

TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

November 7, 2005

Chairman, Stephen Sangle, called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Maryellen Gabay, Gillian Hemstead, Timothy Metcalf. Alternate:
Richard Castronova.

Chairman appointed Irene Smith to sit for Ms. Gabay.

REQUESTS FOR WAIVER OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

VICTOR MARCHIAFAVA, Site Plan #0520-0220, 1894 Route 23 North, Block 13602; Lot 7; LMI Zone. Applicant, Victor Marchiafava, was present. Planning Director, William Drew, advised that the Commission had reviewed a previous minor subdivision application for this same property. At that time the Commission granted a waiver for the submittal of an EIS due to the fact that the EIS would be submitted with a future site plan application. The site plan application was submitted and the applicant's engineer requested that the Township waive the requirement for an EIS. Mr. Drew recommended that this request be denied as the property will be developed under this application and there are issues in terms of land disturbance and its impact. After discussion a **MOTION** was made by Stephen Sangle, seconded by Douglas Ott, to deny the waiver request. The members requested a limited EIS be submitted addressing the limit of disturbance. On voice vote all were in favor.

APPLICATIONS

VICTOR MARCHIAFAVA, Minor Subdivision #0510-1972, Variance #0530-0713, Block 13602; Lot 7, 1894 Route 23 North; LMI Zone. Applicant, Victor Marchiafava, was present. Commission had no comments regarding this application.

STEVEN & CHRISTINE CASTRONOVA, Minor Subdivision #0510-1973, Bulk Variance #0530-0702, Block 7213; Lot 1, 12 Valley View Lane; R-2 Zone. No comments. The applicants were not present.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES – None.

OLD BUSINESS

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AREA 3: No report. Bernie Stapleton noted that no meeting was held.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARDWALK: William Drew advised that the repair work was ready to proceed pending the receipt of paperwork from the contractor. Mr. Drew further noted that he received a call from the Trex Company, who is working with Home Depot to have the material delivered. The contractor is to provide the proper nails for the installation.

GREENWOOD LAKE 319H GRANT: Robert Sparkes reported that he had met with Pat Rector, DEP representative, and a representative from Princeton Hydro who are re-examining how to proceed with the project.

BELCHERS CREEK FECAL TESTING GRANT: Mr. Sparkes reported that the monitoring crew had conducted two high water tests and provided the results of those tests. Future testing, which is to begin in the spring, was discussed.

WEST MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL WATER MONITORING WEBSITE: No report. Robert Sparkes to contact school on status of project.

STORM DRAIN STENCILING: No report.

AUTUMN LIGHTS FESTIVAL: Douglas Ott reported that even with the inclement weather members manned a table at the Festival for four hours during which time several residents stopped by and were given material on various issues relating to the environment.

NEW BUSINESS

HIGHLANDS COUNCIL: Municipal and County Partnership Meeting – Update. William Drew noted that the Township had received two grants from the Highlands Council and explained that one is a joint project with Ringwood to compile a list of ecotourism sites for inclusion in the Regional Master Plan. The second grant is to provide an analysis of existing land uses.

PEQUANNOCK RIVER COALITION: Ross Kushner from the Pequannock River Coalition was present and provided a visual presentation regarding a water monitoring project that is being proposed for the West Brook. He outlined the project and the monitoring that has been conducted to date, which indicated severe temperature fluctuations. As this is a trout producing stream temperature control is important. Mr. Kushner believes this project will permit them to control the water temperature and provide a blueprint for other projects. He requested the support of the Township in this endeavor. William Drew to speak to the Township Administrator regarding project. Members suggested that the piping blend in with the environment. Copies of the presentation were provided to the Commission.

604(B) GRANT APPLICATION: Robert Sparkes reported that the Belchers Creek group had met with a representative of Princeton Hydro regarding the grant. He noted that the application had been filed and explained the various components of the grant.

Mr. Sparkes provided a history of the grants relating to Belchers Creek that have been received by the Township.

ESP GRANTS: William Drew advised that these grants have been excluded from the 2006 budget. A resolution was presented requesting the Governor and Commissioner Campbell to reinstate the grants. **MOTION** made by Stephen Sangle, seconded by Douglas Ott, to approve the resolution. On voice vote all were in favor.

MINUTES

MOTION made by Douglas Ott, seconded by Daniel Kochakji, to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2005 regular meeting. On voice vote all were in favor. The October 3, 2005 minutes were carried.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The following correspondence was noted and filed:

Notice dated September 26, 2005 advising that Tennessee Gas Pipeline is applying for a General Permit to authorize them to conduct regulated activities on the pipeline right-of-way, which traverses the Township.

Notice received October 11, 2005 advising that PSE&G is applying for a modified Freshwater Wetlands Statewide General Permit #1 for the repair, replacement and maintenance of natural gas distribution mains within road rights-of-way of the Natural Gas Distribution System.

Letter dated October 4, 2005 from MCB Engineering Associates, L.L.C. advising that Wesley Drive/Leslie Drive Extension is applying for a Treatment Works Approval for property to be known as Block 9501; Lots 19.03, 19.04, 19.05 and 19.06.

Notice received October 27, 2005 advising that Ernie & Barbara Suto are applying for a permit to re-align the stream on property located at 24 Dudley Street, Block 11001; Lot 58.

Notice received October 25, 2005 advising that Eugene Prais is applying for a General Permit for property located at 114 Dockerty Hollow Road, Block 8401; Lots 22 and 23.

Notice dated October 24, 2005 advising that Nicholas Sacelar is applying for a General Permit for the replacement of a subsurface sewage disposal system on property located at 470 Otterhole Road, Block 11302; Lot 10.

Letter dated October 20, 2005 advising that Victor Marchiafava is applying for a Treatment Works Approval for property located at 1894 Route 23 North, to be known as Block 13602; Lot 7.02 (incorrectly cited as 7.01 in the notice).

Letter dated October 13, 2005 from the DEP advising that the request of Marily Shabet for a General Permit No. 25 and Waiver of Transition Area for Access has been approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING ACT

The following correspondence was noted and filed:

Notice dated September 26, 2005 from The Cedars Group, Inc. advising that Sprint Spectrum, L.P. is applying for an exemption from the Highlands Act for property located at 776 Warwick Turnpike, Block 1701; Lot 59.

Notice of Technical Incompleteness dated October 6, 2005 from DEP, Bureau of Watershed Regulation, for application submitted for Browns Point Plaza, Block 3610; Lot 26.

Letter dated October 7, 2005 from Wander Ecological Consultants advising that Roy and Ursula Filipe are applying for an Exemption from the Highlands Act for property located on Macopin Road, Block 14001; Lots 11 and 12.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one wished to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace R. Davis
Secretary