

LITCHFIELD INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
November 8, 2023 ~ 7:00 p.m.
In Person at Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Road, Bantam

Call to Order: Acting Chairman Marty Connor called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Martin Connor, Susan Clarkin, Jack Healy, Jack Hamill (7:03 p.m.), Mike LoRusso. Also present were Spencer Musselman, Wetlands Agent, and Ann Combs, Recording Secretary.

Members Absent: Robert Blazek, William Dooley

1. Appointment of Alternates: None

APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS

2. Forman School Inc. – 12 Norfolk Road

11/8/23

Conversion of an existing grass playing field to synthetic turf surfacing. The field will be surrounded by new 4 ft. high chain link fencing. There will be a 20 ft. ball netting behind each goal area. Concrete sidewalks will run along the western and northern limits of the field (0.96 acres affected).

Jim Strub, Attorney at Secor, Cassidy & McPartland, Forman CFO Peter Maltby, Vincent McDermott, SLR Landscape Architect and Certified Planner, Molly Bernardi, Professional Licensed Engineer specializing in Hydrology and Hydraulics, and Matt Sanford, Professional Wetlands and Soil Scientist, also from SLR, were present. Mr. McDermott reviewed the application converting the existing natural grass field to synthetic turf with sidewalk and pads for bleachers and a shelter. Molly Bernardi explained the drainage system with stone reservoir under the field that exits to a level spreader. Matt Sanford spoke about the wetlands and the types of soils. Field investigations were done in March when they tested soils and set flags. The whole area is a disturbed area. The wetlands contain some poorly drained soils and well drained soils. This new system will take the runoff from the hillside and drain into the Bantam River, and they will not change the hydrological flow with the level spreader. They will not have to clear any vegetation in the wetlands, and there is no grading proposed. There are no adverse impacts for the entire project. Maintenance involves a grooming machine to keep material level and in place. Life expectancy of this surface is 10 years. Erosion control methods will be in place. Peter Malby said the work should commence next spring after spring activities are done. Commissioners were comfortable that there would be no adverse effects.

Motion: J Hamill moved to approve the application by Forman School Inc., 12 Norfolk Road, for installation of a synthetic turf playing field surrounded by new 4 ft. high chain link fencing. There will be a 20 ft. ball netting behind each goal area. Concrete sidewalks will run along the western and northern limits of the field, with use of appropriate erosion control methods in accordance with planset for Forman School by SLR in Cheshire dated 10/5/23. J. Healy seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

APPLICATION RECEPTIONS

3. Harpin – 407 Bantam Road

11/8/23

New 100' x 4' wide concrete sidewalk (400 sq. ft.)

Planning and Zoning sent them back to the drawing board, so this will be tabled until the next meeting.

4. Approval of 2024 Meeting Calendar: Motion: J. Hamill moved and J. Healy seconded a motion to approve the 2024 meeting schedule. All voted aye and the motion passed.

5. Inland Wetlands Agent Report: He also mentioned a neighbor of 311 South Street complained that brush piles were placed on her property, and the commission advised him to approach this as a neighbor vs neighbor issue.

6. Approval of Minutes

a) August 9, 2023: Motion: J. Hamill moved and M. LoRusso seconded a motion to adopt the meeting minutes of 8/9/23. J. Healy abstained because of absence, and all others voted aye; motion carried.

b) September 13, 2023: Motion: J. Hamill moved and S. Clarkin seconded a motion to adopt the meeting minutes of 9/13/23. J. Healy abstained because of absence, and all others voted aye; motion carried.

c) October 11, 2023: Motion: J. Healy moved and J. Hamill seconded a motion to adopt the meeting minutes of 10/11/23. All voted aye and the motion passed.

7. Correspondence: S. Musselman mentioned the Agriculture Forestry and Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act handout forwarded from Marty that was sent to the commissioners to save in their binders.

8. Adjournment: Motion: J. Hamill moved and S. Clarkin seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Ann D. Combs, Recording Secretary