

TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

February 5, 2007

In absence of Chairman, Douglas Ott, called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Maryellen Gabay (Arrived late), Gillian Hemstead, Douglas Ott, Bernie Stapleton. Alternate: Andrew Abdul. Planning Director: William Drew.

Absent: Daniel Kochakji, Timothy Metcalf, Stephen Sangle. Alternate: Irene Smith. GIS Specialist: Robert Sparkes

Chairman appointed Mr. Abdul to sit for absent member.

ON GOING BUSINESS

HIGHLANDS REGIONAL MASTER PLAN: William Drew advised that he was continuing to review the draft plan and had prepared a synopsis of it for the Township Council. He noted that March 2, 2007 was the official deadline for comments. However, it was anticipated that the time would be extended.

604(B) GRANT APPLICATION: William Drew advised that the Princeton Hydro, the consultant on the grant, had started the quality process of the project. He also noted that the EPA had created a database for entering data with regard to septic systems. Pat Rector of the NJDEP will assist the Township in learning how to use the database. Training scheduled to start in March.

GREENWOOD LAKE 319H GRANT: William Drew advised that the bid specs had been prepared by Princeton Hydro, the grant consultant and were awaiting approval from the Township Attorney. Upon receipt of his approval the project will go out to bid.

STREETSCAPE VISIONING: William Drew noted that he had received a response from the County with regard to his comments on the draft report. The statistical backup information requested was provided and he was advised that the comments regarding the roundabouts would be amended. The formal release of funds should be completed by spring.

ENERGY COMMITTEE: Douglas Ott reported that Tim Metcalf advised that all the information had been collected and was being reviewed by Honeywell.

LAKES COMMITTEE: No Report.

URBAN FORESTRY GRANTS: William Drew noted that there was some money remaining from this grant, which was set aside for any future repairs that

may be required to the boardwalk. The condition of facility to be assessed to determine if any damage occurred over the winter. Andy Abdul advised that he had visited the site and that there was some overgrowth.

COMMUNITY FORESTRY PLAN: Request from Township Administrator to provide input on how this program would interface with the streetscape program. William Drew noted that this project was in unison with the Highlands Regional Master Plan. Members noted that this was a positive project for the Township and should be pursued. The Commission requested that a follow-up memo be sent to the Administrator requesting the status of this matter with regard to the Township Council providing the requested letter of support to the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission.

LAWN FERTILIZERS ORDINANCE: Request from Township Council for further review. William Drew advised that he had forwarded the Commission's comments to the Township Administrator, who referred it to the Township Attorney for preparation of the ordinance. The Commission requested a memo be sent to the Administrator emphasizing the need for the Ordinance to be adopted before the spring. The members noted that this ordinance needed to be in place in time to provide the landscapers with sufficient notice before their spring fertilizing begins. It was further noted that it may not be practical to enforce this ordinance this year for violators as sufficient time would not have been provided for them to be aware of the requirements. It was requested that a time frame for the adoption of this ordinance be provided to the Commission.

ANJEC: 2007 Planning Grants – William Drew advised that last year a study regarding the adaptive reuse of West Milford Lakes was proposed. Unfortunately, a grant was not received. A meeting was to be scheduled with ANJEC to discuss the possibility of receiving approval for the project this year.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNUAL REPORT: Yearly report from Environmental Commission to Township Council. Copies of last year's report distributed to members. Members to review and provide comments for 2006 report.

MINUTES

MOTION made by Bernie Stapleton, seconded by Andrew Abdul, to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2007 regular meeting as amended. On voice vote all eligible members voted in the affirmative.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one wished to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace R. Davis
Secretary