

## BUSINESS & FINANCE

# Quarry Plan Reconsideration Vote Due Wed. at Combined Bernards Committee Meeting

By TAP INTO BASKING RIDGE

January 20, 2018 at 12:14 AM



Residents against a plan to build hundreds of homes and hundreds of thousands of square feet of commercial space protested the plan this month. *Credits: By Linda Sadlouskos*



Overhead view of the Millington Quarry off Stonehouse Road, at Township Committee meeting discussion of redevelopment plan in 2016. *Credits: By Linda Sadlouskos*



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**BERNARDS TWP., NJ - Township officials announced on Friday that two Bernards Township Committee meetings scheduled for this coming week have been combined for Wednesday, Jan. 24, with the agenda including a resolution to remove the Millington Quarry from a state plan to redevelop blighted property, and also to reject a concept plans for 235 homes plus commercial development on the defunct quarry property.**

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday at the Ridge High School Performing Arts Center at 268 S. Finley Ave., Basking Ridge.

The regularly scheduled scheduled Township Committee meeting originally scheduled on Tuesday will not be held, and that evening's agenda will be moved to Wednesday's meeting. The complete agenda for the meeting, including the proposed resolution is on the township website, and can be viewed [here](#).

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Formal action will be taken at this meeting, the township clerk's office said in Friday's announcement.

This year's township mayor, John Carpenter, [said at a Jan. 9 committee meeting](#) that the five-member committee will on Jan. 24 discuss whether the township wants to continue with support for the plan, as proposed and presented last fall, including a proposed hotel as well as additional retail space. Carrying "Stop the Quarry Plan" signs, dozens of residents had protested outside town hall prior to the meeting's start.

**Many groups opposing quarry redevelopment proposal planning to attend** Earlier this week, the Friends of Stop the Quarry group, The New Jersey Sierra Club, Raritan Valley Group, and other environmental groups and advocates announced they would be attending the Jan. 24 meeting at which the resolution will be presented.

"People will have an opportunity to ask the Bernards Township [Committee] to properly clean up and restore the site and a for a proposal for development that would fit in with the character of the community," said a Jan. 18 press release issued by Jeff Tittle, director of the New Jersey Sierra Club.

The Stop the Quarry group also issued an invitation to residents to attend the planned Wednesday meeting this week.

"The Friends of Stop the Quarry Plan's fight is far from over, and this is a very important meeting for residents to attend," the email from the group said. "The current plan is not right for our town and no planning should be done until contamination is remediated." At that point, the zoning on the property, currently zoned as a commercial site, will revert to two-acre residential lots as in a previous redevelopment plan approved by the Planning Board.

This week's agenda includes a vote of Township Committee members on a "Resolution Revoking Designation of the Millington Quarry, Inc., Property as a Non-Condensation Redevelopment Area Previously Set Forth Under the Criteria Set Forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12a-6 and Resolution #2017-0156, and Further Rejecting in Its Entirety Both the Draft Quarry Redevelopment Concept Plan Dated October 2017 ("Draft Plan") and Draft Ordinance #2374."