

**Township of West Milford
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

MINUTES

September 12, 2016

The September 12, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Township of West Milford Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:32 p.m. with a reading of the Legal Notice.

ROLL CALL

Present: Andrew Abdul, Tim Dalton, Douglas Ott, Thomas Tamayne, Don Weise, Alt. #1 Dave Ofshinsky, Alt. #2 Clint Smith, Chairman, Stephen Sangle.

Absent: Jim Rogers.

Chairman Sangle requested Dave Ofshinsky to sit in for Jim Rogers and advised that there was a quorum for this meeting.

PRESENTATIONS – None.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW - None.

GRANT MANAGEMENT AND STATUS REVIEW

NJDEP NNL \$620,197.00 Reforestation Grant Project: Ron Farr was not present to provide an update on the upcoming bid cycle for this grant project. Chairman Sangle reported that the Township Council rejected the last bids received since the Township Attorney advised that the three lowest bids were not acceptable for various reasons including insufficient documentation. Commissioner Doug Ott inquired where the original estimate came from, and Chairman Sangle responded that the estimate was a total of the cost of the trees, planting and maintenance, as well as the forester's charges for his services as project manager. Clint Smith suggested that more trees be purchased with the assumption that a certain number will not survive, especially if the trees included certain species. Chairman Sangle said that a subcommittee reviewed all the specifics with regard to the grant project and were careful to choose indigenous trees. Mr. Smith inquired about the trees being planted by Shop Rite shopping center, and Chairman Sangle advised that those trees were being planted by a private property owner, whereas the trees to be planted with the NNL Grant were to be planted only on public properties. Commissioner Don Weise suggested a teleconference with the bidders, and Chairman Sangle said there is usually a pre-construction meeting, but in the case of the bids that were rejected, it was for a legal aspect of the bids. He noted that he requested the Mayor to have the Township Attorney specify what was wrong with the bids so that the new bids wouldn't be problematic. Chairman Sangle advised that the bidders that submitted the correct documents had bids that were too high for the grant funds available. Commissioner Tom Tamyane inquired why the bidders would submit a high bid if they were rejected in the past, and Chairman Sangle explained the overall cost of the bid process from the perspective of a private business owner, and noted that the bidder may just want to be kept on the bidders list. He suggested that another meeting with Ron Farr should occur before the next bid cycle.

ON GOING BUSINESS

Shade Tree Commission: Commissioner Tim Dalton reported that the hours that are spent on this project need to be logged in for the Shade Tree Commission re-certification.

Lakes Committee & Greenwood Lake Bi-State Commission Greenwood Lake Bi-State Commission: Andy Abdul reported that the Lakes Committee last had a meeting in July with a recycling presentation by the Township Recycling Coordinator. There was no meeting of the Lakes Committee for the month of August. He distributed the minutes from the July meeting. With regard to the Greenwood Lake Commission, he advised that the drawdown was scheduled to begin October 11, 2016, although it may be adjusted due to weather conditions. He reported that the main topic of discussion was the debris blown into the storm drains by the landscapers which eventually end up in the lake, but unfortunately they don't have a solution to control this. Mr. Abdul distributed a final set of By-Laws for the GWL Commission. Tim Dalton reported that Laurel Lake and Upper Mt. Laurel Lake had weed and algae growth.

Open Space Committee: Chairman Sangle reported the Township Council recently adopted a resolution for an extension from Passaic County for the Highlands Connector Trail Grant on Weaver Road.

Chairman Sangle also reported that a former townhouse site on Union Valley Road (Stanford Tract?) was advertised for sale, and thought that the property was owned by the Passaic River Coalition and was mainly wetlands. Doug Ott advised that he would look into this property sale and report back to the Commission.

It was noted by the Commission that the Hands In 4 Youth (Camp Vacamas) was recently put on the market for sale and the Commission would have stay abreast of the status of this property.

Environmental Contamination Issues: Commissioner Tom Tamayne reported on several contamination notifications from the Health Officer and Commission's Secretary which are listed on the agenda under correspondence.

Green Team–Sustainable Subcommittee-Autumn Lights Festival: Tim Dalton had nothing to report on Sustainable Jersey at this time. He noted that he would follow up with Rocky Hazelman regarding ALF.

Belchers Creek Testing Project: Andy Abdul reported that he was able to calibrate the equipment for testing nitrates and phosphates at Belchers Creek. He noted that one of the GWL Commissioners tested the north arm of the lake and came up with zeros, with a 1 part per million standard. The Commissioners then discussed the meters and the necessity of having a control sample. Chairman Sangle suggested that a determination be made as to whether or not the machines are defective so that we can return them while they are under warranty. Mr. Abdul noted that he was not finding the parameters but it should be 1 – 15 parts per million for phosphates, adding that the sample may have to be evaporated before testing. Mr. Abdul was to get the control samples, if readily available, to the Commission's Secretary within a week or two. Tom Tamayne commented that the nitrates should be at least 10 parts per million.

NEW OR CURRENT BUSINESS

West Milford Board of Ed and Alternative Energy Sources (Solar) – Tom Tamayne reported that he had read a recent news article regarding the West Milford Board of Education not moving forward on solar projects and that they wanted to wait for better technology. He will get in touch with someone from the Board of Education to get an update on this matter.

ANJEC Environmental Congress – Chairman Sangle advised the Commission that he was asked to be a presenter at the upcoming Environmental Congress on September 30, 2016. He will be speaking on West Milford Environmental Commission plan reviews for Board and land use applications. He will outline what to look for in the plan (i.e. topography, impervious cover, stormwater) and how to initiate better management practices. The Commissioners discussed some of the plan reviews completed and suggested one of the major soil movement projects and a commercial application, as well as the Tennessee Gas Pipeline project. Chairman Sangle advised that there were some funds available if two Commissioners wanted to attend the Congress with him – the Commission's Secretary would complete the registrations.

MINUTES

The Environmental Commission Minutes of August 1, 2016 were **approved** on a **motion** by Tim Dalton and a **second** by Doug Ott.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED - *The following correspondence items were reviewed by the Commission and filed:*

Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act Correspondence

1. Highlands Preservation Area Approval with Redevelopment Waiver Modification, dated July 22, 2016, received for Block 7903; Lots 13, 14, 15, & 16, Township of West Milford/Library, regarding the use of a new well to serve the new library, with the following conditions: the second proposed well must be equipped with

a pump that has a capacity not to exceed 28 gpm; the combined capacity of both wells onsite will not exceed 35 gpm; the limit of disturbance remains the same as depicted on the original plan. All other conditions of the August 16, 2011 Redevelopment Waiver remain in effect and does not extend the expiration date (August 15, 2016) of the waiver.

2. Highlands Preservation Area Exemption #11 Determination (HAD) – Consistent with the Goals of the Highlands Act, dated August 16, 2016, received for Woodland Heights Homeowners Association, Block 3401; Lot 10, Lakeside Road, regarding proposed upgrades to an existing water supply and distribution system in West Milford including 1) the installation of a new 4 inch distribution system along the right of way throughout the Woodland Heights service area, and 2) the rehabilitation/construction of three wells on three separate parcels owned by the Woodland Heights Homeowners Association. No new development is proposed, nor will this project aid in any potential new development.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection Correspondence

1. Public Notification and Outreach dated July 29, 2016 received from EnviroTrac Environmental Services regarding the Getty Service Station at 2048 Rt. 23 N, Block 14104; Lot 2, NJDEP Case #11-12-28-1610-53 advising that they are continuing to work to investigate and remediate environmental contamination at the site that was prompted by the presence in the soil and/or groundwater of the following compounds associated with gasoline: benzene, xylenes, methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE), tertiary butyl alcohol (TBA) and total tentatively identified volatile organic compounds, with periodic collection of groundwater samples, well installations, and collection of soil samples.

2. NJDOT notification dated August 5, 2016 advising that applications are being accepted for the 2016 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) for community based “non-traditional” surface transportation related projects, such as on-road and off-road trails and facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized forms of transportation, conversion of abandoned railroad corridors for trails, construction of scenic turnouts, overlooks and viewing areas, historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities both land and water, community improvement activities such as streetscape and corridor landscaping, environmental mitigation to address stormwater management or control and water pollution related to highway construction or run-off, and projects to reduce vehicle caused wildlife mortality or restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats. Applications for well-developed construction ready projects due by November 10, 2016. More information at www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/alternatives.shtm.

3. Notification from the NJDEP dated August 10, 2016 regarding a suspected hazardous discharge at 176 Lakeside Road, Block 3406; Lot 26 related to removal of one 2000 gal UST – remediation in progress.

4. Response Action Outcome dated July 22, 2016 received from Allied Services regarding 13 Homestead Road, Block 2709; Lot 5 related to two former 55 gallon steel drums previously used to store unleaded gasoline, advising that the remediation is complete in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7-26C.

5. Notification from the NJDEP Office of Dam Safety & Flood Control, dated August 16, 2016, regarding the Butler Intake Reservoir Dam, NJ Dam File No. 22-3, advising that a review of the recent inspection report submitted by the County of Passaic for this Class III low hazard dam finds the dam in Satisfactory condition, with minor maintenance required and an inspection report due every four years.

6. Notification from the NJDEP dated August 23, 2016 regarding a suspected hazardous discharge at 11 Forest Lake Drive, Block 4201; Lot 1 related to removal of one 550 gal #2 H.O. UST – clean-up is pending.

7. No Further Action notice received from the NJDEP, dated August 22, 2016, received for 64 Upper High Crest, Block 13103; Lot 20, for the removal of one 550 gal #2 H.O. UST.

8. Response Action Outcome, dated August 30, 2016, received from PT Consultants, Inc. regarding Kasabri/Ramsey Corp. and Pete’s Used Cars, 251 Macopin Road, Block 12601; Lots 7 & 8, Preferred ID #019967, advising that the remediation has been completed for this site.

Miscellaneous Correspondence Received/Sent

1. Correspondence dated June 20, 106 received from Orange & Rockland Utilities requesting notification regarding road excavations involving installing, upgrading or repairing water and sewer lines, drainage projects, and paving schedules.

2. HEPSCD recertification dated August 16, 2016 received for the Awosting Association Inc - New Clubhouse, Long House Road, Block 4105; Lot 1, until November 16, 2019.
3. HEPSCD recertification dated July 8, 2016 received for Oberer SFD and Septic System, Germantown Road, Block 14201; Lot 14, until October 7, 2019.
4. HEPSCD recertification dated July 11, 2016 received for Wasyluk Morsetown SFD Demo & Rebuild, 166 Morsetown Road, Block 4701; Lot 13, until October 7, 2019.
5. HEPSCD recertification dated July 21, 2016 received for Kerry Greene – Decommissioning Front Lake Dam, 267 Wooley Road, Block 9901; Lot 27.01, until January 21, 2020.
6. Ordinance 2016-012 of the Township of West Milford, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey Vacating the Unimproved Portion of a Paper Street Known as Quinty Place, with a public hearing on September 21, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. at the West Milford Municipal Building.
7. ANJEC's 43rd Annual Environmental Congress – Responding to Climate Change Locally, Friday, September 30, 2016 9 to 4, Mercer County College, West Windsor, NJ.
8. HEPSCD certification dated August 29, 2016 received for Janice Morrell – SFD Expansion, 7 Passaic Drive, Block 2505; Lot 2, certified until February 2020.
9. HEPSCD certification dated August 11, 2016 received for Rich Fenning – Pole Barn Garage, 505 Burnt Meadow Road, Block 4701; Lot 55, certified until February 2020.
10. Notification from Passaic County Planning and Economic Development regarding the Passaic County Greenways Feasibility Walking Tour to evaluate routes for Lower and Upper Passaic pedestrian and bicycle friendly trails, to be held on September 23, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Environmental Commission, the September 12, 2016 meeting was **adjourned** at **8:55 p.m.** on a **motion** by Tim Dalton and a **second** by Don Weise.

Approved: October 3, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary