

**TOWN OF CANAAN
INLAND WETLANDS/CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2025**

Members Present: Mark Burdick, Brant Burz, Susan Kelsey, Ellery Sinclair (FaceTime)

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Chairman Burdick. Sinclair made a motion to approve the minutes of November 17, 2025; seconded by Burz; passed unanimously.

Public Input: None.

Old Business:

1. Cobble Road Repair Update: Burz reported that he had visited Cobble Road and reviewed the repair work that the Town had performed. Burz had several concerns regarding several aspects of the work and expressed concern that the IW/CC was not consulted again prior to the work actually being conducted. He questioned the size of the single additional culvert installed and its ability to handle the waterflow during significant rain events, the installation of only one additional culvert, the purpose behind digging a wide ditch along the edge of the road, why the spoil piles from said digging were not removed, and why engineers hadn't been consulted. Burz said the road was built up well but that it was top-dressed with smaller crusher run rock that with time will again wash out. He also wondered if elevation shots had been taken as it appeared that the direction of waterflow may not occur as intended. Members requested that Kelsey confer with the Selectmen to obtain an updated timeline for the repair of the other bridge over the Hollenbeck also on Cobble Road.

2. Street Tree Management: Burdick reported having spoken with Bruce Bennett, tree warden of Kent, regarding his willingness to offer advice on how our town might approach instituting a plan for managing street trees along town roads. He is agreeable to offering assistance. Burdick will invite him to attend a meeting in the near future.

3. Commission Member: Kelsey will send memo to Selectmen to inform them that Matt Gallagher's term expires at the end of 2025 and that Marleen van Gulick, currently an alternate member, needs to officially be made a regular member of the Commission.

New Business:

1. Voicemail: Burdick informed members that the Commission has an extension number on the Town's phone system. Kelsey agreed to regularly monitor the number when at the town hall.

2. Northwest CT Land Conservancy Restriction: Sinclair reported that portions of the Sinclair and Flaton properties on Undermountain Road are now permanently protected through a restriction with the Northwest CT Land Conservancy; farming is a permitted use under the restriction. Six acres of the Flaton parcel at the corner of Barnes and Undermountain Roads will not be subject to the restriction.

Routing Sheets: None.

Communications: None.

Sinclair made a motion to adjourn at 7:45; seconded by Burz; passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Kelsey, secretary

