

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 12, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Nardone. He announced that the meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Present: John Nardone, Julie Gandy, Lorraine Shourds, Dale Schweitzer, Peter Manzelmann. Absent: Pat Smith. Also in attendance: Mayor Vizzard

Minutes of September 14, 2021: Motion by Dale seconded by Peter to approve. Motion passed.

ANJEC: Julie reported the 45th Environmental Congress will be virtually beginning on Tuesday October 19th through Friday October 22 at 7pm with 3 session each evening. Fee is \$25.00. All sessions will be recorded and shared to those registered.

Also, Julie attended the zoom webinar on "What's the 411 on MS4s?" on September 21. A General MS4 Permit comes under the Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program. The municipality must be in compliance with the state's basic requirements such as developing, updating, implementing and enforcing its stormwater pollution prevention program (SPPP); providing local public education and outreach; meeting minimal standards for construction and post construction stormwater management; or retrofitting storm drain inlets after road resurfacing.

Also, Environmental Action published an article on PFAS, nicknamed "forever chemicals" are being dumped into our waterways contaminating the drinking water. PFAS Has been linked to many cancers and once in our drinking water "they are almost impossible to remove completely". EPA must strengthen its pollution standards. It currently has no limits for PFAS in industrial wastewater discharge. But they are poised to do that.

Also, The City of Pittsburg, in September 2021, adopted an ordinance to make the skies darker thereby allowing more stars to be seen. They are installing nighttime lighting from shielded fixtures to keep the illumination from street lighting on the ground and not in the sky. The dark sky ordinance will also use less energy, help plants and animals by maintaining a crisper day-night cycle, reduce glare for better night vision and will benefit those in poorer neighborhoods who are disproportionately negatively affected by wasteful overlighting. (<https://pittsburgpa.gov/press-releases/press-releases/5207>).

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY: No report.

BLUEBIRD BOXES: Peter reported he, Allen Jackson placed fine pine needles in each gourd in anticipation of the arrival of the purple martin next spring. Also, US Silica is purchasing predator guards for the purple martin racks.

TOUR: John reported the Recycling Center Tour will be November 3 at 2:30.

WELL WATER TESTING: John reported Jessie will contact the residents who were part of the project. John will contact the township clerk will post it on the township website, and John will post it on the EC face book page.

Peter reported Peterson's Run is on a county road. Mayor Vizzard reported it is on the list to be cleaned out.

John reported the proclamation for Ken McGill, former Chair and EC member on the Land Use Board, will be presented to him by the Township Committee on Thursday, November 18th at 6PM. All are encouraged to attend.

NJCCA: John reported he is a member, representing the EC and green team. They will be holding a Thought Leader Workshops virtually from November 29-December 3. Followed by specific county workshops for residents of all ages and backgrounds. Mayor Vizzard wants to highlight that the county is investing in electric buses.

Dale recommended we should be listed in the Cumberland Guide. Julie will look into this.

Peter reported he sent a card to Pat for a quick recovery.

PUBLIC PORTION: Motion by Peter to open the public portion seconded by Lorraine. Motion passed.

Mayor Vizzard reported re: Dark Sky ordinance. He pointed out the street lights on the bridge do have down casting deflectors. And the township is installing photo sensitive street lighting.

Also, re: NJCCA He is proposing to install vehicle charging stations at the township building and purchase electric vehicles to replace the current fleet as needed.

Also, he wants the word to get out re the water testing presentation.

Dale made a motion to close the public portion seconded by Lorraine. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn by Dale seconded by Peter at 7:50PM

Motion by Peter seconded by Lorraine to adjourn at 7:45pm.

Respectively submitted,

Julie Gandy, Secretary

cc: Twp. Committee
CTEC members