

LITCHFIELD INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
Special Meeting
January 11, 2023 ~ 7:00 p.m.
In Person at Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Road, Bantam

Call to Order: Vice Chairman Jack Hamill called the special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Jack Hamill, Mike LoRusso, Martin Connor, and William Dooley. Also present were Spencer Musselman, Wetlands Agent, and Ann Combs, Recording Secretary.

Members Absent: Abby Conroy, Robert Blazek, Susan Clarkin, Jack Healy

Appointment of Alternates: None available

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Town of Litchfield - 29 Stoddard Road

1/11/23

Installation of 40 ft. of 6-inch PVC outlet piping from solar array rain garden to existing catch basin and 0.2 acres of tree cutting and planting (no stump removal) in upland review area (total project area 2.2 +/- acres)

J. Hamill opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. and read the legal notice published 12/28 and 1/4/23. The legal notice was properly filed but the developer, Noel Lafayette, CEO of SHR Energy Management, explained the sign was not properly posted at the site the full 15 days ahead of the hearing date. Also the arborist had just visited and had not yet filed a report. Since they were two weeks behind, he asked for 30 days. M. Connor asked that the public hearing be reconvened and continued on February 8, 2023, and J. Hamill confirmed and declared the public hearing closed at 7:05 p.m. Mr. Lafayette noted he has corrected his email address in order to receive notices in a timely fashion.

APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS

2. Town of Litchfield – Reder Road

1/11/23

Reconstruction of existing drainage; reclamation of road and new bituminous pavement (0.9 +/- acres)

Dennis McMorro, Berkshire Engineering and Surveying, said he presented the construction plans last month and summarized the planned work on a road in poor condition. M. Connor felt the presentation at the last month was thorough, and noted commissioners had no further questions, so he recommended approval. Hearing no further questions, J. Hamill had Mr. Connor move the approval.

Motion: M. Connor moved to approve the application of Town of Litchfield at Reder Road as submitted, for the reconstruction of existing drainage and reclamation of the road and application of new bituminous pavement (0.9 +/- acres). M. LoRusso seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

3 Town of Litchfield – East Litchfield Road

1/11/23

Roadway drainage and resurfacing (.452 acres total)

Raz Alexe, Public Works Director, noted that improvement plans have been submitted. Jack Healy has expressed concern about the corner of a non-conforming structure on his property being in the right of way and the potential for the proposed drainage to undermine his property. Considering this a valid concern, Mr. Alexe and Engineer Ken Hricka have decided to create a bypass by running the drainage

pipng to the other side of the street to avoid that area. There will be a full reclamation in one area where an underground tank exists. M. Connor said he and Spencer Musselman toured the area and felt the application is complete.

Motion: M. LoRusso moved to approve the application by Town of Litchfield on East Litchfield Road for roadway drainage and resurfacing, for a total of .452 acres per plan dated 12/8/22, revised 1/6/23. M. Connor seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

4. Town of Litchfield – Brush Hill Road

1/11/23

Culvert replacement and reconstruction of 150 ft. of roadway (.05 acres)

R. Alexe, Public Works Director, reviewed the work presented at the last meeting. This dual pipe, partially buried in the stream bed, will not increase the size of the existing channel and will minimize the impact. It is designed to meet the intent and the flow designed for the existing culvert. M. Connor added that he is pleased they will backfill with one foot of the natural stream bed material inside the twin culverts.

Motion: M. Connor moved to approve the application by Town of Litchfield for Brush Hill Road #1 over Butternut Brook to replace the existing culvert with twin 117" x 79" corrugated metal pipes. W. Dooley seconded, all voted aye and the motion passed.

5. T. C. Builders – 145 Buell Road

1/11/23

Construct a stormwater infiltration trench to detain and infiltrate stormwater runoff from a new house and perform grading below septic area (.06 acres)

Tom Altermatt, PE, of Altermatt Engineering, LLC, represented T. C. Builders, and presented and explained the survey of the property. Wetlands have been flagged and are located on the map. The purpose of the infiltration trench is to collect runoff from the house and driveway in order to disburse the flow. Disturbance in the regulated area is about 2,000 sq. ft. Commissioners were familiar with the property and comfortable with the application.

Motion: M. Connor moved to approve the application by T. C. Builders at 145 Buell Road to construct a stormwater infiltration trench to detain and infiltrate stormwater runoff from a new house, and some grading below the septic area (.06 acres), per map entitled "Site and Septic System Plan 1 of 2" prepared by T. C. Builders, LLC, and dated 10/24/22. M. LoRusso seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

AGENT DETERMINATION

6. Litchfield Land Trust – 28 Russell Street

1/11/23

Replace existing culvert, adding detention basin within 150 ft. of Tannery Brook (0.1 acres)

S. Musselman met with Matt Blasavage of the Housing Trust and reported they are replacing an existing culvert that is within 150 ft. of Tannery Brook. They will use riprap and hay bales and will make the system better than the existing failing system. R. Alexe will be overseeing this project.

7. CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

- **Litchfield Housing Trust (Gagarin Place) – Torrington Road (CC#00001197):** S. Musselman reported one temporary C/O was granted for house #2. They are working with Northwest Conservation District to update the erosion plan and for more erosion control material. M. Connor said the drainage is working much better now. Planting will be done by June 1st.

8. Approval of Minutes of December 14, 2022: J. Hamill said he would like to follow up on some items and time frames, so approval was tabled until the next meeting.

9. Correspondence: None

10. Adjournment: Motion: W/ Dooley moved to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. and M. LoRusso seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.



Ann D. Combs, Recording Secretary