

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Tuesday, October 27, 2020
Manchester Township Municipal Building
1 Colonial Drive, Manchester Township, NJ

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Chairperson Middaugh called the Regular Meeting of the Manchester Township Environmental Commission to order with the following statement: "Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with Open Public Meetings Act. Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was advertised in the Asbury Park Press and the Star Ledger."

Time: 5:00 PM

This was followed with the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

Peggy Middaugh	Present
William Foor	Present
Rory Wells	Present
Mary Demarest-Paraan	Present
David Kiernan	Present
Genevieve Stavallo	Present
William Cook	Absent

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

September 22, 2020 Regular Meeting

Mr. Wells made a motion to approve the September 22, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Mr. Foor. **Roll call vote:** Mr. Foor, Mr. Wells, Mr. Kiernan, Ms. Middaugh, Ms. Demarest-Paraan; yes. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION:

Maya van Rossum, author and veteran environmentalist, gave a presentation on The Green Amendment for the Generations, a movement inspiring communities throughout the country to secure their constitutional rights to pure water, clean air and a healthy environment. There are Green Amendments in effect in the states of Pennsylvania and Montana, and there is currently a proposal in front of New Jersey legislature to pass a Green Amendment. If passed, officials will be duty-bound to protect our health. Residents can support this cause by asking their town officials to pass a resolution in support of the NJ law. For more information, please visit <http://www.mayavanrossum.green/>.

Following the presentation, the commissioners discussed a township resolution to support The Green Amendment. Ms. Middaugh will send out a sample resolution. Some of the commissioners would like more time to research. This topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Draft Natural Resource Inventory Review

Ms. Demarest-Paraan: I think this is a great resource. I found a few typos.

Mr. Foor: Both English & Metric units are used in the report. I wish the measurement units were consistent. Also, the Naval Air Engineering Station hasn't existed for over 20 years. Lacey Township is incorrectly mentioned in a few places.

Ms. Middaugh: I question the accuracy of some of the maps. There isn't really a way to verify this information. There are a lot of vernal pools in Manchester. They aren't protected unless they are certified. A public forum on the township NRI will be held at the December 22nd Environmental Commission meeting for public comment.

Master Plan Update

Ms. Middaugh: I attended an electric vehicle webinar and the state of NJ is encouraging towns to include charging stations in master plans.

Mr. Foor: This is our opportunity to have an impact. If we have strong feelings or concerns about something, we should add enabling documentation in there.

Ms. Middaugh: I suggest we review and discuss at the November meeting.

Meetings Discussion

The remaining 2020 Environmental Commission meetings will be held virtually.

OLD BUSINESS:

Whiting Landfill Solar Project – Pollinator Garden

The Environmental Commission will make comments when the project application is received.

MEMBER REPORT:

New Stormwater Management Ordinance

Ms. Demarest-Paraan: I think we should encourage the town to adopt new stormwater rules ahead of the March 3rd deadline. We can make it stricter as well.

Ms. Middaugh: NJDEP has a sample ordinance. We need to find out who is working on this.

Electric Vehicles

Ms. Demarest-Paraan: Volkswagen released the ID.4. It is a good sized SUV that will be affordable and have good ratings. The SUV can be reserved with a \$100 fee. There are rebates available – \$5,000 state and \$7,500 federal and no sales tax.

There was a project I was involved with where my company, ANA Works, donated and installed a network of charging stations in 11 countries from Argentina to L.A. There is a documentary on Apple TV called "The Long Way Up" where a couple of people ride electric motorcycles from Argentina to L.A.

Mr. Wells: We don't have any electric vehicles in our town fleet.

Ms. Demarest-Paraan: Ms. Middaugh and I met with the mayor on this, but because of COVID-19, nothing has come of it yet.

Mr. Foor: The closest charging station is in South Toms River.

Ms. Wells: Perhaps we could institute a PILOT program. We can put a write up together for Chief Parker. She is very progressive and open-minded.

PUBLIC FORUM:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Wells and seconded by Mr. Foor, the meeting was adjourned.

All in favor, motion carried.

Time: 6:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Frazee
Commission Secretary