

HARWINTON INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023 **TOWN HALL** **7:00 P.M.**

Present: Chairwoman Susan Ryan, Secretary Todd Werner, Timothy Bobroske, Brent Lafferty, Robert Wesneski, Francis Skarp, Land Use Coordinator Polly Redmond and Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer Don Truskauskas
Absent: Benjamin Ogonoski, Alternate Member Nicholas Carbone and Alternate Marc Matsil

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REGULAR MEETING

1. OPEN MEETING – ESTABLISH QUORUM.

Chairwoman S. Ryan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All members present are seated.

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 11/6/2023

R. Wesneski **motioned** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by F. Skarp. Motion passed unanimously.

3. GREG AND RAMONA WEINGART – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION – APPLICATION FOR 30' X 70' BARN, 35 HIGHVIEW DRIVE.

Mr. Weingart is present and provides updated site plans that now show the location of silt fence that will be installed. TAHD approval is outstanding. T. Bobroske **motioned** to approve the application as a regulated activity with the condition that TAHD approval is received, seconded by F. Skarp. Motion passed unanimously.

4. TOWN OF HARWINTON – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION - REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 065-006 VALLEY ROAD OVER PUDDING BROOK.

Gary Giroux, Cardinal Engineering Associates (town engineers) is present reporting that new information at the request of the Wetlands Commission has been submitted and includes a Fisheries Consultation Request that outlines Fisheries Resources and lists Comments/Recommendations. Additional information submitted are minutes from an April 20, 2023 Interagency Coordination Meeting with attendees from DEEP, CTDOT, USACE, himself and Darin Lemire of Cardinal Engineering an IPaC resource list from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service that includes information on endangered species (potential affect to Northern Long-eared Bat, Monarch Butterfly), notation that no critical habitats are at this location, probability of presence summary of migratory birds, and again, information on fish hatcheries (none in this location). A DEEP letter dated 11/22/22 to Darin Lemire from Shannon B. Kearney, Wildlife Biologist, is also submitted that addresses the wood turtle species as being documented nearby the project area that may be affected by project activities. Mr. Giroux states that a herpetologist will be hired who will come out to a preconstruction meeting and advise how to proceed and what shall be done if wood turtles are found. This information will be given to Cardinal Engineering who will pass it along to the Selectman's office. The IWZEO will be kept informed of findings/issues that might come up as well. Mr. Giroux states that the site will be checked daily but it is not even a definite that the wood turtle is in this area but DEEP had concerns they may be. He states that once erosion control measures are set up, turtles won't be able to pass through the silt fence and will go around it instead. Again, he reiterates that this is all precautionary at this time. R. Wesneski questions if E&S Control measures will be installed downstream with Mr. Giroux explaining that the entire site will be surrounded by silt fence and coffer damned in some areas.

T. Bobroske states his belief that IWZEO Truskauskas should be compensated for the time he will spend inspecting this project at somewhere between \$500 to \$1000 per project or \$50 per inspection. He questions IWZEO Truskauskas whether ten inspections would be his guess on the number with IWZEO Truskauskas agreeing to probably that many. Mr. Giroux informs the Commission that the cost for these inspections may be reimbursable by the state. T. Bobroske **motioned** to approve the application as a regulated activity with the stipulation that an additional \$1000 be set aside for IWZEO inspections of Bridge No. 065-006 that will be actively worked on over a 2-3 month period. R. Wesneski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. G. Giroux states that he will contact the Land Use office to let IWZEO Truskauskas know when the herpetologist and preconstruction meeting gets set up.

5. TOWN OF HARWINTON – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION - REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 065-007 VALLEY ROAD OVER UNNAMED BROOK.

Gary Giroux, Cardinal Engineering Associates (town engineers) states that the same issues pertain to Bridge No. 065-007 and that both projects will be done in tandem with the same contractors doing the work.

T. Bobroske **motioned** to approve the application as a regulated activity with the stipulation that an additional \$1000 be set aside for IWZEO inspections of Bridge No. 065-007 that will be actively worked on over a 2-3 month period. R. Wesneski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

G. Giroux states that he will contact the Land Use office to let IWZEO Truskauskas know when the herpetologist and preconstruction meeting gets set up.

6. COMPLAINTS/ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/REPORTS.

IWZEO Truskauskas informs the Commission that the pond work at Equestrian Estates is going well and most of the milfoil has been scooped out.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

LUC Redmond informs the Commission that TAHD approval has been received for a septic repair at 34 Beach Drive. Site plans titled Septic System Repair, 10/6/23, prepared by Robert Green Associates accompanied the TAHD approval and shows a stream running very close to the septic location. The property contains 0.26 acres with a house showing on the Assessors Street card as 690 gross area of living space and has been confirmed to be only a seasonal cottage by the owner when called. The State of CT Department of Public Health submitted a notice of exception granted stating that the wells located at 32 Beach Drive and 36 Beach Drive are unlikely to be polluted caused by the septic repair. Commissioners ask that IWZEO Truskauskas keep an eye on any work that is started. (LUC Redmond spoke with the owner of the property and was told that the septic repair must take place when it is very dry and may not take place for 3 weeks or 3 months.) Bahre Septic is doing the repair work.

8. CORRESPONDENCE.

None.

9. INVOICES.

None.

10. ADJOURN.

R Wesneski **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m., seconded by T. Werner. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Polly Redmond
Land Use Coordinator

