

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Manchester Township Municipal Building
1 Colonial Drive, Manchester Township, NJ

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Tedeschi 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: 6:05 PM

This was followed with the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

Dominick Tedeschi	Present
Sandra Drake	Absent
John Franolich	Absent
Jim Gravatt	Absent
Anthony Nasta	Present
Robert Morris	Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve the May 27, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Morris made a motion to approve the May 27, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Mr. Nasta.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Tedeschi-Yes
Ms. Drake- Absent
John Franolich-Absent
Mr. Gravatt -Absent
Mr. Nasta -Yes
Robert Morris-Yes
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Manchester BPU Community Energy Planning Grant- Discussion of the Community Energy Planning Report prepared by Colliers Engineering, through the grant provided by BPU and what that means for Manchester Township.

Evan Savino, of Colliers Engineering came before the Commission. He stated that in 2024 Manchester was awarded a \$10,000.00 grant to prepare a report for Community Energy Planning that would be submitted to the BPU. They hired Colliers Engineering to prepare the report. This report then opens Manchester up to receiving further grant money to potentially implement the plans set forth in the report.

Mr. Savino went through the report with the Commissioners. He explained that there are far more residential uses in Manchester than commercial. He discussed that in strategy #1 in the report the Township could purchase alternative fuel vehicles, install public EV charging infrastructure and implement anti-idling enforcement. In strategy #2 the Township could accelerate the deployment of renewable energy and distributed energy resources as well as install on-site municipal renewable energy generation. Finally, in strategy #3 the Township could maximize energy efficiency and conservation and reduce peak demand by implementing a residential energy efficiency outreach campaign, a commercial energy efficiency outreach campaign and to require developers to complete a green development checklist.

Mr. Nasta stated that he thinks that idling is a problem, but he has concerns with solar panels because he has heard squirrels getting under them and causing damage to the roofs and of leaves getting under the panels and resulting in a fire hazard for the homeowners.

Mr. Savino said that all items that are being talked about are optional suggestions. The Township does not have to pursue anything that they don't want to. They just must adopt the report so that the Township can apply for additional funding if they choose to.

Mr. Morris suggested that the Township needs a senior liaison to speak with residents about the equipment because it is important to provide education.

There were no more comments from the Board members.

Mr. Tedeschi opened to the public for comments and questions.

Mr. Joe Markowski of 103 Eleanor Rd came before the Commission. He asked who BPU was and when the public would see the report.

Mr. Savino stated that the report will be made public as soon as it is adopted and he explained that the BPU is the Board of Public Utilities.

There were no more public comments or questions.

The Environmental Commission was in favor of adopting the report.

Environmental Impact Statement Review for PB-2026-15-Arya Properties-Hemingway Estates-Preliminary and Final Major Subdivision-Wilbur Avenue; Block 23, Lots 1242, 1252, 1265, 1267, 1268, 1272, 1276, 1322, 1353, 1356, Block 24, Lots 1134, 1136, 1138, 1165, 1167, 1206, 1216, 1234, 1237, Block 26, Lots 1286, 1315.01, Block 27, Lots 1168.01, 1201, 1204, Block 28, Lots 1071, 1084, 1091.01

Mr. Tedeschi went through his comments on the report. He is concerned that there is not any information collected from the actual site and that all information used was collected from a database. He would like to see a potable water will serve letter.

The Commissioners spoke about available water and sewer in the Township and the lack thereof.

They want to make sure that the subdivision is done right.

The Commissioners feel that it is impracticable to only account for four people per household in a residential subdivision with houses this big.

The Commissioners will put together a memo to the Planning Board that addresses their concerns with the Environmental Impact Statement.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Morris asked if there was any update from the Council about the Clean Communities collaboration with the school system. Ms. Kisty informed him that they have not received a response yet.

Mr. Morris spoke about the proposed project again for people that were not present at the last meeting.

He stated that he would put together a memo about the structure of the club once he hears back from the Council on available funding.

MEMBER REPORT:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Markowski said to keep up the good work.

.ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Nasta and seconded by Mr. Tedeschi, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Kisty
Commission Secretary