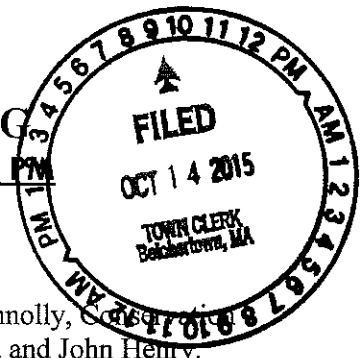


CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, September 14, 2015 Town Hall, Room 101, 7:05 PM



Meeting Minutes

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

7:15 Request for Determination – Barn Construction, 630 North Washington St., Map 268, Lot #4.00, Mike & Kimberly Assimus, applicants. The applicant was present for the meeting. Alan Weiss, Registered Sanitarian, was present representing the applicant. J. Clements conducted the site visit. The work proposed is for a barn outside the 50 ft. Buffer Zone. The limit of work is 50 ft. and all work is on existing lawn. There is no proposed work for tree cutting, re-grading or other disturbance to the property. J. Clements motioned to issue a Negative Determination, J. Babineau seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (6:0).

7:30 Notice of Intent – Sabin St., house construction, DEP #104-0964, Stan Pearson, applicant, Map 248, Lot #10.00(9F). The applicant was present for the meeting. Don Frydryk, Professional Engineer, was present representing the applicant. D. Haines conducted the site visit. The Commission had concerns regarding the stream status of the brook running through the property. The applicant videotaped 4 days of the riverbed being dry, proving the brook is an Intermittent Stream. D. Haines concurred that at both his site visits, the streambed was dry and appeared to be an Intermittent Stream. The Commission agreed to designate this brook as an Intermittent Stream. The wetland delineation was confirmed; the limit of work is at the 25 ft. Buffer Zone; there will be no change of grading. The work that is inside the tree line will be allowed to grow back in a naturalized state. The Commission requested that the applicant leave the driveway where it is but move the rain garden area and let it naturalize. The plan shows White Pine but the applicant proposed switching to Arborvitae. A plan showing the changes requested by the Commission will be presented prior to issuance of the permit. An abutter from 74 Sabin St. was present for the meeting and asked questions about the work proposed. J. Clements motioned to issue an Order of Conditions based on receipt of the revised plan, J. Babineau seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (6:0).

7:55 Notice of Intent – East St. & Route 9, Fish Hatchery Pipeline & Hydroelectric Project, DEP #104-0963, Mass Water Resource Authority, applicant, Map 247, Lots #6.00 & #7.00. Maureen McAvoy was present from MWRA and others, representing the applicant; see sign-in sheet. The project consists of a water withdrawal from the MWRA's Chicopee Valley Aqueduct (CVA) to convey six million gallons per day (gpd) to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife's McLaughlin Fish Hatchery. The project will include a 60 kilowatt (kw) hydroelectric facility which will be housed at the MWRA Ware Disinfection Facility. Water will pass through a turbine prior to discharging to the proposed pipeline. It will provide the Fish Hatchery with a reliable source of cold, clean water and capture energy as this water is conveyed from the CVA to the pipeline. J. Babineau conducted the site visit and confirmed the wetland delineation for series A – F. They have an application with MASS DOT to construct road and there is an existing utility sleeve in the bridge running over Route 9 that can accommodate the 16 inch pipe. No work can originate on the shoreline of the Swift River. All work must be suspended from the bridge. J. Babineau had a concern when reviewing the wetland flag D series regarding a potential vernal/ephemeral pool, however, he felt that there were fish in the pond and therefore it was not jurisdictional. As recommended by NHESP, the following standard conditions will provide protection for the wood turtles during construction: a. Excavated trenches are backfilled daily; b. All work is completed during the period extending from November 15-March 1; or the limit of work is completely surrounded by silt fencing to prevent turtles from entering the work site as they become active in the spring and move during the summer and fall. The bottom of the silt fencing must be carefully buried in a 4-6 inch deep trench and completely encircle the work site; c. All erosion controls are properly installed and maintained throughout construction activities. Erosion controls should be removed as soon as disturbed areas are stabilized to minimize impact to the movement of the Wood Turtle. All work for the bridge will be done in the grassed area and any machinery will be accessed from the bridge. There will be no impact to the Riverfront Area of Swift River. The specific means and methods to install the pipeline (scaffolding, steps/stairs or

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Discussion Items: Bills – The Commission voted unanimously, (6:0), to pay the bills.

- ✦ Minutes – The Commission voted unanimously, (6:0) to approve the 8/17/15 draft minutes as amended.
- ✦ Miscellaneous Matters – There were no miscellaneous matters.
- ✦ New Business – There was no new business.
- ✦ Revised Site Plan Review- Universal Forest Products, Harris Way. The Planning Board submitted the final revised plan for Universal Forest Products.
- ✦ Preliminary Subdivision Plan – Bardwell St. & North Washington St., Bell Property Corp., applicant. A letter will be sent to the Planning Board stating the Commission's concerns. The Conservation Commission has not confirmed the wetlands and encourages maintaining the rural character of the community. The letter is due next week.
- ✦ Common Drive, South Liberty St., Robert Van Zandt, applicant – The Planning board has not received comments yet from the Town Engineer. A standard letter will be sent to the Planning board.

9:23 Commissioner J. Babineau motioned to adjourn the meeting, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (6:0).

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boom truck) will be submitted to the Commission for approval to make sure of compliance with the OOC. No bank alterations will be allowed. The proposed bids will go out this fall and the expected work date is March 2016. J. Clements motioned to continue this hearing, with the applicant's permission, until September 28th meeting, M. Cavatorta seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (6:0).

8:30 Notice of Intent – Blue Meadow Rd., road re-surfacing and drainage, DEP #104-, Department of Conservation & Recreation, applicant, Map 246, Lot #1.00. Scott Campbell and Kimberly Hulse from DCR were present for the hearing. A DEP number and comments have not been issued yet. There was a previous RDA filing on the Aug 17th meeting which reviewed this project. The Commission issued a Positive Determination and required an NOI filing. The proposed work includes repaving, replacing the culvert and reconstructing the headwalls. All work is staying within the confines of the existing roadway and existing drainage. The work is on both sides of the road where there are wetlands and the applicant would like to start the work in September. The culvert pipe is 24 inches. The Commission noted that the initial plan had minimal information; no narrative and no locus map and requested more information from the applicant about work procedures, coffer dam and the use of sand bags. D. Haines conducted the site visit. The applicants provided the Commission with updated photos which showed the current crossing pipe. The wetlands have been flagged. The proposed work will keep the same footprint. The Commission had concerns about the mitigation of runoff and proposed erosion controls and silt runoff. The Commission needs the comments from DEP before this hearing can continue. J. Clements motioned to continue this hearing until the Commission receives comments from DEP, with the applicant's permission, until the September 28th meeting, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (6:0).

8:55 Request for Determination – house construction, North Liberty St., Map 268, Lot #52.00 (A), Pioneer Valley Custom Homes, LLC, applicant. The applicant was not present for the meeting. Don Frydryk, Professional Engineer, was present to represent the applicant. M. Cavatorta conducted the site visit. Kevin Brooks conducted the original flag delineation. The work proposed is for construction of a single-family house, with a portion of the driveway and associated grading within 100 ft. of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland. The wetland is located across the street. The limit of work is 45-50 ft. and no work, (including mowing, cutting of trees, clearing, construction or other additional activities) will be closer than 100 ft. from the Wetland area. E. Knight motioned to issue a Negative Determination, J. Clements seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (6:0).

9:00 Notice of Intent – South Liberty St., house construction & access common driveway, DEP #104-, Robert Van Zandt, applicant, Map 278, Lot #3.00. The applicant was present for the meeting. Don Frydryk, Professional Engineer, was present representing the applicant. J. Henry conducted the site visit. A DEP number and comments have not been issued yet. The Commission is waiting for comments from the Town Engineer – Tighe and Bond. Plans for the proposed work were presented to the Commission. The proposed work involves a common driveway with 5 lots total. There is a temporary logging crossing which is included as wetland area to be altered. The width of the common drive will be 18 feet, wider than the temporary crossing, doing one for one. The limit of work is 50 ft. but the house and gradient are outside the 100 ft. buffer. Keith Morris delineated the wetlands. The Commission had concerns about erosion controls and the proposed detention basins and requested the applicant provide a mitigation plan including types of plantings. The Commission also discussed a Deed Restriction and who would most likely hold it. The Commission is also waiting for Town Engineer's review, and needs comments from DEP before this hearing can close. J. Clements motioned to continue this hearing until the Commission receives comments from the Town Engineer and DEP, with the applicant's permission, until the September 28th meeting, M. Cavatorta seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (6:0).

Partial Certificate of Compliance – Trillium Way, Meadow View Subdivision, Lot #18.01, DEP #104-850, Paul Lussier, applicant. L. Connolly conducted the site visit. The lot is stable and it's not in the Buffer Zone. M. Cavatorta motioned to issue a partial release from the Meadow View Subdivision Order of Conditions, J. Babineau seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (6:0).