



February 9, 2010

City Commission must reject new racetrack plans

The Millville City Commission has entered into three long and complex agreements with the New Jersey Motorsports Park, and the city's Planning Board has approved a general development plan and granted preliminary and final approval to a site plan that permits construction of an ATV course.

The Motorsports Park is asking the city to change its agreement again to allow the relocation of a noise-, dust- and pollution-generating ATV course much closer to our residential neighborhoods without the sound barriers required in the previously approved location.

All of these agreements and approvals are governed by state statute and local ordinance that require: "The planned development will not unreasonably adversely impact the surrounding area."

How the commissioners, or Planning Board, could come to that conclusion given the experience of the last two years is beyond belief.

The commissioners should protect local resident taxpayers from profit-seeking developers and refuse to give them more by again amending the already one-sided agreement. What possible motive or reason can the commissioners have to amend the agreement again?

City commissioners, just say no. You have no obligation to accede to the track's request to amend the agreement. If the city just says no and refuses to amend the agreement the track can still build its ATV course, but it would have to build it in the approved location away from residential neighborhoods.

Sounds reasonable to me. Tell your commissioners what you think.

Paul R. Porreca

Millville
