

Town of Canaan  
Inland Wetlands/Conservation Commission  
Minutes of Regular Meeting, June 16, 2025

Members Present: Mark Burdick, Susan Kelsey, Ellery Sinclair

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Burdick at 7:09 P.M. Minutes of May 19, 2025 were reviewed. Motion made by Sinclair to approve minutes as presented; seconded by Burdick; passed unanimously.

**Old Business:**

1. **Kellogg School Elm Tree Bill:** A bill for \$587.04 was received from Salisbury Garden Center; said bill is for the Jefferson elm tree, labor for the planting of the tree, and peat moss. The Sinclairs donated the cost of the sign. Motion made by Burdick that Town Treasurer pay the bill; seconded by Kelsey; passed unanimously. A \$100 donation from Kellogg School and \$44.20 collected from townspeople will be put toward the payment of the tree.
2. **Nash Addition Update, 119 Undermountain Road:** Burdick was notified that the silt fencing and hay bales had been installed and that construction was to begin the week of the 16<sup>th</sup>. Burdick inspected the silt fence and hay bales and reported that they appear to be properly installed.
3. **Cobble Road Bridge Repair Update:** No update.
4. **Brewster Road Elm Tree Treatment:** Sinclair contacted Bartlett Tree Company to seek their advice on the health of the elm and the need for treating it. They reported it appears healthy and recommended feeding it every two years. An estimate for the treatment in the amount of \$620.00 was received from Bartlett. Sinclair made a motion that we proceed with the treatment of the elm; seconded by Burdick; passed unanimously. Kelsey will sign and return the estimate to Bartlett.
5. **490 Open Space:** Kelsey reported having spoken with the assessor and that a Town ordinance for "Open Space" designation under the State P.A. 490 would be required for the institution of said designation. Kelsey will work on gathering ordinances from other towns. Burdick commented that the lack of an Open Space ordinance in a town does provide incentive for landowners with fields to keep the fields in agriculture to benefit from "Farm Land" 490 designation.
6. **Long-Term Street Tree Management:** Sinclair will follow up with Bruce Bennett to obtain information regarding street tree management plans in towns for which he is tree warden.
7. **Pending State Upland Review Area Legislation; Bill No. 7174:** Burdick brought to the attention of the members a pending bill that would establish protections for riparian buffer zones for a distance of not less than 100 feet. It is unclear at this point how this legislation, if passed, will impact our Commission and its current regulations. Members will research the status of the bill.

**New Business:**

1. **New Commission Members Discussion:** Burdick encouraged members to be thinking about possible new members and alternates for the Commission as replacements will likely be needed when current terms end.
2. **Plan of Conservation and Development:** Burdick will follow up with the P&Z sub-committee addressing the updating of the POCD; said sub-committee has met and Burdick will contact its chair for an update.

**Routing Sheets:** None

**Communications:** None

Kelsey made motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.; seconded by Sinclair; passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Kelsey, secretary