

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2017**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:39 p.m. by Richard Seibert. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Janet Ariemma
Michael Devaney
Carol Phiefer
Richard Reilly (arrived 7:42 p.m.)
Richard Seibert
Richard Wolf (arrived 7:40 p.m.)

Suzanne Driscoll (Stone Fence Road, Block 154, Lot 22)
Bill Laforet, Mayor
Quentin Wiest, Business Administrator
Joe Jasinski, Suez Water

Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Karin LaGreca
Ward Donigian, Planning Board Liaison

The minutes of the meeting held on October 11, 2017 were approved as submitted following a motion by Phiefer; seconded by Devaney. All other members were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Well Maintenance Program Update

Wolf introduced Joe Jasinski, Water System Consultant for Suez, for an update regarding the establishment of a proposed well maintenance program for Mahwah. Members also spoke via conference call to Suez Representative Mike Judkins, Director of Well Operations for Utility Service, who discussed Suez's guarantee of capacity.

Mayor Laforet and Township Administrator Wiest briefly discussed the benefits of establishing a contract for well maintenance. Wiest said the timetable would be to include this in next year's budget.

Arborist Update

At a previous meeting, Ariemma noted a situation where DPW workers cut down a lot of trees on Merrill Drive to install new sidewalks and discussed the need for a plan to replant trees in neighborhoods once they are taken down. She brought it up at the last council meeting, and was told that we have an arborist on staff. Wiest said we do not currently have an arborist on staff, however Glenn Dowson from DPW is very knowledgeable about the town's plans and can come to a future meeting to address

questions. Wiest also said he would be happy to invite a local arborist in to speak to the commission.

Water Forum Update

Mayor Laforet said he spoke to Boswell Engineering and other interested groups regarding a water quality forum in town. He said he expects to have some movement on that end in the next month or so.

Skytop Drive – Site Visit

LaGreca and Phiefer this afternoon walked the property related to a Board of Adjustment Application to construct a single-family home on currently undeveloped land on Skytop Drive.

Residents attended two prior meetings during which they expressed concerns over the application, particularly the fact that trees will be removed from the neighbors' properties, that the proposed road will cut through the backyards of several residents' homes, and that the property has been designated a groundwater recharge area. Wildlife impact is also a significant concern.

LaGreca and Phiefer walked the property on October 25. The Zoning Board is scheduled to review this application at its next meeting on Nov. 1, 2017. Storms will confirm that the Zoning Board received our comments from the Sept. 27 meeting.

2018 Budget Preparation

Members discussed their priorities for the proposed 2018 budget. Wolf will compile the information and provide it to Storms for submission.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

Armine Arustamyan (Minor Subdivision), 38 North Railroad Avenue, Block 47, Lots 28, 29 & 31 (Docket #588)

The Environmental Commission received a Planning Board Application Review Report for a minor subdivision.

Comments to Administrative Officer:

Please have the applicant provide clarification on what is proposed in the application.

The application review was rejected until additional information is provided.

Michael & Aida Bergbauer, 127 Lakeview Drive, Block 18, Lot 19, Docket #1432-17

The Environmental Commission received a Board of Adjustment Application Review Report requesting a variance for a new front/side roofed porch and new deck across the rear of the house.

The application review was accepted following a motion made by Reilly; seconded by Phiefer. All were in favor.

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Toll, NJ IV, LLC, 1 Roxbury Road, Block 127.01, Lot 1, E-BD-216-3025

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for a new single-family dwelling.

Comments to Administrative Officer and Township Engineer:

Please have the applicant clarify if this is part of the Apple Ridge development and if this is part of remediated property. If not, will the 700 cubic yards of soil be tested?

The application was rejected until further information is provided.

Pony Power Therapies Inc., 1158 & 1170 Ramapo Valley Road, Block 25, Lots 16 & 17

The Environmental Commission reviewed Soil Movement Permit and Tree Preservation Applications for drainage and safety improvements to a driveway on the property. The Tree Preservation application indicates there is no related tree removal.

The application was accepted following a motion made by Devaney; seconded by Phiefer. All were in favor.

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

Shoots Media, Inc., 200 State Highway 17 South, Block 132, Lot 11, TA17-0045

Video production office

Hudson River Consultants, LLC, 1 Lethbridge Plaza, Block 63, Lot 6, TA17-0046

Training and consulting (primarily CPR)

Cookie Cutters Haircuts for Kids, 380 State Highway 17 South, Block 137, Lot 4, TA17-0047

Children's hair salon

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Email from resident interested in learning more about the Environmental Commission
- E-Walker News for October 21, 2017 from the New York – New Jersey Trail Conference
- Email from the Hackensack Riverkeeper regarding an upcoming event
- Email from the Sustainable City Network regarding an upcoming online course
- Email from the Hackensack Riverkeeper regarding the agency's 20th Anniversary Celebration
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

NEW BUSINESS

Article – U.S. Firms See Money in Trash Ban

Seibert distributed an informational article regarding an impending Chinese ban on imported waste.

Sustainable Jersey Certification

Wolf reminded members to continue working on their respective assignments for our Sustainable Jersey certification.

OLD BUSINESS, continued

Well Maintenance Program Update

Members raised a few additional concerns regarding our understanding of Suez's proposed guarantee of capacity. Wolf said we will also send an email to the Business Administrator asking for more information.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 10:09 p.m. following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Reilly. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms
Secretary