

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON TO ESTABLISH AN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION IN THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON

BE IT ORDAINED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, New Jersey, as follows:

ARTICLE I:

Establishment. There shall be an environmental commission in the township consisting of not less than five nor more than seven members, established for the protection, development and use of natural resources, including water resources, located within the territorial limits of the Township of Edison. The commission shall be known as the Environmental Commission of the Township of Edison.

ARTICLE II:

Appointment of Membership. The members of the Environmental commission shall be appointed by the Mayor; one shall be a member of the planning board and all shall be residents of the township, and they shall serve without compensation except as otherwise provided herein. The Mayor shall designate one of the members to serve as chairman and presiding officer of the commission. The commissioners first appointed shall serve for staggered one, two or three-year terms. The Mayor may remove any member of the commission for cause, on written charges served upon the member and after a hearing thereon at which the member shall be entitled to be heard in person or by counsel. A vacancy on the commission occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as an original appointment.

ARTICLE III:

Powers and Duties. The environmental commission shall:

SECTION 1: Conduct research into the use and possible use of the open land areas of the township.

SECTION 2: Coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes.

SECTION 3: Advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which in its judgment it deems necessary for its purposes within the limits of funds appropriated to the commission.

SECTION 4: Keep an index of all open areas, publicly and privately owned, including open marshlands, swamps and other wetlands, and obtain information on the proper use of such areas.

SECTION 5: Recommend to the planning board from time to time, plans and programs for inclusion in the master plan of the township for development and use of such areas.

SECTION 6. Do such other acts and things as are reasonably related to and designed to carry out the purposes and objectives of the commission, including without limitation the payment of such clerks and other employees as the commission may from time to time require, within the limits of the funds appropriated to the commission.

SECTION 7: Keep records of the meetings and activities of the commission and make an annual report to the council.

Acquisition of Lands. Subject to the prior approval of the planning board and council, the environmental commission may acquire property, real and personal, in the name of the township, by gift, pledges, grants, bequests, devises or lease, for any of the purposes of the commission and, it shall administer the same for such purposes subject to the terms of such conveyance or gift. The interest so acquired may be the fee or any lesser interest, development right, easement, including conservation easement, covenant or other contractual right, including a conveyance on conditions or with limitations or reversions, as may be necessary to acquire, maintain, improve, protect, limit the future use of, or otherwise conserve and properly utilize open spaces and other land and water areas in the township.

(Source: N.J.S.A. 40-56A-1 et seq)

This Ordinance is to take effect twenty days after its final passage and publication as required by law.

The above Ordinance was finally adopted by the Municipal Council on November 8, 1978, and submitted for approval by Mayor Yelencsics on November 9, 1978.

PASSED ON FIRST READING-OCTOBER 25, 1978.

PUBLISHED-THE NEWS TRIBUNE-OCTOBER 28, 1978.

ADOPTED ON FINAL READING-NOVEMBER 8, 1978.

FINAL ADOPTION NOTICE-THE NEWS TRIBUNE-NOVEMBER 11, 1978.