

East Longmeadow
Department of Community Development and Planning
60 Center Square
East Longmeadow, Massachusetts 01028
(413) 525-5400- ext. 1700 - fax (413) 525-1656



Minutes

Meeting of the Conservation Commission

March 28, 2018, 6:00 pm

Library Conference Room, 60 Center Square, East Longmeadow, MA 01028

Present: Chairman Craig Jernstrom; Vice Chair Robert Sheets; Thomas O'Brien; Jeffrey Bosworth; Anthony Zampiceni; Mary Ellen Goodrow; William Arment

Chairman Jernstrom opened the meeting at 6:02pm.

New Business

- STR 209/Kibbe Road, Request for Determination of Applicability - 6:00pm

Chairman Jernstrom read the legal notice into the record. April Jeroski from Tighe and Bond on behalf of NE Power Company presented the plan for multiple structural replacements along the line. The purpose of the work is to reduce flow from the structure to prevent damage to functionality. Erosion & sediment controls will be installed as shown on the plan submitted. Chairman Jernstrom confirmed that there is already existing equipment, and cannot see any issues with this project as presented.

Mr. Sheets moved to grant a negative 3 determination with the stipulation that erosion and sediment controls are installed as submitted on plans; seconded by Mr. Bosworth. **The motion to approve the Request for Determination of Applicability at STR209/Kibbe Road with a negative 3 determination including stipulations passed unanimously (7-0).**

- 26 Woodlawn Street, Request for Certificate of Compliance

The request was reviewed and after a visit to the site it was determined that the site is in compliance. Mr. O'Brien moved to grant the Certificate of Compliance; seconded by Mr. Arment. **The motion to grant a Certificate of Compliance for 26 Woodlawn Street passed unanimously (7-0).**

- 17 Erika Circle, Request for Certificate of Compliance

The request was reviewed and after a visit to the site it was determined that the site is in compliance. Vice-Chair Sheets moved to grant the Certificate of Compliance; seconded by Mr. O'Brien. **The motion to grant a Certificate of Compliance for 17 Erika Circle passed unanimously (7-0).**

- 34 Halon Terrace, Notice of Intent - 6:15pm

Chairman Jernstrom read the legal notice into the record. He stated that several commissioners were able to visit the site within the last week. Heather Comee of Wetland Consultants presented the plan for work to build a barn about 25 feet from wetland. She clarified that the area of work is not located within priority or estimated habitat or flood plain.

Amelia Cappachio of 24 Halon Terrace said she would prefer not to have this structure built in her backyard. Chairman Jernstrom explained that Planning and Zoning's purview is use, not the Conservation Commission.

Beth Stone of Pease Road asked where exactly on the site the building will be built. Ms. Comee pointed out that there won't actually be any construction on Halon Terrace.

Chairman Jernstrom pointed out that there would be virtually no impact on wetlands. Permanent markers along the path prohibit driving through wetlands there. He reminded the public that they can report violations if they see them.

Mr. Arment moved to close the hearing; seconded by Mr. Zampiceni. **The motion to close the public hearing passed unanimously (7-0).**

Vice-Chair Sheets moved to approve the Notice of Intent as submitted; seconded by Mr. Arment. **The motion to approve the Notice of Intent for 34 Halon Terrace as submitted passed unanimously (7-0).**

- 36 Redstone Drive, Notice of Intent - 6:30

Chairman Jernstrom read the legal notice into the record. John Thomashefsky, an engineer with R. Levesque Associates, presented the plan for the subdivision. The parcel contains 26 acres of land, with ponds that were created from quarry operations long ago. The plan is to build residential lots along the west, east and south of the property. Right now, the only concern is permission to build a road, and not individual lots. The desire is to put a culdesac at the end of Redstone Drive. Mr. Thomashefsky indicated where the stormwater management systems would drain to, and added that all work to be done is outside the 100ft buffer zone. He said that they have been working with the DEP and the East Longmeadow Planning Board as well as some peer review from Russo Associates. Chairman Jernstrom explained to the public that the delineation of where the wetland boundaries are had been previously approved. This step is the approval of the roadway and stormwater system.

Tina Moreno, off Harwich Rd expressed concern with the basin, wanting to know how contaminated the water would be. Mr. Thomashefsky stated that the basin is set up in the event of a 100 year storm, and it would take just that to kick off excess runoff. He stated that the plans meet all DEP requirements.

Alice Widmer of 81 Harwich Road asked why the developer couldn't the runoff flat across and put it into a regular sewer. Mr. Thomashefski said he suspects the easement is there because of the existing grade. Ms. Widmer pointed out the retention basin behind Rocky's as not being maintained and looking terrible. Chairman Jernstrom conceded that approximately only 25% of basins are actually maintained properly and enforcement is a concern. Ms. Widmer then asked why the road has to run down toward her property instead of straight into the brook. Mr. Thomashefski said that the road does not naturally grade appropriately for that.

Felix Larosa, of 61 Harwich Road stated that his property is at the southwest corner of the proposed project site and he has water there continuously, due to the Deerborn retention pond that overflows and feeds that corner. He wanted to know why the developer would direct more water down to that area, instead of going to the quarry, up top. Chairman Jernstrom clarified that the site would not be in compliance if stormwater was being dumped into the quarry.

Steve Varelas, of 20 Redstone Drive stated that runoff from street causes water to go into his yard. He was also concerned about somebody coming unannounced onto his property recently to put pink ribbons on trees.

Tina Marino of 77 Harwich Road expressed concern with what will be in all that water. Chairman Jernstrom said that there are filtering systems within the basins.

Patricia Arcand of 55 Harwich Road stated that there is a retention basin behind her house and it is always full and pretty soon all the mosquitoes will be breeding.

Steve Varelas of 20 Redstone Drive inquired as to who Rosebud Builders are, as he was unable to find any information on them with a Google search. Mr. Thomashefsky said that he thought they were located in East Longmeadow, and indicated that Al Joyce is the owner.

Phil Larosa of 61 Harwich Road offered to email Chairman Jernstrom video of the Deerborn runoff.

An unidentified Rosebud Builders employee cited several properties being built in surrounding areas, including two homes on Peachtree Road and one on Avery Street here in East Longmeadow.

Vice-Chair Sheets moved to close the public hearing; seconded by Mr. Zampiceni. **The motion to close the public hearing passed unanimously (7-0).**

Mr. Arment asked Mr. Thomashefsky if lots 4, 5, and 6 already pitch back to Harwich. Mr. Thomashefsky stated that they do. Mr. Arment then asked if the road will be higher than the existing one. Mr. Thomashefsky stated that it will be just about at grade, and that the individual lots will likely grade toward the roadway, not toward the back.

Ms. Goodrow inquired if there has ever been a study done on impact to wildlife in that area. Mr. Thomashefsky said that he is not aware of any.

Mr. Jernstrom asked if the feasibility of one or two underground basins was looked at. Mr. Thomashefsky stated that since the groundwater is only down 2-3 feet, a subsurface would not be possible.

Vice-Chair Sheets moved to approve the Notice of Intent as submitted; seconded by Thomas O'Brien. **The motion to approved the Notice of Intent for 36 Redstone Drive as submitted passed unanimously (7-0).**

- 49 Callender Avenue, Request for Determination of Applicability - 6:45pm

Chairman Jernstrom read the legal notice into the record. Kate Wilkins of Tighe and Bond presented the plans for the work being proposed. An existing distribution line pole in the gravel parking area is being replaced along with a new one being put up within the same gravel parking area. The work done will come within about 20 feet of the 100 foot buffer zone. The entire area is fenced. Chairman Jernstrom recalled the original substation project, and identified this as an enhancement to an already existing site.

Mr. Bosworth moved to approve a negative 3 determination with the stipulation that erosion and sediment controls are installed as submitted on plans; Mr. Zampiceni seconded. **The motion to approve the Request for Determination of Applicability at 49 Callender Avenue with a negative 3 determination including stipulations passed unanimously (7-0).**

- DPW Generic Notice of Intent - 7:15pm

Chairman Jernstrom read the legal notice into the record. No members of the public were in attendance.

Mr. Bosworth moved to close the public hearing; seconded by Mr. Arment. **The motion to close the public hearing passed unanimously (7-0).**

Chairman Jernstrom recalled that the last Generic NOI by the DPW was expired by a few months. He also noted that this one has a lot more. There were not questions or concerns about the work being proposed.

Mr. Arment moved to approved the Notice of Intent; seconded by Mr. Zampiceni. **The motion to approve the East Longmeadow DPW's Generic Notice of Intent passed unanimously (7-0).**

Old Business

- Request for Certificate of Compliance: 9 Euclid Ave, Michael Torcia Jr
The commission has not received a response from the owner regarding a letter that was sent. No action to be taken, at this time.
- Enforcement Order: Bella Vista Estates

The revised enforcement order was reviewed and signed.

- Request for Certificate of Compliance: 27 Old Farm Road (Lot 12)

The commission has not received a response from the owner regarding a letter that was sent. No action to be taken, at this time.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of March 14, 2018, February 28, 2018, January 10, 2018, October 25, 2017 and September 13, 2017 were tabled to the next meeting.

Update on Monitored Projects

- 2017 DEP Filings: It was determined that there is a need to look at Denslow Road as it is unclear which parcel this is.

Mr. Arment moved to adjourn at 7:15pm; seconded by Mr. Bosworth. **The motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm passed unanimously (7-0).**

Respectfully Submitted,

Craig Jernstrom, Chair