

TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

November 6, 2006

Chairman, Stephen Sangle, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Daniel Kochakji, Timothy Metcalf.

Chairman appointed Ms. Smith and Mr. Abdul to sit for absent members.

APPLICATIONS

FRANK AND CHARLES DECKER, Amended Preliminary & Final Site Plan #0620-0130, Block 6404; Lot 1.02, Greenwood Lake Turnpike; CC Zone. The members expressed concern regarding the proposed maintenance of equipment and recommended that the floor be pitched inward and a sump pump installed to control any spillage within the building. The members also requested that the fuel dispenser at the rear of the property be fully contained and all safety features be installed. With regard to lighting it was recommended that all overflow of lighting on to adjacent properties be eliminated.

TELECOMMUNICATION APPLICATIONS

NEW YORK SMSA LIMITED, D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS (WOOLEY ROAD), Preliminary and Final Site Plan #0620-0262, Block 9901; Lot 39, 17 Wooley Road; R-4 Zone. Request for waiver of Environmental Impact Statement. Members granted a waiver of the requirement to submit a limited Environmental Impact Statement. However, concerns were expressed regarding the size and color of the proposed equipment shelter. It was recommended that the color of the cabinet should blend in with the surrounding area.

MOTION made by Stephen Sangle, seconded by Douglas Ott, to waiver the requirement for an Environmental Impact Statement.

Roll call vote: Yes - Maryellen Gabay, Gillian Hemstead, Douglas Ott, Stephen Sangle, Bernie Stapleton, Irene Smith, Andrew Abdul.

No - None

ON GOING BUSINESS

BELCHERS CREEK FECAL TESTING GRANT: Robert Sparkes introduced Anthony Coleman, the new Watershed Ambassador from the Americorps program, who will be working with Pat Rector of the DEP. Mr. Coleman explained that he would be performing some stream assessments in the Township and working on a stream bank restoration project.

Robert Sparkes reported that he had not received the results of the final test performed by the canoe crew. Mr. Sparkes noted that this work completes the grant. A final report to be completed and copies emailed to Commission members upon receipt. Mr. Ott noted that the crew started with ten sites, which was increased to 12 to 15 samples during the final stages. Several issues were noted by the crew and reported to the Health Department for review, which is investigating the situations.

Mr. Sparkes further noted that this was an Environmental Services grant and suggested a letter be sent regarding the continuation of these grants. Members suggested applying for a grant to test for nitrates and phosphates in Belchers Creek. It was further requested that these tests not overlap testing being done by other entities.

MOTION made by Stephen Sangle, seconded by Irene Smith, to apply for a grant for the testing of nitrates and phosphates and other contaminants, which would support a proposed fertilizer ordinance. On voice vote all members voted in the affirmative.

604(B) GRANT APPLICATION: Robert Sparkes reported that he had received the final signed agreement and meeting has been scheduled with Princeton Hydro and Pat Rector for December 11th. Mr. Sparkes will report further at the next Commission meeting.

GREENWOOD LAKE 319H GRANT: Robert Sparkes advised that next phase of this grant is the implementation of the BMPs on the County road. A Township resolution is required. Fred Lubnow is to attend a Council present a synopsis of the grant to the Township Council at a future meeting. Once the resolution the grant will be put out for bids. He also advised that the Greenwood Lake Commission is applying for a federal grant, which would coincide with the Township grant.

STREETSCAPE VISIONING: William Drew advised that a draft report was received and was being reviewed. The environmental assessment process has been completed and a formal application needs to be submitted by the end of the year. Bids for the design phase are scheduled for spring of 2007. It is also anticipated that the County Enhancement report will be finalized by that time.

COUNTY OPEN SPACE PLAN: 2005 Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Agreement received for Westbrook Tennis & Basketball Courts and Eagle Ridge. No additional information.

ENERGY COMMITTEE: Tim Metcalf was not present, but submitted the following report, which was read by the Chairman: 1) The Township is in the process of gathering utility invoices for the last 2 years to provide to Honeywell along with a list of building and their associated criteria (square footage, location, use, type of HVAC system, etc.) This is the first step in the process. Once Honeywell reviews this they will identify if there is a significant enough savings potential to proceed. 2) The Police Chief has been invited to attend the November meeting to discuss options for more fuel-efficient vehicles. 3) Many other energy programs are being investigated for potential application in West Milford.

LAKES COMMITTEE: Irene Smith advised that no meeting was held.

URBAN FORESTRY GRANTS: William Drew noted that the boardwalk would be assessed over the winter to determine if any further repairs are required. Members requested a letter and photographs be sent to Trex thanking them for their the wood they provided to replace the damaged boards.

COMMUNITY FORESTRY PLAN: Letter dated August 9, 2006 from Ronald Farr, North Jersey District Water Supply Commission, requesting a letter of support for project. Discussion. Members requested another letter be sent to the Township Council advising that the Commission is greatly in favor of this project and requesting the Council support this project of the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

AUTUMN LIGHTS FESTIVAL: Douglas Ott reported on the Commission's participation at the Festival. Use of left over literature discussed. Maryellen Gabay advised that Matthew Gabay had made a presentation to the MUA. She also reported that the stenciling was scheduled to be completed by next week. At the request of William Drew, Ms. Gabay volunteered to provide a written summary of the Commission's activities at the Festival for forwarding to the Township Engineer for inclusion his yearly report.

LAWN FERTILIZERS: William Drew noted that a request from the Township Council for further review of this ordinance had not been received.

MISCELLANEOUS

GAS STATION – UGL: Robert Sparkes provided a report on the letter from the Bureau of Underground Storage Tanks to SBP Petroleum regarding additional testing on property located at 555 Warwick Turnpike.

WELL DATA: Robert Sparkes advised that the well permit data was received from the Health Department and he was in the process of mapping this data.

MINUTES

MOTION made by Stephen Sangle, seconded by Bernie Stapleton, to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2006 regular meeting. On voice vote all eligible members voted in the affirmative.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

William Drew noted that the DEP correspondence was increasing significantly and suggested that the listing of these letters be eliminated from future Commission agendas. Commission agreed that it was no longer necessary to list these communications.

Following correspondence received and filed:

Copy of letter from the Bureau of Underground Storage Tanks to Shell service Station Newfoundland providing a Remedial Action Progress Report for property located at 2731 Route 23.

Notice dated September 22, 2006 advising that Judith Preisendanz is applying for a General Permit for the installation of a subsurface sanitary disposal system for property located at 116 Larsen Drive, Block 11205; Lot 1.

Notice dated September 22, 2006 advising that Ali Darian is applying for a General Permit for the installation of a subsurface sanitary disposal system for property located at 52 Hancock Drive, Block 10501; Lot 14.

Notice dated October 11, 2006 advising that Victor Marchiafava is applying for a Letter of Interpretation for property located at 1894 Route 23N, Block 13602; Lot 7.02.

Notice dated October 4, 2006 advising that Robert Schmidt is applying for a Treatment Works Approval for property located at 11-13 Paterson Road, Block 2001; Lot 12 for an on-site sanitary waste disposal system for two existing single-family dwellings.

HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING ACT

Following correspondence received and filed:

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

West Milford Township Municipal Utilities Authority, Birch Hill Water System, Marshall Hill Road, Block 6401; Lot 6.02.

Determinations from the DEP regarding the following applications:

Passaic County, Reconstruction of Apshawa Dams, Block 13501; Lot 5. Exemption #9, Water Quality Management Plan – not addressed.

CORRESPONDENCE – None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one wished to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace R. Davis
Secretary