



*Town of North Canaan
Inland Wetlands Commission
September 24, 2026*

Received for Record
9/25/2026 6:13pm
Seale
Town Clerk

Present: Chairman Barry Brown, Chris Crane, Matt Freund, Bob Jacquier

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

Mr. Jacquier moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Mr. Freund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Specialty Minerals: Representatives presented before the commission. They have been keeping one side of the quarry clean and water flows underneath the road and comes out into the swamp. This has to be maintained to keep it clean. Their contractor dug in the initial part of the wetlands north of Granger Lane worrying that water could back up over the road. They recognize that while this was the right thing to do, he went about it wrong. They handed out printouts. The culvert discharges towards the wetlands. There was already a conversation between them and Mr. Freund and Chairman Brown regarding ideas.

The sample location is test annually and results given to the commission. The briquet pile is tested quarterly. There was a discussion regarding historical data, metals testing and PH testing. Testing is similar to buffering but it is tested differently. The plants that grow there naturally like the PH. There is more data to come.

The plan that they are proposing is to remove the material that is currently there and put it back up in the old quarry where they are backfilling. They will dress the area with proper slope, erosion blankets and seeding as well as maintenance in the area maintained from the road. The other side of the road is retention ponds so the water can flow through.

Sample location – annually sampled for commission. Bricket pile tested quarterly. Described historical data. Metals testing. PH testing. Matt – water tests alkalinity – resistance to change in what the PH has. Similar to buffering but tested differently. Plants that grow there naturally like the pH – they do a lot of the work. Year averages on paper. More data to come. There was a question regarding silt catch pond at the culvert. Instead of creating a pond it would be a rock overlay. Sediment would catch in the rocks and water will be able to flow through it. The rock can be replaced when it gets plugged. Replacement may be annually but would adjust as needed. The stone would be 2-4 inch stone and the replaced stone would be put back into the old quarry. As this is not a huge area they are thinking 2-3 truckloads. Area is 1570 feet to be cleaned out.

There was a discussion of slopes on the sides to help with erosion. They will be overseeing the contractors work. As they are cleaning it up and putting it back to what it was the consensus was that the plan did not have to go to another engineer. The expectation is that both samples will continue to go down with the completion of this project.

There was a question about historical data further down in the wetlands going into the Housatonic.

Chairman Brown questioned if a new permit is needed or if this could be added to the existing one. Discussion ensued and it was decided that they should do a separate permit for this project. They would like them to come in annually instead of just sending in paperwork to a meeting for educational purposes.

Mr. Freund moved the accept the plan as presented with the stipulation that they will oversee their project and when it is finished they will let the commission chairman know and provide photos for the file. Mr. Jacquier seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Riga Construction: John Considine presented before the commission for 61 Railroad Street (where he parks the U-hauls). It borders the municipal lot. The proposed building is not near the wetlands. The parking for the project would be in the 100 ft setback. Mr. Considine is trying to get the town to ok the project without putting in parking or as much parking because people could use the municipal lot. He could then put a park of some sort in the other area. Chairman Brown suggested going and looking at it. There was a discussion regarding the property with Mr. Considine commenting on the houses and parking lot already in the wetlands. Mr. Freund stated that whether it is gravel or paved there has to be some way of taking care of the water if he is going to have to put in parking or some sort of water absorption system for the imperious areas. Chairman Brown stated it may not even be a viable wetland and the commission should verify that. There was some confusion over what was actually being asked of the commission. Mr. Considine stated he simply needs the commission to sign the zoning application so he can go to zoning with the plans. Chairman Brown was not comfortable signing something with the parking on the plan being in the 100 ft setback. The consensus was that if Mr. Considine does a new plan that only shows the building and does not show parking they would sign that permit. Mr. Considine agreed that he would come back with a new plan with the 100 ft setback not to be disturbed and the commission will sign off as it then is not applicable to them. There was a brief discussion of another property Mr. Considine wants to work on, but he will come back for that.

The commission received the dates for 2027 meetings and reviewed them. **Mr. Crane moved to accept them as presented. Mr. Freund seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Signoffs were all non-applicable.

Mr. Freund moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Crane seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary