

INLAND WETLANDS AND WATER COURSES COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 3, 2017

A meeting of the Inland Wetlands and Water Courses Commission was called to order by Vice-Chairman Peter Nieman at 7:00 p.m. on January 3, 2017 in Room 8 of the Town Hall.

ATTENDANCE:

Vice-Chairman Peter Nieman, Commissioners: Gary Pavano, David Rogan, Brian Rogan, Jim Paldino and William Jackson (seated). Absent: Michael Cassetta and Marc Laviana.
Staff: Jim Horbal.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the October 24, 2016 Special Meeting were previously distributed for review.

Commissioner B. Rogan made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2016 meeting, seconded by Commissioner D. Rogan. The motion was unanimously approved.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS: None.

REGULAR MEETING:

Application 17-01WF - Proposal by the Town of Berlin to replace the Burnham Street Bridge over the Mattabassett River.

Mr. Horbal reported that The Town of Berlin Public Works Department has contracted with Cardinal Engineering to develop plans for the replacement of the Burnham Street Bridge over the Mattabassett River. The existing bridge consists of a series of large metal culverts and a single concrete box culvert that was added to the structure in the late 1980's. The State of Connecticut Department of Transportation recently inspected the structure and rated it in poor condition. The new bridge will consist of a series of four (4) new box culverts, laid in a parallel sequence, with a sidewalk constructed along the north side of the structure. Wetlands, a waterway, and the floodplain will all be impacted during, and following, construction. The total area of regulated area impacted equals 2,134 sq.ft. (1,203 sq.ft. temporary and 931 sq.ft. permanent). All improvements will be constructed through the State DOT's Local Bridge Program, whereby 47% of all costs will be funded by the State, with the remaining 53% funded by local tax dollars.

Commissioner Pavano made a motion to hold a Public Hearing for Application 17-01WF at the February 7, 2017 meeting, seconded by Commissioner B. Rogan. The motion was unanimously approved.

Application 17-02W - Proposal by 245 New Park, LLC to construct parking areas and discharge drainage within an upland review area on Lot 7D, Block 153, #245 New Park Drive.

Commissioner Jackson recused himself from this application.

Mr. Joeseeph Smerekanicz was present for the Applicant. The Applicant is proposing to expand the parking area to its Industrial Facility located along the Northwest side of the cul-de-sac, on New Park Drive. This activity requires the construction of a portion of the new parking area, including the

discharge of drainage, within the wetlands upland review area. Mr. Horbal reported that Staff has recommended the retro-fitting of the existing drainage system, with storm water filtering devices, as well as including them within the new system. This activity is necessitated due to an increase in plant production, and the need for additional personnel.

Commissioner Pavano made a motion to Table Application 17-02W until the February 7, 2017 meeting due to public interest, seconded by Commissioner B. Rogan. The motion was unanimously approved.

Other Business to Come Properly Before the Commission:

Application 15-09WF - Farmington Avenue Bridge

Mr. Horbal reported that in the process of preparing for the Farmington Avenue Bridge Replacement, the team has encountered a problem with contaminated soils. He wanted to inform the Commissioners that it will be necessary to place fill, on a temporary basis, to create a level area upon which Frac Tanks will be placed to treat contaminated groundwater. The State DOT is allowing work to continue as long as weather permits.

Commissioner B. Rogan made a motion to allow for the placement of fill, on a temporary basis, at the Farmington Avenue Bridge site, seconded by Commissioner Pavano. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Horbal presented the 2017 Meeting Dates for the Commissioners to approve.

Commissioner B. Rogan made a motion to accept the 2017 meeting schedule, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner D. Rogan. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Horbal had given some information to the Commissioners in their packets for their review. Commissioner Jackson explained that he had been to the FEMA Map Discovery seminar and picked up the information for the Commissioners. The Mattabassett River may be looked at closely.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner B. Rogan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pavano. The motion was unanimously approved.

Lecia Paonessa
Recording Secretary