

LITCHFIELD INLAND WETLAND COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Rd. Bantam, CT

Call to Order: Chairman Robert Blazek called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Robert Blazek, Anthony Paradise, Barbara Brower, Jack Hamill, Jack Healy and Frederick Minck. Also present was Dennis Tobin, Ph.D, Wetlands Agent.

Members Absent: Ann Combs, Recording Secretary

Public Comment: None

Appointment of Alternates: None

Motion: B. Brower move to add to the agenda under Receptions 2a, “Chester Wickett & Pauline Bailey – 115 North Shore Road, Lakefront improvement by replacing a deteriorated retaining wall and extending existing concrete flat surface with permeable pavers on flat surface.”

Second: A. Paradise

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion: B. Brower moved to add to Receptions 2b, “Northwest Custom Homes (Eugene or David Fabbri) – 58 Karl Street, Construction of new house and driveway.”

Second: J. Hamill

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

APPLICATION RECEPTIONS

1. Lambert – 53 Mike Road

8/8/18

Construction of septic system repair force main

Kenneth Hrica, Surveyor and Licensed PE, was present on behalf of David and Joanna Lambert. This property was part of the Seherr-Thoss subdivision, and during the subdivision it was brought to this Commission in 2007 that there was a potential septic system repair to be done. They are using this house as a rental and the entire system has failed. There are open storm drains 20 feet away from the tank. The only other area they considered was behind the house, but it is completely in the regulated area of the intermittent stream. They decided to locate the new force main in the open field completely out of the regulated area. They will run a trench line below the brook, which is dry now. They will use hay bales and silt fencing in case of a pop-up rain storm. A. Paradise questioned an underground utility that Mr. Hrica said they would work with. If they change the depth dug because of the utility, it will be a field change.

Motion: J. Healy moved to approve the application to conduct activity in a regulated area by David and Joanna Lambert, 46 Mike Road, the work to be consistent with plan entitled “Septic System Repair Plan”

prepared by Hrica Associates LLC, dated 7/6/08, to show the depth of the utility on the as-built from Pole No. 3458.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

2. Greenstone Investments, Inc. – 1311 Bantam Road

8/8/18

Trenching for underground utilities

This application was withdrawn for Cozy Hills Campground.

2a. Chester Wickett & Pauline Bailey – 115 North Shore Road

8/8/18

Lakefront improvement by replacing a deteriorated retaining wall and extending existing concrete flat surface with permeable pavers on flat surface

Chester Wickett was present to explain their cabin's sitting area on the other side of the road. The bank is deteriorating and is washing away. He would like to stop the erosion with a rock retaining wall against the bank. He also wants to change the steps to stone. He will take out broken concrete slabs and replace with permeable pavers. Mr. Blazek then read a 7/25/18 letter from Keith Cudworth of White Memorial who gave them permission to rebuild the retaining wall above the patio, add permeable pavers and replace stairs. R. Blazek asked him to have Mr. Cudworth approve in writing exactly what materials he will use and how he will go about it for the next meeting. J. Healy said he should talk to Public Works Director Rax Alexe to check on the Town's right of way for a written statement, as he may need a permit.

2b. Northwest Custom Homes (Eugene or David Fabbri) – 58 Karl Street

8/8/18

Construction of new house and driveway

Mark Zappone of Northwest Custom Homes was present to explain the location with an old barn and acreage down below. The driveway would follow the existing driveway, go around the barn and around the wetland patch. The house would be in between the two wetlands patches. They will get permission from the WPCA to cross the sewer right of way. He was also advised to see Raz Alexe in Public Works about a driveway permit before the next meeting.

APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS

3. Benjamin – 3 Breezy Knoll

8/8/18

Temporary (seasonal) boat dock

Tim Benjamin explained his project to put in an aluminum dock with piers resting on the lake bottom. It will be 60 ft. long and have two boat lifts at the end of the dock. It is held in place by its own weight. It will go in about April or May and come out in late October. J. Hamill wanted to make sure the length lined up with other docks in the area. He plans no modifications to the area. R. Blazek suggested he get rid of the pile of wood chips. He also thought one boat lift would be enough. Mr. Benjamin would like to put in a used aluminum dock. He discovered the dock manufacturer and identified the dock.

Motion: A. Paradise moved to approve the application of Tim Benjamin of 3 Breezy Knoll for a temporary (seasonal) boat dock with one boat lift and a Choremaster RS4 dock section, used equipment, and removing the pile of pine chips.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

4. Tavino – 68 South Street

8/8/18

In-ground pool and patio

Peter Tavino explained that George Malia flagged the wetlands soils, and he presented Mr. Malia’s letter for the file. He explained how he would secure a permit for an in-ground pool if one were to be installed. The pool would be 59 ft. away from wetland soils. The depth of the pool would interfere with the geo-thermal pipes, so the geo-thermal system could be abandoned. He presented the detailed plan done by Dolphin Pools. A. Paradise asked about footings for the 4 ft. wall that would be continued and taper to nothing. He asked it to be sketched in on the plan and enclose his photo. He added it to the plan and signed and dated.

Motion: B. Brower moved to approve the application of Peter and Mary Tavino of 68 South Street to build a swimming pool and patio affecting 0.8 acres as shown on map dated 10/03, revised 7/2/18 and 8/8/18.

Second: J. Healy

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

5. Jagger (Hortico) – 23 Tulip Drive

8/8/18

Armor existing stream embankment and installation of trench drain at loading dock

Alexander Vandenberg explained on behalf of Mr. Jagger. He said the diameter of the drain pipe is 12” and that it was put in in 1994 per rules at that time. He will add 25 tons of riprap to prevent erosion. Equipment used will be a Bobcat and mini excavator. There will be two drains added where water collects. They were not on the plan, so Mr. Vandenberg added them, signed and dated. J. Healy asked for an oil/water separator be installed in case of a discharge. A flared end on the discharge pipe was also requested.

Motion: J. Healy moved to approve the application to conduct activity in a regulated area by applicant Paul Jagger, P. O. Box 638, Bantam, for property of Hortico at 23 Tulip Drive, for approval of installation of a trench drain at the loading dock to include an oil/water separator and a flared end on the discharge pipe going into a swale, and adding 25 tons of riprap.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. Friends of Litchfield Community Greenway, Inc.

8/8/18

Bissell Road to North Shore Road – construct greenway

Chairman Blazek opened the hearing continuation at 8:11 p.m. Dennis McMorrow, Berkshire Engineering and Surveying, explained the route of the trail and gave a quick overview of the second phase of the greenway. The Commission will consider only the area on Town property, as the State DOT and Army Corps of Engineers have jurisdiction on the middle section. By using boardwalk on part of the trail they were able to lower the wetlands impact to 2,200 square feet. He provided more detail on the impact; two posts with horizontal member every 8 feet, using pressure-treated wood. He addressed two letters from Rivers Alliance, commented and noted inaccuracies in the letters. Mr. Blazek read the newer letter aloud. Mr. McMorrow said using White Memorial property as alternatives is not going to work because of the hills and swamps. Rail trails are meant to be relatively flat and accessible to all ages. R. Blazek requested that White Memorial give them a letter stating they would not like the Greenway to use any more of their property if that is the case. Matt Blasavage said White Memorial spent a lot of time and effort to enable the trail to pass through their property thus far, and would have offered Windmill Hill at that time if they were willing. The crossing on Bissell Road has already had the approval of Raz Alexe with appropriate flashing warnings with push-button signal. J. Hamill said he was uncomfortable, as they are creating a safety hazard

while trying to mitigate a safety hazard. Eric Davison, Registered Soil Scientist, commented on the Rivers Alliance letters, refuted all points and felt little impact is present with this project. He read a letter from the Army Corps that said the project meets the self-verification eligibility. Mr. Blazek said he would not conclude the public hearing tonight and will postpone decision on this matter until all Commissioners have had a chance to walk the area and listen to the meetings they had missed.

Public in Favor

William Jones, a member of the Litchfield Greenway, said the trail would be accessible to everyone and much safer than people trying to navigate Route 202.

Public Opposed – none

Mr. Blazek then asked for a motion for an extension until next month so Commissioners could walk the trail and listen to meeting tapes they had missed. He received a letter from Dennis McMorrow granting a 35-day extension in order to continue the public hearing.

Motion: B. Brower moved to continue the public hearing to the next meeting as per letter of granted extension from Dennis McMorrow.

Second: F. Minck

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

Mr. Blazek said the public hearing would continue at the next meeting on September 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Road.

7. New Business: None

8. Approval of Minutes of 7/12/17, 2/14/18, 4/11/18, 5/9/18, 7/11/18

Motion: B. Brower moved to approve all above meeting minutes.

Second: F. Minck

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

9. Correspondence

- Early Registration for CIPWG Invasive Plan Symposium
- CACIWC Membership Fee Reminder and Annual Meeting
- Inland Wetland PGP Notification

10. Possible Executive Session: None

11. Adjournment

Motion: J. Healy moved to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

Second: J. Hamill

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann D. Combs, Recording Secretary