

TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES
November 1, 2004

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Timothy Metcalf, Douglas Ott, Bernie Stapleton, Stephen Sangle. Alternate: Irene Smith. Planning Director: William Drew. GIS Specialist: Robert Sparkes. Special Guest: Councilman Joseph Elcavage.

Absent: Maryellen Gabay, Gillian Hemstead, Daniel Kochakji. Alternate: Les Lynn.

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

MINUTES

MOTION made by Douglas Ott, seconded by Timothy Metcalf, to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2004 regular meeting. On voice vote all were in favor.

APPLICATIONS

SHILOH BIBLE CAMP, INC., Use Variance #0440-0663, Minor Subdivision #0410-1963, Preliminary & Final Site Plan #0420-0180AB, Bulk Variance #0430-0664, Block 6002; Lot 47, 753 Burnt Meadow Road; R-4 Zone. Matter carried.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES

AT&T WIRELESS SERVICES, INC. (APSHAWA), Preliminary & Final Site Plan #0320-0162AB, Block 12501; Lot 26, 666 Macopin Road; R-3 Zone. Colocation on existing tower and placement of equipment cabinet. Antennae to be within the camouflaged area. Commission suggested that additional landscaping be installed to screen the facility from the neighbors.

AT&T WIRELESS SERVICES, INC. (LAKELAND), Preliminary & Final Site Plan #0420-0163, Block 14605; Lot 2, 2727 Route 23; HC Zone. Colocation. As there is no room in the existing compound, proposed to locate equipment in new area, which will eliminate a parking space. Dumpster to be relocated and section of parking lot to be restriped to provide for the same number of parking spaces. Commission recommended a brown or beige slotting material be installed on the fence to screen the facility.

CELLULAR TELEPHONE CO., D/B/A AT&T WIRELESS, Use Variance #0440-0691, Preliminary & Final Site Plan #0420-0197AB, Block 2802; Lot 3, 333

Warwick Turnpike; NC Zone. New 90-foot tower proposed to be camouflaged as a tree. Members noted that no access road or slopes are depicted on the plan. They requested information on how they planned to access the facility and that the plans reflect the grades of the property. They did not recommend waiving the elevation of the tower in relation to the tree canopy.

OLD BUSINESS

BELCHER'S CREEK: Councilman Joseph Elcavage, liaison from the Township Council, was present to discuss the Belchers Creek pollution problem and how the Council might help to alleviate the problem. The Commission noted that additional testing should be conducted to determine the source of the problem and whether the bacteria was from human or animal waste. Mr. Elcavage suggested that the Commission come up with a comprehensive plan and a cost estimate for the Council's consideration. It was noted that the Army Corps of Engineers might be willing to extend the scope of their work on Greenwood Lake to include Belcher's Creek, which could be contributing to the problems with the lake. Information to be obtained from the Health Department on the cost and dates of previous testing and whether additional testing is proposed. William Drew advised that a grant had been submitted to the Office of Environmental Services. However, these funds would not be available until July. Members requested that Kenneth Hawkswell, the Health Officer, attend a future Commission meeting. A subcommittee comprised of Timothy Metcalf, Douglas Ott and Les Lynn to meet with Mr. Hawkswell prior to the meeting to advise him of the information being requested.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AREA 3: No report.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARDWALK: Stephen Sangle obtaining bids for the work to be completed. William Drew contacted the County regarding reallocating grant monies to cover the cost of the repairs. To date a response has not been received from the County.

DRAFT OPEN SPACE PLAN: Recommendation to Planning Board re open space priorities. Presentation prepared by Les Lynn and Robert Sparkes viewed and discussed. To be previewed again at the December meeting for presentation to the Planning Board at their January meeting.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT TEAM: Commission's involvement to provide public education awareness. William Drew advised that the Township has a responsibility under the new Stormwater Quality Regulations to maintain and improve stormwater quality. One of the requirements is a local education and awareness program. The Township Engineer is coordinating the various aspects of the project and has requested the Environmental Commission act as the education arm in meeting the DEP stormwater regulations. Mr. Drew also advised that Pat Rector, DEP representative from the Division of Watershed Management, would

be attending the Board's December meeting to discuss educational outreach. The members suggested various ways of reaching the public such as the Township web site, the Scouts, and the school science classes and environmental clubs.

K. HOVNIANIAN AT WEST MILFORD/EAGLE RIDGE: Schedule date to blaze hiking trail as per Planning Board Resolution No. 2003 – 24. Les Lynn, Douglas Ott and Stephen Sangle to meet with applicant's representative on November 23, 2004 to blaze trail.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW OF STORMWATER INLET-OUTLET PROJECT: Robert Sparkes provided an update on the progress of the project, which is progressing on time.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The following correspondence was noted and filed:

Copy of letter from the DEP authorizing the General Permit No. 25 requested by Barbara Walzer, Block 2203; Lot 13 for the repair of a sewage disposal system.

Notice dated October 18, 2004 advising that Joseph Bubba is applying for a General Permit for the installation of a sub-surface sanitary disposal system on property located at 8 Pinecrest Trail, Block 8509; Lot 15.

Letter dated October 15, 2004 from Bradley M. Campbell, Commissioner, DEP, enclosing an application package for the Environmental Services matching Grants Program.

Letter dated October 15, 2004 from McKittrick Engineering Associates, Inc. advising that the owner of Block 12101; Lot 1 is applying for a General Permit #25 to conduct certain limited activities in freshwater wetlands or State open waters.

CORRESPONDENCE

Copy of letter dated October 5, 2004 from William Drew to James D. Rogers, Passaic County Planning Board regarding funding for the repair of the Environmental Boardwalk. Noted and filed.

Copy of memo dated October 5, 2004 from Grace Davis, Secretary, to the Mayor and Council requesting Councilman Joseph Elcavage attend a future meeting to discuss the Belchers Creek water sampling. Noted and filed.

Minutes from the October 5, 2004 Post Brook – Stormwater Management Plan Committee Formation Meeting. Irene Smith representing Commission at meetings. William Drew to assist in completing a questionnaire that was provided.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Elaine Duffy, Warwick Turnpike, Hewitt addressed the Commission regarding Belcher's Creek and the recommendation on open space.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace R. Davis
Secretary