

LITCHFIELD INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Road, Bantam, CT
In person meeting

1. Call to Order- Appointment of Alternates.

Chairman Martin Connor called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Members Present: S. Clarkin, M. Connor, A. Combs, B. Dooley, J. Hamill, M. LoRusso.

Members Absent: K. Kerr.

Application Consideration

2. Stack – 58 McBride Road

*Removal of invasive vegetation, re-grade pond edges & install beaver deceiver (water leveler).
MBL #027-016A-034*

Owner F. Stack was present for the application. Proposal to remove invasive vegetation, regrade pond edges with an excavator, install a beaver deceiver device to maintain water levels and create a 100' overflow pond was accepted at the December meeting. At that time, the Commission requested a plot plan/sketch specifying location of activity. F. Stack was on vacation during the January and February meetings. For the record, there were no other applications for a February meeting and the meeting was cancelled. Sketch was provided by F. Stack today. Removed arborvitaes and other invasives will be piled and allowed to dry outside of the wetland area. Spoils pile will eventually be burned. J. Hamill inquired as to the configuration of the beaver deceiver and device was explained.

Motion: J. Hamill moved to approve the application for removal of invasive vegetation, regrading of pond edges and installation of a beaver deceiver, M. Lorusso seconded and the motion to approve carried unanimously.

Before discussion began on item #3. J. Hamill moved to add an item #**7a. Osowiecki – 104 Donahue Road Extension - Pond maintenance MBL# 081-083-010, 0.25 acres affected.** Motion was seconded by S. Clarkin and motion to add agenda item carried unanimously.

Application Receptions

3. Town of Litchfield – Whites Wood Road

Replace existing 11' x 4' metal culvert in disrepair with twin 71" x 41" corrugated metal arches, 0.01 acres affected.

Town Engineer R. Alexe was present for the application. Project involves replacement of an existing 11' x 4' corrugated metal pipe culvert in disrepair with twin 71" x 41" corrugated metal arches. The culvert is on the bend at the EverSource crossing, before the second parking lot, and is a major connection between two large swamps. Area is currently undisturbed and repair will have little impact to wetlands. Public Works has no record of when the existing pipe was

installed. Concern is pipe no longer has a bottom and road could be in danger of collapsing. Erosion and sedimentation controls include the installation of cofferdam and turbidity control curtains. The roadway trench will be reconstructed and work site will receive topsoil and be seeded. If approved, work is expected to begin once the school year is over. A White Memorial letter will be acquired for the March meeting.

Motion: S. Clarkin moved to declare the application a non-significant activity and to accept the application. A. Combs seconded and the motion to accept carried unanimously.

4. Town of Litchfield – Bissell Road, Area #1

Replace existing 24" concrete culvert in disrepair with in kind, 0.01 acres affected.

Town Engineer R. Alexe was present for the application. Project involves the replacement of an existing 24" reinforced concrete pipe culvert in disrepair with in kind. Location is close to boat launch area and road is frequently exposed to flooding or is icy. Road was chip sealed 3 ½ years ago and is already starting to scallop. Activity will not impact vegetation. Erosion and sedimentation controls will follow guidelines. The roadway trench will be reconstructed and disturbed areas will receive topsoil and be seeded. A White Memorial letter will be acquired for the March meeting.

Motion: A. Combs moved to declare the application a non-significant activity and to accept the application. S. Clarkin seconded and the motion to accept carried unanimously.

5. Town of Litchfield – Bissell Road, Area #2

Replace existing twin 19" reinforced concrete pipe in disrepair with in kind, 0.01 acres affected.

Town Engineer R. Alexe was present for the application. Project is for the replacement of an existing twin 18" reinforced concrete pipe in disrepair with in kind. Location is east of Area #1 and before the triangle at White Woods Road. There is a 40–60-year life expectancy for the reinforced concrete pipe. Activity will not impact vegetation. Erosion and sedimentation controls will follow guidelines. The roadway trench will be reconstructed and disturbed areas will receive topsoil and be seeded. A White Memorial letter will be acquired for the March meeting.

Motion: J. Hamill moved to declare the application a non-significant activity and to accept the application. B. Dooley seconded and the motion to accept carried unanimously.

6. Town of Litchfield – Brooks Road over unnamed brook

Replace existing 36" metal culvert in disrepair. Invert of culvert will be depressed 1' below streambed, backfilled with 1' of natural streambed material and 42' of roadway will be reconstructed, 0.03 acres affected.

Town Engineer, R. Alexe was present for the application. Proposed project is for the replacement of an existing 36" corrugated metal pipe culvert in disrepair. The invert of the culvert will be depressed 1' below the streambed, backfilled with 1' of natural streambed material. Erosion and sediment controls will include the installation of hay bales, silt fence and turbidity control curtains. During construction, Brook Road residents and drivers taking shortcut to Goshen will

be inconvenienced with a less than three-week road detour. Proposal was denied by the Capital Improvements Committee but is being fast tracked to try for next year. Application will have Litchfield Land Trust letter for the next meeting.

Motion: M. Lorusso moved to declare the application a non-significant activity and accept the application. B. Dooley seconded and the motion to accept carried unanimously.

7. Town of Litchfield – Campville Road

Reconstruction of Campville Road from Hopkins Road to Fenn Road in upland review area.

Town Engineer, R. Alexe was present for the application. Project is for the reconstruction of Campville Road between Hopkins and Fenn Roads. Existing wetlands along the roadway edge will not be impacted. Erosion and sedimentation controls will include installation of silt fence and silt sacks at catch basins within the project area. Impervious areas will not be increased. The project received funding from the federal government. There is a preconstruction meeting in two weeks and construction is expected to start in May. If there was a current wetlands agent, Chairman Connors stated application could have been an agent determination.

Motion: S. Clarkin moved to declare the application a non-significant activity and to accept the application. M. Lorusso seconded and the motion to accept carried unanimously.

7a. Osowiecki – 104 Donahue Road Extension

Pond maintenance MBL# 081-083-010, 0.25 acres affected.

Neighbor, J. Osowiecki, was present for the application and will be conducting the maintenance of the 0.25-acre pond. Property is currently owned by P. Cerrone. J. Osowiecki stated property has been in his family for over 100 years and his uncle performed the previous pond maintenance in 1958. Several photos of his family enjoying the pond in 1920 and the 1940s were shared with the commission. Pond is still used for recreation and is a water source for area wildlife. Expected maintenance will be to dredge the pond and spread approximately 1,000 cubic yards of spoils on the non wetland area/yard to the north/northeast of the pond edge. Erosion and sediment will include the placement of silt barriers at the ends of the existing 1' cross culvert and silt fencing. Area will be graded, mulched and seeded.

Motion: M. Connor moved to declare this a permitted use as of right for agricultural purposes per Sec. 4.2 of the Litchfield Inland Wetlands regulations. S. Clarkin seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried. The applicant's fee was returned.

Permit Extension

8. Veerman – 401 South Street

Extension of permit #CC00001223 for single family house construction with utilities until 4/13/2031, original IWC approved on 04/13/2016, previous 5-year extension issued to 04/13/2026.

No one was present for the application. Extension request letter was mailed to the Land Use office without an IW application or the \$120 application fee. Chairman Connor would like to table the application to review the statute.

Motion: A Combs moved for Chairman Connor to research extension to determine if an application and fee are required and application should be rescheduled for the April agenda. If an application and fee are not required, Chairman Connor is authorized to issue the extension on behalf of the commission prior to the April meeting. Motion was seconded by J. Hamill and unanimously carried.

9. Acting Inland Wetlands Agent Report

- a. **Zitter - 288 N. Lake Street** – Minor modifications of structure materials used for wooden walkway approved on 11/12/2025, no additional excavation or disturbance.
- b. **Knize – 34 Scenic View Drive – Review** - Install prebuilt accessory building / apartment at end of driveway, no IWC application required.
- c. **Busk – Buell Road – MBL# 070-025-010** – Commercial use barn, no IWC application required.

- a. R. Zitter send an email to the Land Use office on 02/06/26 with the following that was forwarded to Chairman Connor:

The construction of the wetland crossing approved this Fall for Beatty 288 N Lake St needs to be modified. There will be no additional excavation or disturbance, just changing the base from the 2x10' locust cribbing to 4x8" milled locust, 2 per board. The walking surface will be long 20" white oak boards instead of the horizontal locust decking, fastened similarly. Please let me know if and how to modify the application.

- b. and c. Acting ZEO and PZC Chairman C. Bramley requested a IWC review to determine if current PZC applications would also require IWC approval.

Chairman Connor concluded no IWC applications or modifications were required.

10. Approval of Minutes – January 14, 2026.

Motion: J. Hamill moved and M. LoRusso seconded a motion to accept the 01/14/26 meeting minutes. All voted aye except A. Combs, who did not attend the January meeting and abstained, and the motion carried.

11. Correspondence – None.

12. Adjournment

J. Hamill moved to adjourn at 8:17 pm, S. Clarkin seconded and the motion to adjourn carried unanimously.

Martin Connor, Chairman

Date