

CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP SPECIAL MEETING OCTOBER 26, 2023

The Township Committee met on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 295 Bordentown-Chesterfield Road, Chesterfield, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Denise Koetas-Dale at 6:00 p.m. followed by a flag salute and moment of silence.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present: Belinda Blazic, Jeremy Liedtka (6:22 PM), Matthew Litt, Shreekant Dhopte and Denise Koetas-Dale

Also present: Thomas A. Sahol, Administrator; Caryn M. Hoyer, Township Clerk; Rachel Fryc, Deputy Clerk; Troy Ulshafer, Public Works Manager and Carmela Roberts, Township Engineer

Ms. Roberts reviewed her letter of August 15, 2023 to Mr. Sahol outlining the specific requirements of the Tier A Stormwater Permit. She stated there are three basic elements of the Tier A Stormwater Permit requirements. (1) Municipal Stormwater Management Plan (MSWMP), (2) Municipal Stormwater Control Ordinance (SCO), (3) Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SP3). She stated that # 2 is the basis for all that need DEP permits. One portion of this ordinance addresses maintenance. We will need to have operation and maintenance manuals for all basins and they must be maintained. There needs to be a process for all privately owned as well. The Township is still responsible to make sure the owner is properly maintaining. The MSWMP creates a mitigation plan. If the Planning Board grants variances the developer must meeting mitigation requirement. It is a process to determine a plan. You can include things the developer could do to assist in Stormwater. It could be anything on the DEP list of impaired waterways. They are listed and we need to determine if there are any in the township and plan to address the concern which are usually pollutants. All private basin must have Operations Manual created. We will need to do a tree ordinance but the DEP is still making changes. The town must provide local public education and outreach. Mr. Sahol stated we presently do a mailing, website, information to the governing body and clean communities. We have to reach so many points each year and all of these count. Mr. Liedtka joined the meeting. Ms. Roberts stated that training for the planning board members and the governing body members once per term. Mr. Liedtka asked if we will be required to pick up leaves. Ms. Roberts stated no but we need to make sure residents are following the rules. All of the new requirements is going to be huge impact on the public works budget. By January 1, 2026 all streets with inlets must be swept at least 3 times per year and those without inlets at least once per year. Mr. Litt asked where all these new requirements come from. Ms. Roberts stated the clean water act came to NJ in 2005 when the tier A & B was created. In 2023, Tier A requirement were imposed on all communities. The new ordinance will make the developers handle more of the water. Mr. Liedtka asked if the farms are protected under right to farm. Ms. Roberts stated the State Ag Board will not help and we are responsible for the dirt that flows from the fields. She stated that by May 1st next

year we have to certify that certain things are done. She stated we do not have an SPPP. She had intended but because it was very difficult to document everything that used 80% of the budget. Mr. Dhopte asked about what the annual costs will be and the cost to get in compliance. Ms. Koetas-Dale stated that we are balancing whether to add to the public works department or look outside. Those conversations have been on going. Mr. Ulshafer stated that a lot of the operation costs will be for over the next 5 years. Some costs will go away once they are in place and then others will increase. Mr. Ulshafer stated the estimated cost for street sweeping at \$1800-\$2000 per day plus the tipping fees and it will take about 15 days to complete the entire town. Mr. Dhopte stated suppose we don't comply. He was advised there are huge daily fines. Mr. Litt asked about how we will approach private basin owners. Mr. Sahol stated we will help them get in compliance. Ms. Koetas-Dale stated the Ag Advisory Board should discuss some of these issues. Ms. Roberts stated there are a lot of procedures that need to be prepared and completed. The TMDLS Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan needs to be submitted by January 1st. Mr. Liedtka asked if the prison is exempt. Mr. Sahol stated we do not need to include them in our plan, same as the turnpike. MR. Litt asked Mr. Sahol and Mr. Ulshafer if we are on track with getting this done. Mr. Sahol assured the Committee they are working on all of it.

Mr. Litt made a motion seconded by Mr. Dhopte to open the meeting to public comment.

Agnes Marsala – 42 Cromwell Drive – Asked if we are responsible for the compressor station runoff and if there could be a Stormwater utility for properties that has issues or assess fees.

Brett Anderson – 62 Brookdale Way – He stated permits for private landowners should have fees to cover inspections. He stated there is confusion around the site plan approve that has not submitted final plans if they have to meet the new requirements. He asked if the vehicle washing in the driveway is still allowed. Mr. Sahol stated the regulations do not apply to private vehicles.

Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Mr. Dhopte to close public comment. All were in favor.

Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Mr. Dhopte to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 PM. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn M. Hoyer, RMC
Township Clerk