# MERCER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 17, 2017

PRESENT:

Michael E. Shine, Chairman

William S. Agress, Vice Chairman

Samuel Frisby, Freeholder Edward W. Fedorko, Jr. Samuel M. Rubino

George Fallat, Traffic Engineer (for Gregory Sandusky,

County Engineer)

Leslie R. Floyd, Planning Director (for Brian Hughes

County Executive)

**ALSO PRESENT:** 

Paul R. Adezio, Deputy County Counsel (for Robert Ridolfi,

Board Counsel)

Lisa Fritzinger, Assistant Planning Director Richard Smith, Planning Board Secretary

Matthew Lawson, Staff

Dan Pace, Staff

Emily Blackman, Staff Andrew Lloyd, Staff Regine Saintilien, Staff Matthew Zochowski, Staff

Paul Pogorzelski, Hopewell Township Administrator

Linda A. Galella, Esq., Parker McCay, P.A.

Janine G. Bauer, Esq., Szaferman, Lakind, Blumstein & Bladder, P.C.

Mr. Shine called the meeting of the Mercer County Planning Board to order at 9:07 a.m.

# I. STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, notice of this meeting was sent to the Trenton Times, the Trentonian, and was posted in the County Clerk's office and the County Administration Building on October 30, 2017.

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Agress made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2017 Planning Board meeting and Mr. Frisby seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with the following vote:

Y Michael E. Shine
Y Samuel M. Rubino
Y William S. Agress
Y George Fallat
Y Samuel Frisby
Y Leslie R. Floyd
Y Edward W. Fedorko, Jr.

#### III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

#### IV. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Floyd reminded the Board members that the December Planning Board meeting will be at its normal date and time, Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at nine in the room 211.

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

#### Statement of Adequate Notice

In accordance with the Statewide Water Quality Management Planning rules (NJAC 7:15- 3.5) and the Mercer County Wastewater Management Plan Amendment Procedures, public notice of this proposed amendment entitled "Hopewell Affordable Housing" was published in the New Jersey Register on September 16, 2017, the Times of Trenton on October 1, 2017 and the Hopewell Valley News on October 6, 2017.

a. Public Hearing – Proposed amendment to the Mercer County Water Quality Management Plan. This amendment proposal, titled "Hopewell Affordable Housing," submitted by Van Note-Harvey Associates, Inc. on behalf of Hopewell Township, would expand the Ewing-Lawrence Sewerage Authority sewer service area (SSA) by 73 acres to allow for the construction of a proposed affordable housing development of 600 residential units on the following parcels located in Hopewell Township, Mercer County: Block 93, Lots 5.01 & 5.02, and a portion of Block 93, Lot 3.01. The proposal also includes the removal of 134.19 acres from the adopted Ewing Lawrence Sewage Authority's SSA, resulting in a net reduction of 61.19 acres. The areas proposed to be removed from the SSA are located on Block 85, Lots 8 & 13; Block 88, Lot 5.021, and a portion of Block 93, Lot 6.01. The areas proposed to be removed from the SSA include wetlands, riparian zones, forested areas, and preserved open space. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has reviewed this proposal in accordance with the Water Quality Management Planning rules at N.J.A.C 7:15, has found it to be consistent with its regulations, and has decided to proceed further with the amendment application.

Mr. Paul Pogorzelski, Hopewell Township administrator and engineer presented the proposed amendment to the Board. Mr. Shine asked if there were any comments or questions and Ms. Floyd noted that the public comment period will remain open for 15 days and that the Board will expect to take action at their meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup>. There were comments given and addressed and the Public Hearing was closed. A copy of the verbatim minutes of this hearing are attached and made a part of these minutes.

## VI. Correspondence

There was no correspondence

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Frisby made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Fedorko seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m. with the following vote:

Y	Michael E. Shine	Y	Samuel M. Rubino
$\mathbf{Y}$	William S. Agress	$\mathbf{Y}$	George Fallat
$\mathbf{Y}$	Samuel Frisby	$\mathbf{Y}$	Leslie R. Floyd
$\mathbf{Y}$	Edward W. Fedorko, Jr.		

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard J. Smith, Planning Board Secretary

Attachments, if any, which are listed in the minutes, are made part of the permanent record in the Minute Book and are available upon request.

25

	ERCER COUNTY TEAM. DD. TITTITT COM		
	Page :	5	Page 7
1	MR. SMITH: Pursuant to the Sunshine	1	area, with an overall reduction in the sewer
2	Law, notice of this meeting was sent to the	2	service area in Hopewell Township.
3	Trenton Times, the Trentonian, and was posted in	3	The applicant, Paul Pogorzelski,
4	the County Clerk's office and the County	4	Hopewell Township administrator and engineer, is
5	Administration Building on October 30, 2017.	5	here to present a summary of the amendment.
6	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Thank you.	6	I invite you, Paul, to present your
7	May I have a motion for the approval	7	amendment.
8	of the October 11 meeting minutes, please.	8	MR. POGORZELSKI: Thank you. Good
9	VICE CHAIRMAN AGRESS: So moved.	9	morning. Paul Pogorzelski, professional
10	MR. FRISBY: Second.	10	engineer. Thank you for accommodating us with
11	CHAIRMAN SHINE: All in favor.	11	this hearing.
12	(The Board members vote unanimously	12	I would like to, as a matter of
13	in favor of the motion.)	13	format, just enter into evidence the two
14	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Thank you.	14	Affidavits of Publication, if I may.
15	Any public comments not relating to	15	I'm not sure who would get them, but
16	the public hearing?	16	here you go. They're the originals.
17	(No response.)	17	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Thank you, sir.
18	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Okay. Moving on,	18	(Affidavit of Publication, dated
19	any old business, Leslie?	19	10/6/17, received and marked Exhibit 1 in
20	MS. FLOYD: Only to remind you that	20	evidence; and
21	our December 13 meeting will be at its normal date	21	Affidavit of Public Notice, dated
22	and time, Wednesday, December 13, at nine here.	22	10/9/17, received and marked Exhibit 2 in
23	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Thank you. All	23	evidence.)
24	right.	24	MR. POGORZELSKI: And as Andrew
25	Today, we have a public hearing for	25	spoke, this is just essentially a very minor
	Page 6	-	Page 8
1	1 450	1	1 450 0
1	amendment to the Mercer County Water Quality	1	amendment to the sewer service areas in Honewell
1 2	amendment to the Mercer County Water Quality  Management Plan	1 2	amendment to the sewer service areas in Hopewell Township.
2	Management Plan	1 2 3	Township.
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Page 9 Page 11 Nursery and Washington Crossing-Pennington Road. The balance of the Wastewater 1 Management Plan really speaks to itself. It has and they also own a piece of property that all the technical information, as required by actually has frontage on Nursery Road. 3 DEP. DEP has authorized it to be noticed in The The center lot, Lot 6.1, has been the Register. So I believe we meet all the DEP subject of much discussion in zoning. At one point that center property was included in the criteria. 6 6 7 sewer service area because that property was I'm happy to answer any questions. 7 actually owned by Merrill Lynch. Merrill Lynch VICE CHAIRMAN AGRESS: So of these 8 four sites, the only site that is for affordable wanted to do a mirror image of its campus. So we housing is the site in question today. The other included that, consistent with many studies that 10 three sites are not going to be used for were done for the Transportation Development 11 11 affordable housing. 12 District. 12 So what we're doing now is we're MR. POGORZELSKI: The three sites 13 13 adding the Hopewell Township designated affordable 14 shown in green on this sketch are not going to be 14 developed. housing tracts, Lot 5.01 and Lot 5.02, we're 15 taking a piece of property that's owned by CF 16 16 VICE CHAIRMAN AGRESS: Thank you. Hopewell, known as Lot 3.02 in Block 93, it's 17 CHAIRMAN SHINE: Any comments from 17 about 43 acres, and we're including that in the 18 staff? 18 sewer service area. MR. FALLAT: The rationale for 19 19 removing the site on Pennington Road, Route 31. And then in the center lot, Lot 6.01, 20 20 the sewer service area, can you tell us-there's a significant wooded area on the very west 21 21 edge of that property, and what we're doing, we're 22 MR. POGORZELSKI: It's open space. 22 actually removing that, so that as this property 23 MR. FALLAT: Okay. It's open space. 23 is developed, this green area, which we're 24 MR. POGORZELSKI: Both tracts on removing, we'll combine with the remaining area of Route 31 are designated open space. So there's no 25 Page 10 Page 12 1 Lot 3.01 to serve as a large 174-acre tract of 1 sense having that stay inside the sewer service open space. We'll buffer the adjacent properties 2 area. and will serve to complement our Woolsey Park and 3 MR. FALLAT: Okay. Very good. 3 the municipal facilities. 4 4 CHAIRMAN SHINE: Any comments from So we're actually exchanging for CF 5 the Board? 5 Hopewell, it's almost an equivalent area of this, 6 Andrew? 6 this is about 43 acres, this is about 53 acres, 7 MR. LLOYD: No. and what we decided to do while we're at this is, 8 CHAIRMAN SHINE: Okay. We'll close years ago we purchased the Weidel Tract over on 9 the public hearing and-the west side of Route 31, and that happened to be 10 10 MS. FLOYD: We have to get public comments. within the sewer service area. 11 11 So we said you know what, it doesn't 12 12 CHAIRMAN SHINE: I'm getting there. make sense to have open space inside a sewer 13 13 MS. FLOYD: We're not closing the service area. So, likewise, we purchased just 14 14 public hearing. south of the Pennington Circle, also on the west 15 CHAIRMAN SHINE: We'll open for side of Route 31, a property known as the public comments. 16 16 17 Hutchinson Tract, and we purchased it, and at the 17 Please state your name and your same time we bought the Zeitz property. So, representation and limit your comments to this 18 Hutchinson, however, was specifically designated 19 applicant. 19 for open space. So, we're removing that as well. MS. BAUER: Good morning. My name is 20 20 So, as Andrew spoke, we're adding 21 21 Janine Bauer. I'm an attorney with Szaferman about 73 acres and, all told, we're removing 134 22 Lakind. I represent Deer Valley Realty. 22 acres. So the net result is a negative. We're Primarily what I want to discuss this 23 23 morning is what Deer Valley owns, which is Lot 19, removing 61 acres of total sewer service area from 24 the Hopewell Township designated area. which is the lot where the word "Hopewell" is on

IATI	ERCER COUNTY TEAM. DD. THITHIT C	Ondon	TODLIC HEARING - WONT LAN
	Pa	ige 13	Page 15
1	the lower right side of the presentation		that, let me ask you a question.
2	MR. ADEZIO: This one?		So you were part of the negotiation
3	MS. BAUER: Exactly.		for the affordable housing project?
4	MR. ADEZIO: How large a lot is		MS. BAUER: Well, we're a party to
5	that?		the lawsuit, but we were not included in the
6	MS. BAUER: That's 11.78 acres, it		negotiation that resulted in a settlement. We
7	looks like, as well as Lot 44		found out about the settlement when the settlement
8	CHAIRMAN SHINE: It would be helpful		3 occurred.
9	if you could stand over here and show us.		CHAIRMAN SHINE: And you're not in
10	MS. BAUER: Sure. Happy to do that.	10	
11	MR. SMITH: I have a pointer, if it	1	
12	helps.	13	
13	MS. BAUER: This lot is Deer Valley.	13	and the contract of the contra
14	This lot right here is owned by Deer Valley, this	14	•
15	right here is owned by Deer Valley, and those	1:	
16	are	10	
	CHAIRMAN SHINE: I'm sorry. Which	1	
17	ones?	118	E PARTICIPATOR DE LA PARTICIPATO
18	You were on three.		
19	Those two?	19	
20		20	
21	MS. BAUER: Yes.	2	
22	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Okay.	22	
23	MS. BAUER: And Deer Valley owns	23	
24	other lots as well. But this primarily is what I	24	
25	want to discuss today, because, obviously, we're		area, there is a stream that runs through here
	W AND THE RESERVE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE	ge 14	Page 16
1	here to discuss water quality and wastewater.	1	that causes significant environmental constraints,
2	So, the principal objection that we	2	
3	have to the amendment is that the sewer service	3	into account, the acreage is not that much larger
	area is being extended over our property, but not	4	than the one that's being reserved for affordable
5	including our property, in order to put affordable	1 5	housing and
6	housing here, whereas we had also requested	(	
7	development, and we are a party, but we were	1 7	P,
8	excluded from the settlement negotiations, the	8	J J B
9	settlement discussions, and now the settlement	9	the lots for the amendment.
10	itself.	10	MS. BAUER: Yes.
11	So our position is that this is an	11	8-1-8
12	expenditure and an inefficient use of public funds	12	1-8-1
13	and public utilities, because, obviously, our	13	wetlands and buffers.
14	parcel is closer to the existing sewer service	14	MS. FLOYD: Mr. Chairman, if I may.
15	area, it's closer to the interstate, it's closer	1.5	What we have in front of us is the
16	to the interchange, and it makes a lot of sense	16	proposed area from Hopewell Township, and if there
17	for development reasons.	17	
18	So, the first question that I have is	18	
19	the only reason you need sewer service as being	19	
20	extended up here is for the affordable housing,	20	If the commenter has property that
21	and based on Mr. Pogorzelski's presentation, it	21	
22	seems like that's the case; is that correct?	22	27 COS 1445 FADOS DO 1450 FADOS DO 1450 FADOS DE 1450 FADO
23	MR. POGORZELSKI: I don't know what	23	
24	your format would be	24	
25	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Before we get to	25	
	VER REPORTING SERVICES, INC (60)		
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	Page 17	1	Page 1		
1	to pursue that process separate and apart from	1	CHAIRMAN SHINE: It's not-		
2	today's hearing.	2	MS. BAUER: But that's not for this.		
3	MS. BAUER: Okay. That's very	3	CHAIRMAN SHINE: It's not for this.		
4	helpful.	4	MS. BAUER: All right. So, those are		
5	And, Mr. Chairman, I was only	5	, pp		
6	responding to the comment about the difference in	6	opportunity to		
7	acreage, because I was pointing out that there	7	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Thanks for your		
8	will be some equalization once the constraints are	8	8 time.		
9	taken into account.	9	Mr. Frisby.		
10	CHAIRMAN SHINE: I understand.	10	MR. FRISBY: I have a question.		
11	MR. SMITH: Let me just clarify.	11	You applied, or you guys were in the		
12	I think you said Lot 19 was 11.78	12	suit for affordable housing.		
13	acres; is that correct?	13	Is there a plan for affordable		
14	MS. BAUER: According to the tax	14	4 housing on your parcel?		
15	mapI'm sorry. There's actually an easement that	15	MS. BAUER: No. I mean, all of this		
16	runs through the number. So I'm not sure exactly	16	would, with certain exceptions, I would say, is		
17	what the acreage of that is.	17	really farmland right now. Their property is		
18	MR. SMITH: And Lot 44, how large is	18	farmland		
19	that?	19	MR. FRISBY: But there aren't any		
20	MS. BAUER: Lot 44 looks like it's	20	future plans for affordable housing on your		
21	13.9 acres.	21	property?		
22	MS. SMITH: Thank you.	22	MS. BAUER: I'm not sure what you		
23	MS. BAUER: So I think, actually,	23	mean by future plans.		
24	because of the easement, I think Lot 19 is 111.75	24	We don't have a development		
25	acres.	25	application before Hopewell Township because the		
	Page 18		Page 20		
1	MR. ADEZIO: Yes. It looks much	100	affordable housing discussion that I described us		
2	larger than 11.	2	as being a party to followed the third round, you		
3	MS. BAUER: It's 111. I'm sorry.	3	know, the settlement of the 15-year gap number and		
4	The line for the easement runs through it. It's a	4	the third-round rule.		
5	pipeline easement, a relatively minor pipeline	5	So everyone was waiting for the		
6	easement.	6	process that is occurring now, of which this Board		
7	MR. ADEZIO: It depends on where you	7	hearing of this particular amendment is a part.		
8	live.	8	Otherwise, we're already in superior court waiting		
9	MS. BAUER: It's not one of the ones	9	for the final compliance hearing.		
10	we've been dealing with.	10	MR. FRISBY: I just wanted to know		
11	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Just so you	11	what		
12	understand what Leslie was saying, if you wish to	12	MS. BAUER: I think the answer is		
13	be included in the sewer service area, feel free	13	yes, but I don't want to say yes and have you		
14	to make an application.	14	think that I have a development application before		
15	MS. BAUER: Okay.	15	Hopewell Township		
16	CHAIRMAN SHINE: We have successfully	16	MR. FRISBY: That's not what I was		
17	entertained applications like that in the past,	17	thinking		
18	and we would welcome your presentation.	18	MS. BAUER: Okay.		
19	MS. BAUER: Okay. I appreciate that	19	MR. FRISBY:but I know where		
20	very much, because what will happen if an	20	you're going.		
21	accommodation isn't reached, we will have to ask	21	MS. BAUER: Thank you.		
22	for a rezoning of that parcel from Hopewell or, if	22	MR. FRISBY: Thank you.		
23	they don't agree, from the court, because now	23	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Any other public		
24	we're left at six-acre zoning and, obviously,	24	comments or questions?		
25	that's going to	25	(No response.)		

M	ERCER COUNTY PLAN. BD 11/1////		13011	TODLIC	III./IIIIII	WQMIILM
		age 21				
1	MS. FLOYD: I would add that the					
2	public hearing record be kept open for 15 days,					
3	and that the Board will expect to take action at					
4	our meeting on December 13th.					
5	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Okay.					
6	VICE CHAIRMAN AGRESS: Just for my					
7	own clarification, I think I know what I'm saying					
8	here, we are not in any way looking about a					
9	suitability for affordable housing. This is					
10	strictly a sewer issue.					
11	MS. FLOYD: Absolutely.					
12	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Okay.					
13	CHAIRMAN SHINE: We'll leave that					
14	open, at your recommendation, and					
15	MS. FLOYD: For written comments at					
16	this point, since we've received I think all the					
17	oral comments we're going to receive.					
18	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Okay. Thank you.					
19	Now I'll close the hearing, and I'll ask for a					
20	motion to close the hearing.					
21	MR. FRISBY: So moved.					
22	MR. FEDORKO: Second.					
23	CHAIRMAN SHINE: Okay. Thank you.					
24	(The public hearing concluded at 9:25					
25	a.m.)					
		age 22				
1						
2	CERTIFICATE					
3						
4	I, EDWIN SILVER (Certificate No. XI00379),					
5	Certified Court Reporter and Notary Public of the	;				
6	State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the					
7	foregoing to be a true and accurate computer-aide	d				
8	stenographic transcript taken at the time and					
9	place hereinbefore set forth.					
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12	Tell .					
13	flent the					
14	EDWIN SILVER, CCR					
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16	Dated: November 21, 2017					
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