



**CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Monday, September 28, 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, Ed Knight and John Henry. Conservation Clerk, Michele Nowak, recorded the minutes. Commissioner Linda Leduc, Mike Cavatorta and Joseph Babineau were not present for the meeting. Associate member Nicholas Burns was also present for the meeting.

- 7:05 Notice of Intent, Cont. – East St. & Route 9, Fish Hatchery Pipeline & Hydroelectric Project, DEP #104-963, Mass Water Resource Authority, applicant, Map 247, Lots #6.00 & #7.00. The applicant was present for the meeting. This NOI is for the construction and the installation of a 4,800 linear feet of water main pipeline to provide water from the Chicopee Valley Aqueduct at the William Brutsch Water Treatment Facility in Ware to the McLaughlin Fish Hatchery located on East St. The comments from Natural Heritage have been received. Natural Heritage has no concerns regarding this work. The Commission has received a DEP number and comments from DEP. The work will be done according to the plans presented at the last meeting entitled “Fish Hatchery Pipeline and Hydroelectric Project, Belchertown and Ware, Massachusetts” Sheets C-1 to C-12 and sheets S-1 and S-2, signed and stamped by Dennis Boucher, PE, and dated August 14, 2015.. J. Henry motioned to issue an Order of Conditions, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- 7:15 Request for Determination – tree clearing, 4 Brandywine Dr., Map 232, Lot #54.00, Jamie Magarian, applicant. The applicant was present for the meeting. E. Knight conducted the site visit. This is an after-the-fact filing. The work was done 50 ft. from an Intermittent Stream bed and there was no stumping of trees. E. Knight noted no other disturbance of the Buffer Zone other than the tree cutting had occurred. The applicant is aware that any future work requires the filing with the Conservation Commission. E. Knight motioned to issue a Negative Determination, J. Henry seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- 7:35 Notice of Intent – Quabbin Tower improvements, DEP #104-, MWRA, applicant, Visitors Center, 485 Ware Rd. D. Haines conducted the site visit. The intended work is to upgrade an existing power and communication system that powers the tower on top of hill in Quabbin Reservoir. The existing power line that feeds it is 60+ years old and is an above ground power line. The applicant wants to clear a 30 ft. swath for the work; DCR will maintain it. The applicant also intends to extend the power and communication lines to the DCR administration building. There will be trenching, installation of an underground conduit system, hale bales, and silt fence and silt socks. There will be about 30 trees removed but there will not be any stumping. Poles will be installed, some in the Buffer Zone. The Commission would like the WPP-04 amended showing additional erosion controls on the plan. The Commission was informed that the original poles and wires are shaky and they will be uninstalled and removed, and new soil will be brought in. The Commission is waiting to receive comments from Natural Heritage and recommended the applicant provide an amended Plan showing additional erosion controls and that filter socks will be used around the newly installed utility poles. The Commission recommended, with the applicant’s permission, that the hearing be continued to the October 13<sup>th</sup>’s meeting in order to hear the results from Natural Heritage and to review the revised erosion control plans as requested. J. Clements motioned to continue the hearing, with the applicant’s request, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- 7:50 Notice of Intent – State St., house construction & driveway, DEP #104-970, Mary Ann Mitchell, applicant, Map 251, Lot #70.00. The applicant was not present for the meeting. E. Knight conducted the site visit. James Kenney, realtor, was present. D. Frydryk was present representing the applicant. The work proposed is to install a driveway to access a new single-family house. The house is outside the Buffer Zone. There is a series of 5 rain gardens for drainage control along the driveway. The driveway is pitched towards wetlands to prevent drainage onto other lots with a series of rain gardens on route. Most of the water is collecting in an isolated wetland, which is not jurisdictional. The Commission had concerns about the stability and steepness of the slope of the driveway. The Commission requested an appropriate gravel

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material be specified, i.e. DOT specs and that this material be used for construction for proper stability and must obtain a stormwater permit for the work. J. Clements motioned to issue an Order of Conditions, E Knight seconded. The motion passed (4:0).

- 8:15 Notice of Intent – 92 South Washington St., garage construction, DEP #104-968, Mark & Charlene Normandeau, applicants, Map 273, Lot #12.03. The applicant was not present for the hearing. Neil Jackson was present representing the applicant. J. Henry conducted the site visit. The Commission had concerns about the amount of work in the 25ft No Disturb Zone. The Commission was provided with an alternatives Analysis. The Commission was not satisfied with the submitted analysis and asked the applicant if it was possible to move the garage farther away from the wetlands in the area of the existing shed. The J. Henry, with the applicant's permission, motioned to continue the hearing until October 13<sup>th</sup>'s meeting, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- 8:40 Notice of Intent – Franklin St., house construction, DEP #104-966, Douglas Cameron, applicant, Map 272, Lot #69.10. This application is for the construction single family house. The applicant was not present for the meeting. Neil Jackson was present representing the applicant. J. Clements conducted the site visit. The limit of work is 75 ft. from the wetland and all work is over 75 ft. from the wetland. J. Clements motioned to issue an Order of Conditions, J. Henry seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- 8:45 Notice of Intent – North Washington St., house construction, DEP #104-962, Robert & Tania Wojtczak, applicants, Map 249, Lot #93.30(3). D. Haines conducted the site visit. The applicant has revised the wetland flags but there was some confusion regarding the numbering of the wetland flags. The Commission had concerns with the limit of work and placement of the silt fence. With the applicants permission, J. Clements motioned to continue the hearing until October 13<sup>th</sup>'s meeting, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- 8:50 Notice of Intent – North Washington St., house construction, DEP #104-961, Robert & Tania Wojtczak, applicants, Map 249, Lot #93.20(2. ) D. Haines conducted the site visit. The applicant has revised the wetland flags but there was some confusion regarding the numbering of the wetland flags. The Commission had concerns with the limit of work and placement of the silt fence. With the applicants permission, J. Clements motioned to continue the hearing until October 13<sup>th</sup>'s meeting, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- 8:55 Notice of Intent, Cont. – South Liberty St., house construction & access common driveway, DEP #104-0965, Robert Van Zandt, applicant, Map 278, Lot #3.00. The applicant was present for the meeting. Donald Frydryk was present to represent the applicant. John Henry conducted the site visit. The Commission has not received comments from the Town engineer. The applicant submitted revised plans and a revised drainage report. There has been a proposed shift to the common driveway which will increase the wetland alteration to 3,755 sq. ft. Deed restriction language was also submitted for review. With the applicants permission, J. Henry motioned to continue the hearing until October 13<sup>th</sup>'s meeting, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- 9:10 Notice of Intent – Various Town Roads, roadway maintenance, DEP #104-, DPW, applicant, various town roadways. The applicant, Steve Williams, DPW director, was present for the meeting. The Commission does not yet have a DEP number for this filing. The applicant is seeking a new Generic Order of Conditions for Town DPW's maintenance of roads, culverts, repairs, invasive species removal and stormwater maintenance. The Commission needs a plan with details for Intermittent Stream culvert replacements. The Commission had concerns about the disposal and/or use of street sweeping sand and requested a written plan be provided to the Commission. The applicant requested a continuance of the hearing. J. Clements motioned to continue this hearing, with the applicant's permission, to the October 13<sup>th</sup>'s meeting, E. Knight seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).
- 9:25 Notice of Intent, Cont. – Blue Meadow Rd., road re-surfacing and drainage, DEP #104-967, Department of

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Conservation & Recreation, applicant, Map 246, Lot #1.00. The applicant was not present for the meeting. The Commission received a letter from DCR requesting a continuance on this hearing until the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. DCR is working on obtaining a 401. J. Henry motioned to continue the hearing, with the applicant's permission, to the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, J. Clements seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).

Certificate of Compliance – 539 State St., Common Drive, DEP #104-501, Robert Henrichon, applicant. There was a question about E. Knight having to recuse himself as a possible abutter. The Commission researched, and he's not an abutter. L. Connolly conducted the site visit. Initially the plan was for two houses back in mid 90s. The lots and the common drive are stable. The common driveway to access two single family homes has been installed since the late 90s. Catch basins are installed. The Commission had concerns regarding whether the drainage was completed as designed for this common drive. L. Connolly will check with the Planning Board and DPW. There was some confusion over whether to issue a COC on this property. However, during this discussion, no COC has been signed and this matter will be continued at the next meeting.

Certificate of Compliance - 5 Dogwood Dr., Map 238, Lot #3.51 (51M), DEP #104-872, Atty. Timothy Reilly, applicant, Hickory Hills. L. Connolly conducted the site visit. The permanent markers are in, the lawn is stable, and it is okay to remove the silt fence. L. Connolly recommended issuance of a Certificate of Compliance. J. Clements motioned to issue a Certificate of Compliance from the Hickory Hills Subdivision Order of Conditions, J. Henry seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0)

Discussion Items: Bills- The Commission voted unanimously, (4:0), to pay the bills.

- ✚ Minutes – There were no minutes.
- ✚ Miscellaneous Matters – ANR letters.
  - Allen St & Fletcher Street – The Commission reviewed the ANR plan and a standard letter will be sent to the applicant.
  - Mill Valley - The Commission reviewed the ANR plan and a standard letter will be sent to the applicant.
- ✚ New Business - L. Connolly informed the Commission that on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 21 students from the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative Program volunteered to clear trails, perform trail maintenance and painted picnic tables at the Reed Conservation Area. It was a successful endeavor. L. Connolly also informed the Commission that there will be a nature walk, from 10AM – 12PM on October 17<sup>th</sup>. The Reed Conservation area is located on Gold Street by Knight's Pond.
- ✚ October Meeting Date – Due to the Columbus Day holiday, the Commission voted that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ✚ Reed Conservation Area Nature Walk - L. Connolly also informed the Commission that there will be a nature walk, from 10AM – 12PM on October 17<sup>th</sup>. The Reed Conservation area is located on Gold Street by Knight's Pond.
- ✚ Emergency Certification, 48 Pool Rd., DPW, applicant. There was a sewer valve break and Belchertown DPW asked for an Emergency Certificate to be issued. L. Connolly issued the Emergency Certificate and the work has been done. There was no discharge to the lake. E. Knight motioned to ratify the Emergency Certification, J. Clements seconded. The motion to ratify was passed unanimously, (4:0).

10 PM Commissioner J. Henry motioned to adjourn the meeting, J. Clements seconded. The motion passed unanimously, (4:0).

**NEXT MEETING Tuesday, October 13, 2015**