

Holliston Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Town Hall . Meeting Room #014

May 31, 2016

7:30 PM

Present: Allen Rutberg, Chair; Ann Marie Pilch, Vice-Chair; Chris Bajdek, Emily Kingston, David Schroder; Commissioners

Charles Katuska, Conservation Agent
Sheri O'Brien, Conservation Assistant

Absent: Shaw Lively, Rebecca Weissman; Commissioners

Dr. Rutberg, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:35 PM.

General Business

Appointment with Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

Mr. Ritter discussed the pending retirement of Charles Katuska, our Conservation Agent. Mr. Katuska plans to retire at the end of July. The Agent position will be posted on-line and applications will be accepted until June 17th or until the position is filled. There was discussion about the draft position notice and input from the Commission was considered.

Rogers Road Farm Soil Testing

Two soil samples were tested in fall 2015 and heavy metals levels were below acceptable levels.

The Agent received a quote of \$295.00 from Alpha Analytical Laboratories (Westborough, MA) for analyzing one soil sample for pesticides & herbicides. The breakdown is \$102 for pesticides, \$180 for herbicides and \$13 for a required total solids test. Both the pesticide & herbicide tests are for a general suite of compounds, including many products no longer used.

The Commission agreed to test this single composite sample (from 4-5 locations in the open field area) as a land management activity out of the Conservation Fund for \$295. Should the composite sample test positive for any compounds of concern, then additional testing to localize any area of concentration may be required.

Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-734: 255 (Lot 6) Prentice Street - F&D Central Realty

The site was inspected today. The grass has not grown in yet. There will be four ongoing conditions for this partial Certificate of Compliance.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a Partial Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-734: 255 (Lot 6) Prentice Street. Ms. Kingston seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0)

Beavers:

- **Christopher Road:** The beavers have re-built the dam on Hopping Brook, off of Christopher Road again, after it had been breached with an Emergency Certification by the Highway Department this past spring.
 - **Short-term Plan:** Ask the Highway Department to breach the dam again with an Emergency Certificate.
 - **Long-Term Solution:** This seems to be a location that should be evaluated by Mike Callahan from Beaver Solutions for a water control structure.
- **Cross Street:** Beavers are once again raising the water level high enough in Chicken Brook so that the fire suppression pump for Equity Industrial may be jeopardized creating a threat to human health and safety.
 - Mr. Henretta, from Equity Industrial, would like to breach the beaver dam and will need to obtain an Emergency Certification from the Commission to do so.
 - The Board of Health will need to issue a 10-Day Emergency permit to trap the beavers if the Health Director deems this issue a certifiable threat to human health and safety.

Public Meetings and Hearings

Continued Public Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP File #185-808: 16 Fruit Street (Assessors Map 8F Block 3, Lot 24) proposal to expand the parking lot, construct a stormwater detention basin, and demolish a house . *Robert Truax/GLM Engineering* representing *Daniel Nissi, MetroWest Realty Group LLC*

Present for the applicant: Robert Truax, GLM Engineering, Peter Barbieri, attorney.

- Dr. Rutberg submitted an affidavit regarding his review of the public hearing evidence from May 17, 2016.

- Mr. Truax submitted revised plans (dated May 26, 2016) to the office last week, and reviewed these plans with the Commission this evening.
- The 36+ and 42+ trees will be removed.
- Two sugar maples and three black gum trees were added to replace the non-native hornbeam and ginkgo trees originally proposed.
- Two additional black gum trees were added along Fruit Street to provide additional screening for residents.
- Riprap and filter fabric were added along the bank of the canal.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to close the hearing for DEP File #185-808: 16 Fruit Street. Mr. Bajdek seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0)

- The Agent reviewed the conditions of the OoC with the representatives.
- Additional special conditions were added regarding: the inspection of the sub-grade upon excavation of the bio-retention basin, invasive species control, and snow removal.

Mr. Bajdek made a motion to approve and issue the Order of Conditions for DEP File #185-808: 16 Fruit Street. Mr. Schroder seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0)

Continued Public Meeting - Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-570: 116 Hopping Brook Road (Assessors Map 4, Block 6, Lots 32.1, 32.2 & 53) proposed construction of a parking lot & drainage system associated with a new commercial building - *Robert Truax/GLM Engineering* representing *Wayne J. Griffin Electric, Inc.*

Present for the applicant: Robert Truax, GLM Engineering

- Dr. Rutberg submitted an affidavit regarding his review of the public hearing evidence from May 17, 2016.
- The Stormwater Management Plan was peer reviewed through the Planning Board and there were no issues.
- The Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Plan condition for the construction period was discussed.
- The Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Plan condition for the post-construction period was reviewed. This condition will last in perpetuity.
- A standard condition regarding fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides was reviewed.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue the following Determinations for RFD #D-570: 116 Hopping Brook Road:

Positive #2B Determination: the boundaries of the wetland resource areas are NOT confirmed as accurate;

Positive #5 Determination: the work is subject to review by the Holliston Conservation Commission pursuant to the Holliston Wetlands Administration ByLaw (Article XXX); and

Negative #3 Determination: the work is within the Buffer Zone, but will not alter an Area subject to protection under the Act, therefore, the work does not require a Notice of Intent (with 3 conditions).

Ms. Kingston seconded the motion. Mr. Schroder abstained. (4-0-1)

Continued Public Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP File #185-814: 17 Whitney Street (Assessors Map 12 Block 4, Lot 3) proposal to demolish an existing house, garage & driveway and construct a commercial garage & septic system with driveway, related utilities & outdoor storage bins – *Joyce Hastings/GLM Engineering* representing *Paul Smith/17 Whitney Street Realty LLC*.

Dr. Rutberg submitted an affidavit regarding his review of the public hearing evidence from May 17, 2016.

The applicant's representative, Joyce Hastings, made a written request to continue this hearing until June 14, 2016.

Mr. Bajdek made a motion to continue the hearing for DEP File #185-814: 17 Whitney Street to June 14, 2016. Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0)

Continued Public Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP File #185-813: 78 Union Street (Assessors Map 8F Block 1, Lot 42) proposal to construct an attached garage & driveway expansion – *Joyce Hastings/GLM Engineering* representing *Julie McKay Sutherland*.

Dr. Rutberg submitted an affidavit regarding his review of the public hearing evidence from May 17, 2016.

The applicant's representative, Joyce Hastings, made a written request to continue this hearing until June 14, 2016.

Ms. Kingston made a motion to continue the hearing for DEP File #185-813: 78 Union Street to June 14, 2016. Mr. Bajdek seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0)

General Business Continued

Vote on Draft Meeting Minutes:

- 5/17/16
 - 10/14/14
- **Ms. Pilch made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2016 meeting. Ms. Kingston seconded the motion. Dr. Rutberg and Mr. Schroder abstained. The motion passed. (3-0-2)**
- The October 14, 2014 minutes were tabled to the next meeting.

Review Correspondence

The mail was reviewed.

MACC Fundamentals for Conservation Commissioners: Ms. Kingston has completed the 10-class MACC Fundamentals for Conservation Commissioners coursework and has received a Certificate of Achievement.

Resignation: Mr. Schroder let the Commission know that he regretfully will not be renewing his appointment for another term. His term ends on June 30th, so his last meeting will be June 28th.

At 8:30 PM, Ms. Pilch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Kingston seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0)

The next Conservation Commission meetings will be:

∞ **Tuesday, June 14, 2016** at 7:30 PM; Lower Level Meeting Room #014

∞ **Tuesday, June 28, 2016** at 7:30 PM; Lower Level Meeting Room #014