

Meeting Minutes

Town Hall- Meeting Room #014

February 20, 2018

7:30 PM

Present: Chris Bajdek, Chair, Jennifer Buttarro, Blake M. Mensing, Ann Marie Pilch, Allen Rutberg, Commissioners; Utah Nickel, Associate Commissioner

Ryan Clapp, Conservation Agent
Kristin Stearley, Conservation Assistant
Charles Katuska, Consultant

Absent: Rebecca Weissman, Vice Chair and Shaw Lively, Commissioners

Chris Bajdek, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

General Business

Vote on Draft Meeting Minutes of 2/6/18

Dr. Rutberg made a motion to accept the draft 2/6/18 meeting minutes. Ms. Buattaro seconded the motion. Vote passes unanimously (5-0-0)

Request for Certificate of Compliance, #23 Minuteman Circle (DEP # 185-787) – Guerriere & Hanlon, Inc.

- Mr. Clapp inspected the site with Mr. Katuska and advised the commission that this would be a partial Certificate of Compliance until the lawn is fully established. A stone retaining wall observed previously onsite was not originally made part of the as-built plan. An updated as-built plan has been received and shows the stone retaining wall. The property is in compliance and Mr. Clapp recommends issuance of the partial Certificate of Compliance.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a Partial Certificate of Compliance for DEP #185-787 as drafted. Mr. Mensing seconded the motion. Vote passes unanimously (5-0-0)

Request for Certificate of Compliance, #17A Whitney Street (DEP #185-814) – Joyce Hastings, GLM Engineering Consultants, Inc. representing Paul Smith, 17 Whitney Street Trust LLC.

- Mr. Clapp inspected the site earlier in the day with Mr. Katuska, found it to be in compliance and recommends the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance.
- Mr. Katuska reported that there is a condition in perpetuity on the property that prohibits outdoor washing of trucks. He notes that the lawn is in and solid and that mitigation is in place.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP #185-787 as drafted. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Vote passes unanimously (5-0-0)

Request for Certificate of Compliance, #100 Wilson Street (DEP #185-438) – Joseph Mark

- Mr. Katuska reported that this address had received a Partial Certificate of Compliance about 7 years ago. The mitigation of the wetlands look perfect and he and Mr. Clapp recommend the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance.

Dr. Rutberg made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP #185-438 as drafted. Mr. Mensing seconded the motion. Vote passes unanimously (5-0-0)

Request for Extension of Order of Conditions, #1014 Highland Street (DEP# 185-677), Alan Stone

- Mr. Clapp went on a site visit on 2/14/18.
- Mr. Katuska mentioned to the Commission that extension orders are automatically approved as long as the request is made more than 30 days from the expiration date. The owner, Mr. Stone, requested a staff plan change review. Staff did not feel comfortable administratively approving the plan change after reviewing it and has brought it before the Commission for approval. He also mentioned that the area being discussed is a heavily disturbed area.
- Mr. Stone explained to the Commission that he is having difficulty marketing the property without the ability to construct a second story. Currently there is no room to build stairs. He would like to extend the foundation footprint by 325 square feet into the 50' buffer zone to allow for a code compliant set of stairs. He proposes to cantilever the additional square footage over the 50' buffer zone using a Techno Metal Post helix system. He proposes using a maximum of 4 posts as indicated on the plot plan provided.
- Mr. Stone also mentioned a fallen tree into the wetland on the property. He noted it was a danger and had seen children playing on and around it. Staff approved removal of this tree immediately.
- Mr. Bajdek asked how high the structure would be and Mr. Stone replied that it would be a two story structure to code.
- Dr. Rutberg asked if there would be space between the construction and the ground and Mr. Stone advised there would be space. The cantilevered section would not touch the ground.
- Mr. Mensing suggested having some plantings in the buffer zone to mitigate the installation.
- Ms. Pilch suggested the use of male and female Winterberry Holly.
- Mr. Stone agreed to install Winterberry Holly along the driveway.
- Mr. Katuska noted that staff would draft a letter to the file as an Administrative Update to the File on the Amended Order of Conditions, DEP #185-438 with the stipulation that six (6) Winterberry Holly bushes be planted along the driveway.

Mr. Mensing made a motion to approve an Administrative Update to the File on the Amended Order of Conditions for DEP# 185-677 at #1014 Highland Street with the stipulation that six (6) Winterberry Holly bushes be planted along the driveway. Ms. Buttaro seconded the motion. Vote passes unanimously (5-0-0)

Beaver Management – Rail Trail Emergency Certification Form

- Mr. Clapp and Mr. Katuska reported that they received notice from Katrina Proctor of the Central Mass Mosquito Control Program that the flooding of an upstream beaver dam is posing a threat to human health and safety with the potential to cause property damage (e.g. flooded basement/house) and health issues, such as mold growth. This is primarily in the area of 1919 Washington Street where the homeowner reports a flooded basement and concern for his heating system. The breaching work will be done gradually. Each breaching event will be separated by a minimum of one week and will result in lowering the water levels by no more than 8+per event.
- Mr. Katuska mentioned that Ms. Proctor stated the beaver management system in place at this location is not successful. It is apparent that there is not enough water for the beaver and too much for the health and safety of people and property. No solution has been finalized.
- Mr. Clapp issued the Emergency Certification Form on February 15, 2018. He requested that the commission sign the order which was completed.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to ratify the Emergency Certification Form for the Holliston Rail Trail. Mr. Mensing seconded the motion. The vote passes unanimously (5-0-0)

Plan Change Review – DEP# 185-773, #415 Concord Street, Brooksmont Meadow Invasive Species Control Plan

- Tom Reburk of Goddard Consulting, LLC reported to the Commission that the site is inundated with invasive species; Autumn Olive, Buckthorn, and Multi-Floral Rose. In August 2017 the site was cleared as much as possible but with new growth and remaining stumps the dab treatment is no longer an effective means to remove the invasive plants. He is requesting the spraying of an herbicide to remove the remaining plants.
- Tom Christopher of Christopher Environmental has been contracted by the owners to do the work. He states that the best way to have success is to use the herbicide Rodeo Glyphosphate.
- Ms. Pilch questioned when the spraying would be done.
- Mr. Christopher responded that the applications will be done in May and late August.
- Mr. Bajdek questioned how tall the remaining invasive plants are and how the herbicide be applied.
- Mr. Christopher responded that the remaining invasive plants are at ground level to 3qhigh currently but will continue to grow and certainly be taller in May. There are three zones of management that will all be treated at once. He will use a 50 gallon small tank sprayer that will be controlled by hand. He will walk and spray. He will keep the spray to under 12qand he will keep the collateral damage to under 5%. He knows of no requirements for placarding the property notifying abutters that the herbicide has been applied but will do so and will not allow re-entry into the property for 12 hours after the application.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to approve the Administrative Plan Change Review to File for DEP #185-773, Brooksmont Invasive Species Control Plan. Mr. Mensing seconded the motion. Vote passes unanimously (5-0-0)

FY19 Budget Discussion

- Mr. Clapp reported that Sharon Emerick the Town Accountant put together a budget for the Commission following the guideline of 1.5% as directed by the Financial Committee. The overall budget is down approximately 3 ½% because of salary line items. He has increased the training budget to support new staff. The budget will be presented to the Board of Selectmen on February 26, 2018 and to the Financial Committee in March.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to accept the proposed FY19 budget. Ms. Buttaro seconded the motion. Vote passes unanimously (5-0-0)

Review Correspondence

- Correspondence was reviewed and invoice dated February 20, 2018 from Charles J. Katuska in the amount of \$3225.40 was authorized for payment.
- Mr. Katuska discussed the need for updating the Emergency Response Plan for dams by the Commission. He also discussed that Linden Pond has issues. This is a dammed pond near Hollis Machine that is under the control of the Conservation Commission. The spillway needs clearing.
- Mr. Katuska informed the Commission that he would be coming into the office for 2 more Tuesdays and then will be working on updating the Wetlands Protection By-Law project.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Request for Determination of Applicability File # D 624: #56 Jerrold Street (Assessors Map 7-7-295) for a proposed replacement septic system installation . Joyce Hastings, GLM Engineering Consultants, Inc. representing Paul Marseglia

- Chris Gaboriault of GLM Engineering represented the application and waived the reading of the legal notice.
- Mr. Gaboriault reported that the property requires a new septic system. The current system has failed Title V and is currently being made ready for sale. He states that the leaching field is 89qaway from the wetlands. There will be a silt barrier around the heavy woods, the project access in on the left side of the driveway and the stockpile will be located outside the buffer zone.
- Ms. Mensing asked how the existing tank would be disposed and Mr. Gaboriault responded that it would be crushed and disposed of according to Title V.
- Mr. Mensing asked about the current leaching fields and Mr. Gaboriault responded that the current fields will be crushed and remain under the ground. They cannot be used for the new system. They will go down 50+and fill them with Title V material.
- Mr. Clapp reported that a flood plain extends into the property and has not been properly reflected on the plans presented. It will be up to the applicant to supply a new plan detailing the flood plains prior to the issuance of a determination from the Commission.

Dr. Rutberg made a motion to approve the issuance of a Negative 3 Determination of Applicability for File # D 624 with the stipulation that a revised land survey showing the floodplains is received. Ms. Buttaro seconded the motion. Vote passes unanimously (5-0-0)

Ms. Pilch made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. Mr. Mensing seconded the motion. Vote passes unanimously. (5-0-0).