

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
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August 25, 2016
TOWN CLERK 7:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Waterford Conservation Commission
Waterford Town Hall

Members Present: Henry Curtis, Harold Hansen, Tali Maidelis, John McSweeney, Richard Muckle and Jeff Sims
Members Absent: Dave Lersch (notified absence)
Alternates Absent: Wade Thomas and Joshua Steele Kelly (notified absence), 1 vacancy
Staff Present: Maureen FitzGerald, Environmental Planner
Katrina Kotfer, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

Chair J. Sims called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. No alternates were seated.

2. APPROVAL OF THE August 11, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Motion made by J. McSweeney, seconded by R. Muckle, to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2016 meeting as written.

Vote: 5-0- 1 T. Maidelis abstaining, not present at meeting.

3. APPLICATION REVIEW

C-16-7 54 Shore Road: Proposed Spillway Swale; Jerry Gorman – Applicant & Owner, Gerwick Mereen, LLC - Agent. (Public Hearing Scheduled September 22, 2016)

Staff reminded commissioners that wish to review the site to coordinate with staff. The public hearing is scheduled for September 22, 2016.

4. NEW APPLICATION

No new applications were received.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Request for Determination of Non-Regulated Activity: Proposed Excavation Operation, 77 Foster Road

Attorney Ted Harris and Michelle Carlson, PE, BL Companies presented the project. Atty. Harris stated that they have re-designed the plan from the one previously reviewed by the Commission and hope to demonstrate that there will be no likely wetland impacts.

M. Carlson explained to the Commission that the applicant is looking to remove the earth materials from approximately 4 acres of forested acreage and use it in the development of the approved medical surgery center on the adjacent site. She noted the original drawings included activity up to the 100 ft. upland review area of inland wetlands on the property. The current plans include a delineated wetland boundary and reduced limits of clearing. The nearest clearing activity to a wetland boundary is 195 feet away and the excavation is 490 feet away from the

vernal pool. She noted that a majority of the excavation area is west of the ridgeline so run-off will not flow towards the wetlands.

R. Muckle asked how much material is being removed. M. Carlson replied that approximately 20,000-25,000 yards are proposed to be removed. The approved development needs approximately 15,000 – 20,000 cubic yards of fill. She noted that test pits reveal depth to ledge at 4.5 to 7 feet below surface grade. Processed stone will be placed over the existing gravel access road to stabilize the surface.

M. FitzGerald asked if wetlands were mapped on the other side of Clam Lane across from the proposed stormwater traps. She noted mapping was conducted as part of a prior golf course proposal in the area. Atty. Harris replied he is in contact with the engineer for the previously proposed development but has not located the maps to date. Staff noted that the proposed excavation activity, if approved, can be conducted any time within the permit time frame and not necessarily for the adjacent development project.

M. Carlson stated that the excavation would progress from the north of the property towards the south and they would be reseeding and stabilizing the site as they work. She stated that BL will visit the site each week and after rain events to inspect the E&S. They can add a second row of silt fence if the Commission requests.

M. Carlson indicated the excavation will not be to bedrock, approximately 1 ft. of sub-soil will be left in place and 6" of topsoil will be replaced on the graded surface. She estimated 1,000 truck loads of material will be hauled off the site.

Chairman Sims asked if there will be any changes in velocity of sheet flow from the site since the cover is changing from forested to grass. He noted that sediment traps have failed on past construction projects resulting in sediment impacts to wetlands. Commissioners voiced concern over potential off-site impacts to wetlands, noting there is a lot of land in close proximity to the activity and the location of wetlands is not known.

M. Carlson noted the design is to keep the sediment from running off the property.

Chairman Sims stated he feels that this is a regulated activity. It is in the headwaters of the Stony Brook, there are wetlands and a vernal pool bordering the road, the excavation and clearing are adjacent to inland wetlands and he feels the Commission needs to give the proposal a better look. He asked the Commission members to indicate whether they feel the proposal is likely to impact inland wetlands and watercourses and requires a permit application.

Commission members with a show of hands unanimously agreed the activity requires an inland wetland permit application.

Staff noted that a permit application form and plans had been submitted within the statutory time frame to be accepted by the Commission at this meeting. She asked the applicant to mark the limits of clearing with survey flags at intervals to assist the Commission in its site review of the property. Staff requested a site walk with the engineer to review the run-off patterns and existing roadway conditions and cross sections showing the existing versus proposed grades through the excavation area. The application was accepted.

6. VIOLATIONS

No violations were discussed.

7. CONSERVATION COMMISSION TASKS

The Commission discussed conducting walks on Town-owned properties.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was received.

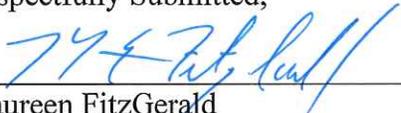
9. PAYMENT OF BILLS

No bills were submitted.

10. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Maureen FitzGerald
Environmental Planner