



EAST LONGMEADOW CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Wednesday, August 12, 2020
6:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Zoom Webinar

MINUTES

Chair Craig Jernstrom opened the meeting at 6 PM and called the roll.

CALL THE ROLL

Present: Craig Jernstrom, Chair
Jeffrey Bosworth, Clerk
Frances Corgnati
Anthony Zampiceni
Erin Lynch

Absent: Tom O'Brien

Staff Present: Bethany Yeo, Planning & Community Development Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 22, 2020

Motion to approve the July 22, 2020 meeting minutes made by Commissioner Anthony Zampiceni; second by Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth and approved by roll call vote four (4)-zero (0). Commissioner Erin Lynch abstained from the vote as she was absent from the July 22, 2020 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Case NOI 2020-5: Notice of Intent for Pease Road** (Assessor's Parcel ID 32-34A-B) for the construction of a single family home and stormwater management basin within the Buffer Zone on a 2.36 +/- acre site. Applicant: Emanuele Marino, 66 Lathrop Street, West Springfield, MA 01089. (Cont. July 22, 2020)

Representing the applicant was Tim Coon, Principal Engineer [J.R. Russo & Associates, LLC, 1 Shoham Road, East Windsor, CT 06088]. Mr. Coon presented the revised plans primarily revised to minimize disturbance within the 25 FT buffer zone as requested by the Commission by relocating the dry detention basin and explained the difference between the two scenarios he had drawn up for the Commissions review and approval. Mr. Coon also explained the Limit of Work Line shown on Scenario 1 corresponds with their limit of clearing and the 25 FT buffer zone from the wetlands.

Scenario 1 involves 870 +/- SFT of disturbance within the 25 FT Buffer Zone however; Mr. Coon noted this area was previously disturbed due to the installation of existing sewer line and water main. Mr. Coon opined the first scenario was a better option as the outlet pipe from the basin would be discharging toward the wetlands therefore maintaining the original flow of run off fed into the wetland area. Scenario 2 involves no disturbance to the 25 FT Buffer Zone with the detention basin outlet pipe discharging toward the west away from the wetlands. Mr. Coon also explained they had created a depression in the center of the cul-de-sac island so now the catch basin acts as an overflow structure. The cul-de-sac has been re-graded so the run off from the paved area goes toward the depressed area and has the opportunity to "pool" before going into the catch basin and is directed into the detention basin. The pooled water will have the opportunity to infiltrate into the ground similar to a rain garden.

The Chair asked for clarification on the drain situated at the center of the cul-de-sac island. Mr. Coon explained the under drain prevents standing water for any length of time by directing water to drain to

the catch basin and onto the detention basin. Mr. Coon stated the cul-de-sac will be graded so run off can flow from all sides of the cul-de-sac into the depressed center of the cul-de-sac.

The Chair opened the public hearing to comment from the public.

Brad and Carleen Hoffman, 54 Devonshire stated they were in favor of Scenario two as it would drain run off away from their property.

Hearing no further comment from the public, **motion to close the public hearing was made by Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth; second by Commissioner Frances Corgnati and approved by roll call vote five (5)-zero (0).**

Discussion regarding the pros and cons of each scenario ensued amongst the Commission.

Commissioner Erin Lynch asked for clarification on the differences between of Scenario 1 and Scenario 2. Chair Jernstrom summarized the main differences. Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth pointed out the first scenario, although initially causing minimal disturbance within the 25 FT Buffer Zone, the area would be revegetated once the outlet pipe was installed. Chair Jernstrom asked for clarification on where the erosion controls were being proposed at the north end by the wetlands finger. Mr. Coon explained the area past where the erosion controls would be installed had been cleared previously however they thought it would be best to have the erosion controls closer to the proposed limit of work line as shown on the plan. Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth inquired if an underground infiltrator system was viable at this site. Mr. Coon stated unfortunately an underground infiltrator system would not be viable based on soil testing at the site which discovered a hardpan level which would prevent infiltration of water into the soil.

[Hardpan is a hard, usually clay-rich layer of soil lying at or just below the ground surface, in which soil particles are cemented together by silica, iron oxide, calcium carbonate, or organic matter that has precipitated from water percolating through the soil. Hardpans do not soften when exposed to water.]

Discussion ensued. Commissioner Frances Corgnati asked for clarification in Scenario 1 on if the water run-off would negatively impact the properties to the north of the site. Environmental Consultant, Keith Morris explained the outfall into the wetlands in Scenario 1 would aid in maintaining the wetlands by helping to prevent the wetlands from drying out. Mr. Morris did not foresee significant increase in water levels to the north of the site.

Commissioners Jeffrey Bosworth, Erin Lynch, Frances Corgnati and Anthony Zampiceni stated they were in favor of Scenario One.

Motion to approve the Notice of Intent made by Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth; second by Commissioner Anthony Zampiceni and approved by roll call vote five (5)-zero (0).

PROJECT MONITORING

2. Projects [See Project Monitoring spread sheet]

The Commission requested the Planning Director send letter to the homeowner at Lot 5, Pondview Drive informing them a Notice of Intent is required for any proposed work.

Chair Craig Jernstrom spoke to the need to review photographs that were included in the Enforcement Order issued for lots 19 & 20 at Hidden Ponds Estates in response to the letter Al Joyce had sent the Commission requesting the Enforcement Order be rescinded.

Jeffrey Bosworth reported on a site visit conducted in response to a call from a resident on Avery Street and stated the visit had been inconclusive.

Chair Jernstrom shared that an applicant had filed a Request for Certificate of Compliance for 53 Old Farm Road but had withdrawn the application stating they did not need to file a Certificate of Compliance to sell the property. Chair Jernstrom questioned the reasoning of this statement. Chair Craig Jernstrom requested that the matter receive a legal opinion from Town Counsel, if permitted by the Town Manager. Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth noted 101 Old Farm Road had installed the driveway as per the

approved site plan and shared a potential violation at 79 Old Farm Road. Frances Corgnati offered to update the project monitoring excel sheet notes section.

OTHER BUSINESS

3. Policies and Procedures of the Conservation Commission

Chair Jernstrom and Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth explained their interpretation of the Stormwater Management Rules and Regulations as set forth by the Town and the state. The Commission entertained a discussion on how the Conservation Commission may have jurisdiction over possible revisions or recommendations to revisions of the Stormwater Management Rules and Regulations.

ADJOURN Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Anthony Zampiceni; second by Commissioner Frances Corgnati and approved by roll call vote five (5)-zero (0) at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Bethany Yeo,
Planning & Community Development Director