

SUSSEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

APRIL 10, 2014

The meeting was opened at 7:43 p.m. by Chairperson Mensonides. The meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 of 1975, as amended, and notice has been forwarded to the newspapers and posted on the bulletin board maintained at the Sussex County Administrative Center for public announcement.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Landrith, Andover Borough
Dave Hansen, Hampton Township
Carrine Kaufer, Hardyston Township
Howard Baker, Hopatcong Borough, Vice Chair
David Muscalo, Lafayette Township
Ian Blanchard, Stillwater Township
Annette Stendor, Sussex Borough
Michael Furrey, Vernon Township
Denise Webb, Wantage Township
Eleanor Mensonides, At-Large, Chair
John Nugent, At-Large

EXCUSED MEMBERS: Eric Powell, Sparta Township
Kathy Little, At-Large

STAFF MEMBERS: Alice Brees, Principal Planner
Antoinette Wasiewicz, Recording Secretary

MINUTES CORRECTION/APPROVAL:

Minutes were not available.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Alice Brees reviewed the correspondence listed on the attached sheet and answered questions on Correspondence Number Five.

PLANNER'S REPORT:

Mr. Brees reported that she received some comments from DEP regarding the change to Sussex County Wastewater Plan Amendment procedures. All her other work for PAC this month relates to items on the Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR MAIN LAND SUSSEX CO. EXISTING "WANTAGE PLAZA" SHOPPING CENTER, WMP AMENDMENT:

Alice Brees reported that, as requested at last month's meeting, a meeting was held with representatives of Sussex Borough, Wantage Township, SCMUA and the applicant. Discussion focused on the items that will be needed for this project to proceed. There were some questions about pump stations. The number of pump stations that will be needed in the future depends on the number of properties that tie in. So far there are three properties on Route 23 that are interested in connecting to the force main along Route 23 to the SCMUA facility.

Maione Homes, which is across from Wantage Plaza, was discussed. Sussex Borough will be contacting other property owners on Route 23 to see if they want to connect. DEP staff said they heard from Maione Homes about their proposed discharge to groundwater. If there is more than one property using a pump station, then it would have to be owned either by the municipality or a utility. If the pump station is only serving Wantage Plaza, then it could be privately owned. These are things that will have to be figured out in the future. Sussex and Wantage will be working on an inter-local agreement and they will need endorsement from SCMUA.

The build-out analysis for Sussex Borough was also discussed at the meeting. The analysis was done by CP Engineers and shows there is available allocation for this project. Sussex Borough's current allocation with SCMUA is 464,000 gallons: 355,000 gallons are needed for Sussex Borough build-out in the future; 25,000 gallons are in reserve for two years for High Ridge project in Hardyston, and 84,000 gallons are available for other users. Wantage Plaza would need 19,950 gallons, and that allocation is available. Sussex Borough would still own the allocation; Wantage Plaza would be their customer and Sussex Borough would be billing them.

The PAC is reviewing the two applications for Wantage Plaza and Bicsak Brothers. The Hampshire Company site, next to the A&P on Route 23, is in a similar situation. Hampshire Company has already been through the County WMP Amendment process. Once the Wantage Plaza and Bicsak Brothers process is complete, Ms. Brees will send the three amendments to DEP. These properties are already on the map as proposed

sites and they are all proposing to tie into SCMUA. If another property is interested in being included in SCMUA sewer service area, they will have to come before PAC.

The Draft PAC Resolution does not contain some of the finer details that will be figured out between Sussex, Wantage and the MUA. Ms. Brees said she was not sure that the Resolution needs to have that level of detail. The applicant will attend next month's meeting.

B. DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR BICSAK BROTHERS REALTY PROPERTY, RT. 23, WANTAGE, WMP AMENDMENT:

The applicants asked that this be carried to the May meeting.

A motion was made by Carrine Kaufer to carry the Draft Resolutions for Main Land Sussex Co. and Bicsak Brothers Realty Property to the May meeting. The motion was seconded by David Muscalo and carried unanimously.

C. SUSSEX COUNTY WMP DRAFT:

Alice Brees said she did not have anything new on the County Wastewater Management Plan draft.

D. WATERSHED UPDATES: UPPER DELAWARE, WALLKILL:

Ian Blanchard said he spoke with Nathaniel Sajdak today. Nathaniel said that Stillwater's Environmental Commission has applied for a \$1,500 grant from ANJEC (Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions) for riparian restoration on the Paulins Kill. When Alice mentioned an article she read, Ian said the Stillwater Green Team applied for a grant through the State of New Jersey. The State is funding the clean up. The ANJEC grant is for buying trees and other material for a project similar to what the Wallkill River Management Group has been doing on the Upper Paulins Kill Watershed in Lafayette. Ian said Stillwater is trying to do a continuation of that project. When asked how many trees \$1,500 will buy, Ian said about 200 trees with the tubes and stakes. He added that there is a team of volunteers for the river clean up and they will try to get those same volunteers for the planting. Howard Baker suggested that he contact the Sheriff's office for volunteers. Carrine Kaufer said many people on probation also have to do community service as well as High School students.

E. PROPOSED CHANGES TO DEP WATER QUALITY RULE;

Alice Brees provided PAC with the comments that went to DEP. Hopefully there will be another meeting with County Planners or stakeholders. There is also a possibility that the proposed rules may come out within the next three to six months.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. LIST OF PENDING WMP AMENDMENTS:

Ms. Brees provided PAC with a list of pending WMP Amendments. The chart listed the town, the applicant/owners, property location, project description and status of the application in the process. She said some of these projects, such as the Martin property in Fredon, the Kelley property in Vernon and the Wantage Ridge property in Wantage, are already shown on the County Future Sewer Area Map as proposed sites.

Ms. Brees reported that she spoke with Paul DeMuro at DEP and he said DEP is relying more heavily on the approved Future Sewer Area Map. There are some projects that were in the middle of the Plan Amendment process -- one of them is the Martin property in Hampton, for expansion of the treatment plant to 102,000 gallons per day and possibly the abandonment of the Big 'N Plant. DEP is saying if the property is shown on the map, then the property owner can apply to DEP for a Consistency Determination. DEP will decide if they can proceed to apply for NJPDES Permit. Another project is St. Paul's Abbey on Route 206 in Andover Township. They want to expand the capacity of their treatment plant for affordable housing. This project is also on the map. They were in the middle of the process and had not yet gone to Public Hearing.

Eleanor Mensonides asked PAC how they felt about changing the meeting start time from 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. She said SWAC made this change and it seems to be working out well. Several members said it would be difficult for them to be here at 7:00 p.m. The start time for PAC meetings will remain at 7:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

All business having been completed, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Howard Baker. The motion was seconded by Denise Webb and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.