

Mountain Lakes Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

Water Usage Plan Meeting Session

Mar 27, 2018 Borough Hall & DPW

Commissioner Members Present:

Kevin Driscoll

Mimi Kaplan

Nicholas Coppola

David Shepherd - Borough Council Liaison

Borough of Mountain Lakes

Mitchell Stern - Borough Manager

Bill Ryder - Borough Engineer

Mark Prusina - Director Public Works

Water Usage Plan-

A draft of the ML Water Usage Plan was sent to all attendees as background

Key Comments:

- The discussion was opened on the MLEC's review of the ML Water Usage Plan
- Bill and Mark noted they had provided information to John Lester years prior but did not see/review the final plan he produced
- A range of topics was discussed based on the issues flagged in the Water Usage Plan and comments in the EC Review. One topic was risk of exceeding Water Usage Limits.
- Bill indicated he had reviewed the water usage data for the past several years and believed that while the Borough is coming within 10% of its monthly limit for some summer months, this is not unusual. He knew the Borough had exceeded its monthly limits several years ago, however a review of the usage since then implied we did not have any immediate issues.
- There was discussion on the importance of understanding water usage and having an appropriate plan was important to economic planning.
- Regarding whether the Water Usage Plan was adequate - Bill stated what was written was not sufficient Plan. Mark agreed there were deficiencies. Both concurred a new plan should be developed. David, Mitchell, Mimi, Nick, and Kevin agreed,
- There was discussion on the scope of the work and resources, given getting a professionally developed plan could be resource intensive. One option put on the table was leveraging the Highlands Council to develop the Water Usage Plan.

The meeting ended with agreement the EC's review and this group's discussion and position on developing a water usage plan would be taken up with Council.