

TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

December 11, 2006

Chairman, Stephen Sangle, called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Gillian Hemstead, Douglas Ott, Stephen Sangle, Bernie Stapleton.
Alternate: Irene Smith. Planning Director: William Drew. GIS
Specialist: Robert Sparkes

Absent: Maryellen Gabay, Daniel Kochakji, Timothy Metcalf. Alternate:
Andrew Abdul

Chairman appointed Ms. Smith to sit for Ms. Gabay.

APPLICATIONS – None.

TELECOMMUNICATION APPLICATIONS – None.

ON GOING BUSINESS

BELCHERS CREEK FECAL TESTING GRANT: Douglas Ott advised that this was the second year of water sampling. Last year the crew sampled ten sites in Belchers Creek. This year they went up the tributaries feeding into Belchers Creek sampling fourteen sites over a ten-week period. He further noted that a good database had been established; however, no conclusions were reached.

Robert Sparkes to complete the sample form and map. Mr. Sparkes also advised that he had requested the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission share the data they had collected from a site along Greenwood Lake Turnpike with the Commission. He also was to contact Passaic County for any data they may have. Mr. Ott noted that there were no high values near any of the sewage treatment facilities.

William Drew noted that the information collected was important as this data was going to be required for the Highlands Council. He noted that the final report was to be submitted to the DEP with no conclusions or findings reported; the information collected was to be banked for future use and reference.

604(B) GRANT APPLICATION: Robert Sparkes reported that he had met with the grant consultants, Princeton Hydro, and Pat Rector of the Division of Watershed Management. Mr. Sparkes explained that he would be working with them on this grant, which should produce a model for septic maintenance for

other communities. Mr. Sparkes outlined the various components of the project and advised that this is a two-year grant.

GREENWOOD LAKE 319H GRANT: Robert Sparkes reported that the one phase remaining on this grant was the installation of BMPs. He noted that Township Council approval was being obtained for the installation of the system, which would then be turned over to the County.

STREETSCAPE VISIONING: William Drew reported that a draft report had been received and reviewed by the Master Plan Subcommittee of the Planning Board, who sent a letter to the County requesting that any reference of a roundabout in the report be removed. He noted that this concept had received no public support at the public visioning sessions. The Board also requested that the statistical backup from the consultant be provided to substantiate the public response. To date no response had been received from the County. With regard to the grant received through the Congressman Garrett's office the paperwork was being prepared to receive the funds. Mr. Drew advised that the next phase is to determine a design and prepare bids for a consultant.

ENERGY COMMITTEE: Douglas Ott read a report submitted by Timothy Metcalf, liaison to the Committee. He reported that Honeywell was preparing an energy audit at no cost to the Township. Mr. Metcalf will keep the Commission apprised of any new information.

LAKES COMMITTEE: Irene Smith, liaison to the Committee, reported that information was being collected on septic maintenance. Ms. Smith advised that the Committee had requested a copy of the fertilizer ordinance. Councilman Joseph Smolinski was present and discussed several issues associated with the ordinance with the members.

URBAN FORESTRY GRANTS: Nothing new to 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. Stephen Sangle suggested this plan could tie in with the Township Center Business District Streetscape Improvement Project, providing funding for the planting of trees at no cost to the Township. The Commission requested that a memo be sent expressing their continued unanimous support for this Community Forestry Plan. The Water District representative previously advised the Environmental Commission that this would qualify as an acceptable project under the New Jersey No Net Loss Reforestation Act.

NEW BUSINESS

2007 - 319BGRANT: Robert Sparkes reported that the grant that was submitted for stormwater implementation was favorably received. DEP

requested that the grant be sectioned into three basic components for budgeting purposes.

HIGHLANDS MASTER PLAN: William Drew provided an update on the Plan.

ANJEC: Robert Sparkes noted that a notice was received from ANJEC regarding available grants and requested the Commission provide suggestions for a grant. Members recommended that funding again be requested for a series of public sessions with respect to the water quality for West Milford Lakes community. William Drew suggested a meeting with ANJEC to explain the project to them.

MINUTES

MOTION made by Douglas Ott, seconded by Gillian Hemstead, to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2006 regular meeting. On voice vote all eligible members voted in the affirmative.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION – None.

HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING ACT – None.

CORRESPONDENCE – None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one wished to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace R. Davis
Secretary