

Approved 10/8/20

STANHOPE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Minutes: Regular Meeting
September 10, 2020

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STANHOPE
BOROUGH

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: at 7:31PM by Mike Balogh with flag salute

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE: In compliance with the New Jersey Assembly Bill No. 1030, notice for this meeting was sent to the *New Jersey Herald* and the *Daily Record* on January 9, 2020 and was posted on the bulletin board in the municipal building on the same day.

ROLL CALL: Present: Owen Newson, Anthony Riccardi, Nicole Member (8:44), Mike Balogh, John Rogalo

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

August 13, 2020 minutes were approved. Motion made by Anthony Riccardi and seconded by Mike Balogh (MC) Abstention: John Rogalo

OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Received:

8/14/20 Dana Mooney CFO: 2021 Budget request

Sent:

None

CURRENT ACTIVITY:

Invited guest: Mayor Patty Zdichocki

The EC discussed with Mayor Zdichocki five key issues.

The first was the proposed Furnace Pond Park. The mayor stated that if the EC were to go forward with the DEP application, the EC needs to cover the costs of the application/permit and the work of the borough engineer. She suggested the cost might be covered through the 2021 EC budget proposal and an ANJEC grant. Discussion was held on the possibility of using "Plug and Play" engineering which would reduce the cost of the application. John mentioned Brett Callanan of DEP as a resource for more information on "Plug and Play." Total cost of application was estimated at \$5,000.

The second issue discussed was the Lakeside Park plantings. The mayor asked that the EC submit the list of plantings for approval. Once this is approved and the plants purchased, the planting pattern can be approved, in person, at the park, on the day of installation by John Rogalo, Brian McNeilly, DPW, and the mayor.

The Open Space Committee was discussed. The mayor stated that the EC should wait for the mayor's appointments.

CURRENT ACTIVITY (Cont.):

Discussion with mayor (cont.)

The Lutheran Church trail easement was discussed. The EC stated that they would like to revisit the borough engineer's decision that the site was wetlands and too wet for a trail. John and Mike would like to walk with the mayor and engineer to show a trail route that could be established. The mayor will arrange this meeting and contact the EC.

Lastly, the Plaster Mill was discussed. The mayor stated that nothing can be done further on delisting until the borough engineer hires the DEP required engineer specialist on historic buildings to evaluate the mill and complete the application.

2021 Budget Request

The proposed 2021 EC budget was discussed. The line item Prof. Training/Dues was increased by \$25 to \$375 due to an increase in ANJEC fees. The line item for Prof. Services was left open. This line item will reflect the money needed for the Furnace Pond Park DEP application. It was decided that further discussion was needed before we list an amount. All other line items will remain the same as 2020.

Musconetcong Watershed Association: Stormwater workshop

Owen will contact Kyle Richter of the Musconetcong Watershed Association to see if we can reschedule his stormwater presentation. Due to Covid concerns, his presentation has been on hold.

Clean Communities:

10/11/20 Clean Comm. Day. Raindate: 10/18/20.

Nicole will send emails inviting non-profits. Nicole will ask Dana for more kids gloves and black garbage bags. Mike will contact Jack at Bell's to see if he will host volunteers. During discussion with mayor, she stated that plans for a shed to house clean communities materials was a possibility. Site for the shed may be where wells 3&4 are located or at Lake Musconetcong Park near play ground.

Facebook: Topic for the Month: Anthony will post information about the invasive Lantern Fly.

Open Space Plan Committee: See discussion with mayor under Current Activity.

Trail Maintenance: Anthony will check for the downed tree on the Tri-Community Trail (near Valley Road School) as reported by Mike and follow up with DPW.

OLD BUSINESS:

Plastic Ordinance: Waiting on Trenton. Anthony reported that the borough plans to distribute reusable shopping bags with the borough logo probably in the Spring.

Lakeside Park plantings: See discussion with mayor under Current Activity.

OLD BUSINESS (Cont.):

Furnace Pond Trails/DEP approval: See discussion with mayor under Current Activity.

Invasive Plant Species workshop: Nicole stated that there are two apps available for identifying invasives: *INaturalist*, *Invasive Species*.

Lutheran Church easement: See discussion with mayor under Current Activity.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

BILLS:

None

LIAISON REPORTS:

Board of Health:

Mayor and Council:

Lake Musconetcong Planning Board:

Land Use Board:

Musconetcong Foundrymen Historical Society:

Musconetcong Sewage Authority:

Recreation Commission:

Shade Tree Commission:

Plaster Mill:

See discussion with mayor under Current Activity.

Water Quality:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM with a motion by Owen Newson and a second by Anthony Riccardi. (UC)

Respectfully submitted,
Owen Newson, Secretary