Meeting Minutes

Chairman David Haines called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Present were Commissioners; Edward Knight, Mike Cavatorta and John Henry. LeeAnne Connolly, Conservation Administrator, was present for the meeting. Conservation Clerk, Michele Nowak recorded the minutes. Commissioners Jon Clements, Joseph Babineau and Linda Leduc were not present for the meeting. Associate member Nicholas Burns was present for the meeting.

7:05 Request for Determination, Cont. – 281 Chauncey Walker Rd., Pine Valley Plantation Pond, installation of a fountain, Richard Kellcher, applicant, Map 262, Lot #8.00. Jeff Plant was present representing the applicant. He did not provide photographs as requested in the last hearing but a revised plan was presented to the Commission. National Grid will not allow further attachments on the current pole as it's already 50% covered. The applicant is proposing a smaller pole approximately 30 ft. away from bank of the pond and the hole to install the pole will be bored. It will be on existing lawn area although that area is covered with poison ivy. The applicant will use a salt solution to deal with the poison ivy. There are two fully developed trees that will conceal the pole. This will be a metered pole and owned by Pine Valley and will be for the utilities for the fountain. The limit of work will be 25 ft. J. Henry motioned to issue a Negative Determination, M. Cavatorta seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).

7:15 Amend Order of Conditions, Cont. – Hickory Hill Subdivision, George Hannum Rd., DEP #104-863, stream crossing, Scott Nielsen, applicant. Scott Nielson was present for the meeting. Mark Darnold from Berkshire Design Group, Inc. was present representing the applicant and presented the amendment which was specific to amending the existing Order of Conditions regarding the planned change to the Magnolia Lane bridge. The wetland and stream channel and bank were originally delineated and approved for the initial Order of Conditions. After the 2011 snow storm and two other weather events, tree falls and washouts apparently changed the course of the channel for the stream. DEP came out and re-delineated the Banks of the stream which had changed its width. The culvert size has now changed from 20 ft. to 32 ft. which results in less impact to wetland and stream. Dave Foulis from DEP reviewed the proposed amendment. The average width is meeting the Stream Crossing criteria. There will be a temporary disturbance to install the bigger culvert, which is a bottom arch culvert, and the revised plan will show the limit of work, which matches the old plan, and will show the new erosion controls and the area of replication which will be done once work is completed. The Commission requested that the redesigned plan be submitted prior to the commencement of construction. There’s going to be a condition of a Deed Restriction which was agreed upon between the applicant and DEP. E. Knight motioned to amend the Order of Conditions, M. Cavatorta seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).

7:30 Request for Determination, Cont. – 636 Bay Rd., garage & tree cutting, Barbara Fenn, applicant, Map 229, Lot #2. The applicants were present for the hearing. E. Knight conducted the site visit. Tree cutting has already been done. The proposed garage is on existing lawn and is 100 ft. from the wetland line, and the area was all staked out when E. Knight arrived. The lot is relatively level until the back of lot where t slopes off into BVV. The majority of the work in the Buffer Zone was cutting and clearing of trees in back. There will be no additional disturbance in the Buffer Zone. This filing is being done for the work to be in compliance. The applicant will put the shed where the original one was as shown on the plan. The applicant hired Alar Weiss to establish the wetland line. The Commission requested siltation control at 50 ft. and since the lot’s flat, hay bales or silt socks are okay for erosion controls. J. Henry recommended issuing a Negative Determination, M. Cavatorta seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).

7:45 Request for Determination, Cont. – 260 Gulf Rd., shed installation & fencing; Patrick Wettbold, applicant, Map 206, Lot #20.00. The applicant was present for the meeting. D. Haines conducted the site visit. The limit of work is 50 ft. from the wetland. The work includes the placement of a shed and installation of dog fencing as well as cutting of two mature yellow birches and some dead Hemlocks. There will not be any regrading and the lot is completely flat so no erosion controls are needed. M. Cavatorta motioned to issue a Negative Determination, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
8:00 Notice of Intent, Cont. – 546 Federal St., house renovation, DEP #104-995, Mark & Diane Plante, applicants, Map 102, Lot #53.00. The applicant was not present for the meeting as they requested it to be continued. There was no discussion on this matter. M. Cavatorta motioned to continue the hearing, at the applicant’s request, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).

8:15 Request for Determination, Cont. – Bardwell St., commercial flower production, Arthur Della Torre, applicant, Map 268, Lot #29.09 (9). The applicant was not present for the meeting and has requested it be continued. There was no discussion on this matter. M. Cavatorta motioned to continue the hearing, at the applicant’s request, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).

Discussion Items: Bills – The Commission voted unanimously, (4:0) to pay all bills.
- Minutes – The Commission voted unanimously, (4:0), to approve the 7/11/16 draft minutes as amended.
- Miscellaneous Matters - There were no miscellaneous matters.
- New Business – There was no new business.
- Extension Request, Fire Pond Maintenance, DEP #104-764, Belchertown Fire Dept., applicant. Chief Bock was present for the discussion about requesting that the Order of Conditions be extended another 3 years. E. Knight made known that he is a volunteer fireman. After a brief discussion the Commission agreed it’s not in conflict with this discussion topic. The Commission would like the wording to change by adding, “Not permitted without prior approval”. Section #53 – Emergency requirements about dewatering was discussed and some examples of discussion were the questions about where to put the water, to have it surrounded by a silt fence, the requirement that the applicant must contact the Commission and a discussion about the possible requirement of Dry Hydrants. Section #48 was also discussed. M. Cavatorta motioned to extend Order of Conditions for 3 yrs, J. Henry seconded. Motion passed unanimously (4:0).
- Partial Certificate of Compliance – Willow Lane, Map 245, Lot #93.00(6), DEP #104-759, Cathy Hayward, applicant. L. Connolly conducted the site visit. The lot is stable and there is a buyer for the lot. L. Connolly recommended release from the subdivision Order of Conditions. J. Henry motioned to issue a Partial Certificate of Compliance, M. Cavatorta seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- Certificate of Compliance – Stubbins St., DEP #104-044, Atty. Paul Barry, applicant. L. Connolly conducted the site visit. The lot is stable. The Order of Conditions was issued in 1982 which allows a road to be installed. The lot in question is the Partyka property which is now known as Emily Lane. The Order of Conditions was never closed out because the work was never done. D. Haines recommended closing it out. M. Cavatorta motioned to issue a Certificate of Compliance, J. Henry seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- Certificate of Compliance – 73 South Washington St., DEP #104-958, David Lafleur, applicant. The site visit was not done. There was no discussion on this matter. M. Cavatorta motioned to continue the discussion to the next meeting, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- Certificate of Compliance – 17 Jasons Way, DEP #104-931, Map 245, Lot #96.00, Brian Woodward & Heidi Bonaffini, applicants. L. Connolly conducted the site visit. The lot is part of the Woods Edge subdivision. The stone wall is permanent marker on the lot and there was no work done in the Buffer. M. Cavatorta motioned to issue a Certificate of Compliance, J. Henry seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- ANR Plans – Rural St., Donald & Francine Freeman, owners. The Commission reviewed the ANR plan and a standard letter will be sent to the applicant.
- ANR Plans Stadler St., George B. Jackson Revocable Trust, owners. The Commission reviewed the ANR plan and a standard letter will be sent to the applicant.
- ANR Plans North Washington St., Leon & Regina Berneche, owners. The Commission reviewed the ANR plan and a standard letter will be sent to the applicant.
- Forest Cutting Plans – South Liberty St., Karen Chudy, owner. The Commission reviewed this forest cutting plan.
Forest Cutting Plans - Blue Meadow Rd. Amendment, Joanna & Allen Page, owners. The Commission reviewed this forest cutting plan.

MACC Dues – L. Connolly informed the Commission about the MACC Dues.

Chapter 61 Removal – 6.4 acres, Pine St. & Franklin St., Boshko Belchertown Realty Trust, owner. The Commission reviewed the Chapter 61 removal information. The Commission voted unanimously, (4:0), to recommend to the Board of Selectmen not to exercise their right of first refusal on the property and allow the sale to proceed.

Final Environmental Impact Report, Belchertown State School Redevelopment Project, Belchertown Economic Development Industrial Corp., applicant. L. Connolly informed the Commission that they need comments by 8/5/16. The Commission was given copies to review. It was agreed that comments will be emailed to L. Connolly to process.

8:40 PM - M. Cavatorta motioned to adjourn, J. Henry seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).

NEXT MEETING Monday, August 22, 2016