douglas Ott, Stephen Sangle, Bernie Stapleton. Alternates: Irene Smith, Andrew Abdul. Planning Director: William Drew. GIS Specialist: Robert Sparkes

Absent: Daniel Kochakji.

Chairman appointed Ms. Smith to sit for absent member.

NEW BUSINESS

STORM DRAINS: Matthew Gabay was present and advised that he planned to have the stenciling of the storm drains completed by the end of the month. He noted that the delay in finishing the project was due to the weather.

AUTUMN LIGHTS FESTIVAL: Robert Sparkes advised that he had compiled a list of the various handouts available for distribution at the Festival. William Drew noted that the list along with copies of the various handouts would be sent to the Township Engineer for forwarding to the DEP as part of the educational component of the Stormwater Management Plan. Irene Smith to supply photographs of the water sampling team for display.

Andrew Abdul advised that he had received several items from the EPA with regard to maintenance of septic systems. This information was to be distributed at the Festival. Mr. Abdul to obtain a cost estimate for magnets to remind residents to maintain their septic systems.

FERTILIZER ORDINANCE: Robert Sparkes to prepare information on the use of low phosphorous fertilizers for distribution at Autumn Lights. Members discussed various aspects of the ordinance such as the cost of these fertilizers; what constitutes an exemption; what is the definition of a newly established lawn; and the matter of licensing for commercial applicators. It was recommended that the licenses be numbered and that the contractor's Township and DEP numbers be displayed on their trucks. Members suggested that an article be prepared for the newspapers to inform the residents of the benefits of using these fertilizers. Members recommended that the Council defer the second reading pending further discussion by the Commission. Comments to be prepared for the next meeting.

APPLICATIONS

WOODWARD BALL AND CORINNE BALL, Preliminary and Final Site Plan #0620-0253, Block 16005; Lots 8 and 9, 25 Paradise Road; LMI Zone. Request for waiver of Environmental Impact Statement. The applicant was represented by Steven Ross, Esq., who explained the proposed project. Members expressed concern regarding the number of vehicles to be parked on the property and the potential runoff of oil, etc. from this equipment. The Commission requested a limited EIS be submitted to clarify the intended use of the property; where the vehicles would be parked; the number and type of vehicles being used by the applicant; the methods proposed to contain any leaking oil, or fluids into the watershed; where the various landscaping materials are to be stored; and, the proposed lighting.

ON GOING BUSINESS

BELCHERS CREEK FECAL TESTING GRANT: Robert Sparkes reported that the canoe crew had conducted six tests and the results of the tests had been received. It was suggested that the samples be taken from a site upstream of a number of hot spots that were identified. Members to compare the tests and determine sites to be tested under the 604b grant.

604(B) GRANT APPLICATION: Robert Sparkes reported that the grant had been renewed. The total amount of the grant was for \$108,217.

GREENWOOD LAKE 319H GRANT: Mr. Sparkes advised that the sample statistics were available and could be emailed to the members. He further noted that a resolution had been received from the County. He also noted that the pre-application for the 2007 grant had been accepted. Princeton Hydro to proceed with the application.

STREETSCAPE VISIONING: William Drew advised that he had not received the report on the final visioning session.

COUNTY OPEN SPACE PLAN: 2005 Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Agreement received for Westbrook Tennis & Basketball Courts and Eagle Ridge. William Drew noted that a series of documents had been received from the County Open Space Committee regarding prior open space applications that had been filed with the County. It was suggested that the Township pursue the purchase of property along Larsen Road, which would provide connectivity between the KOA property and Norvin Green. Site inspection to be scheduled. Memo to be sent to Township Council advising that the Commission was interested in the property.

ENERGY COMMITTEE: Timothy Metcalf reported that the committee had met on September 25th. A member of Honeywell gave a presentation on their program, which was favorably received by the committee.

LAKES COMMITTEE: Report provided by Irene Smith. She noted that William Drew had attended the last meeting to discuss the FAR and fertilizer ordinances with the members. Committee appeared interested and were to discuss the ordinance in detail with the Planning Board.

URBAN FORESTRY GRANTS: No report.

COMMUNITY FORESTRY PLAN: Letter dated August 9, 2006 from Ronald Farr, North Jersey District Water Supply Commission, requesting a letter of support for project. Commission's recommendation referred to the Administrator, who requested additional information. Mr. Farr to be requested to send letter to the Administrator outlining the proposal.

STREETSCAPE GRANT: Finding of no significant environmental impact. Nothing further to report.

MINUTES

MOTION made by Douglas Ott, seconded by Steven Sangle, to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2006 regular meeting. On voice vote all eligible members voted in the affirmative.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The following correspondence was noted and filed:

Copy of letter from the Bureau of Underground Storage Tanks to SBP Petroleum requesting additional testing on property located at 555 Warwick Turnpike.

Letter dated September 7, 2006 from Civil Dynamics, Inc. advising that they are applying for a General Permit for the rehabilitation of the Gordon Lakes Dam, Block 12307;l Lot 16.

HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING ACT

The following correspondence was noted and filed:

Notices that the following applicants have applied for a Highlands Applicability Determination:

Coppolla Family, 30 Rocky Point Road, Greenwood Lake. Attached letter explaining the need to expedite the application in order to permit the work to be performed during the brief drawdown period of the lake.

Karin Seruga, 29 Lake Park Terrace, Block 4201; Lot 22.

New Cingular Wireless, 333 Warwick Turnpike, Block 2801; Lot 3.

Determinations from the DEP regarding the following applications:

Vincent Lanza, 783 Macopin Road, Block 12110; Lot 5.01. Notice of Technical Incompleteness.

Vincent Lanza, 775 Macopin Road, Block 12108; Lot 1. Notice of Technical Incompleteness.

Ernest Oakes, Burnt Meadow Road, Block 6002; Lot 44.03. Wetland boundaries established.

CORRESPONDENCE – None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Councilman Joseph Smolinski expressed concern regarding the handling of the testing on the property located at 555 Warwick Turnpike. Health Department to be contacted as to the status of the matter. Mr. Smolinski also requested information with regard to the presentation made to the Lakes Committee regarding FAR and fertilizers.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace R. Davis
Secretary