

INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 3, 2017
TOWN HALL 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Bruce Burnett, Timothy Bobroske, Robert Wesneski, Merrill French, Alternate Member Robert Orciari, Alternate Member Eric Rahn and Land Use Coordinator Polly Redmond
Absent: Susan Ryan, Paul Whiton and Victoria Elliott

1. OPEN MEETING – ESTABLISH QUORUM.

Chairman Burnett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All regular members present are seated with Alternate Member R. Orciari seated for P. Whiton and Alternate Member E. Rahn seated for V. Elliott.

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 6/5/17

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

3. DENNIS MCMORROW, P.E., BERKSHIRE ENGINEERING REPRESENTING MICHAEL VARANELLI – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION ON APPLICATION FOR SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING, DELAY ROAD, ASSESSORS MAP NO. B5-03-2512. EASTVIEW FARMS SUBDIVISION 1993. DRIVEWAY EXISTING AND APPROVED BY IWWC JUNE 2003.

Mr. Varanelli is present to represent. There are no outstanding items required by the Commission. T. Bobroske **motioned** to approve the application for regulated non-significant activities, seconded by R. Wesneski. Motion passed unanimously.

4. JOSEPH SEFCIK – APPLICATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ELEVATED BIRD WATCHING PLATFORM AT BULL POND FOR EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT.

J. Sefcik informed the Land Use office that he will appear before the Commission at their August meeting.

5. DAN FIORE – APPLICATION FOR SEPTIC REPAIR, 495 WILDCAT HILL ROAD.

Gary Giordano, P.E., is present to represent. Plans by Gary Giordano, P.E., titled Repair Subsurface Sewage System Design, dated 6/27/17 are reviewed. TAHD approval has been received. The current system is failing and a new system will be installed in the same area. There will be no wetland disturbance though there is activity within 10 feet of a wetland. R. Orciari **motioned** to approve the activity as a use of right/maintenance, seconded by R. Wesneski. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Giordano was informed that the IWZEO must be contacted when work begins.

6. DAVID BEERS, CONNWOOD FORESTERS – APPLICATION FOR TIMBER HARVEST, BRISTOL WATER DEPARTMENT LAND, ROUTE 4 COOK'S DAM.

David Beers, CT Forester, Connwood Foresters is present and provides an 8.5 x 11 aerial view map of the area to be harvested. He points out harvesting areas, streams, truck loading areas, skid trails and the four bridge crossings which will be removed at the completion of the project. Mr. Beers states that there will be harvesting within 50 feet of streams but in the upland area and there will not be any crossing of wetlands, only streams. He will visit the site once a week and will be the point of contact for the project. The timeframe will be three months to complete the harvest if there is a crew of one man or one to two months if there is a crew of two to three. The timeframe will also depend on the weather. The project still needs to go out for bid therefore, work will not begin immediately. Letters have been sent out to neighboring land owners giving them notice of the project. R. Orciari **motioned** to approve the application as a use of right for silviculture practices with provision that erosion control measures be installed at brook crossings and that anti-tracking pads are to be installed at access points. Motion seconded by R. Wesneski and passed unanimously. Mr. Beers was informed to contact the IWZEO once erosion control measures are in place.

7. **TINO JANIERO – CLEARING OF LAND, WILDCAT HILL ROAD, ASSESSORS MAP NO. B6-05-0021.**

No one is present to represent.

8. **CHRISTINE KURTZ, P.E., SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER, WRIGHT-PIERCE – APPLICATION FOR WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS, 252 BOGUE ROAD.**

Christine Kurtz, P.E., Wright-Pierce is present and explains that the City of Torrington owns and operates a WPC Facility in Harwinton and must meet total phosphorus limits within five years. They must also come in to compliance with EPA Executive Order 13690 which is an Order to reduce the risk and cost of future flood disasters by ensuring that improvements are constructed to better withstand the impacts of flooding. With this project, flood protection will be achieved by raising structures to at least 2-feet above the base flood elevation. Other structures (i.e. Primary Treatment, Disinfection, Electrical) will be protected to 3-feet above base flood elevation. 3100 total square footage of wetlands is located on the property with under 400 square feet of wetlands being disturbed. There are no new structures being proposed within 100 feet of wetlands. 11 x 17 color maps are provided titled Overall Existing Conditions & Site Demolition Plan, Overall Site Modifications Plan, Pre-Developed Watershed and Post-Developed Watershed. A Project Description narrative has been submitted with the application and remains on file in the Land Use office. R. Wesneski **motioned** to approve the application as a use of right activity for maintenance with provision that erosion control measures be installed, that notification to the Wetland Enforcement Officer be made as construction proceeds with progress reports sent to the town and that the Wetland Enforcement Officer's inspections (over the three year project timeline) be funded by the applicant in the amount of \$2000.00 if the Town of Harwinton officials (Board of Selectmen/Board of Finance) deem the fee to be appropriate and not acceptable to a waiver. T. Bobroske seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

T. Brobroske **motioned** to add to the agenda **MAURICE PIPER – APPLICATION FOR 24' X 24' ADDITION TO WORKSHOP, 529 LITCHFIELD ROAD**, seconded by R. Wesneski. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Piper is present and provides a sketch of his property showing the location of the addition that will be approximately 30 feet to Pickett Brook which runs along the back of the property. Mr. Piper notes that the brook is eight to ten feet lower than the grade of his yard and erosion control measures will be installed once work begins. There will be no basement under the addition but there will be a poured floor over the foundation. Mr. Piper notes that he does have a larger map of the property that he can provide to the Commission for review. R. Wesneski **motioned** to accept the application as a regulated non-significant activity with the provision that the applicant return with the larger map of the property showing erosion control measures on the plan and that the plan also shows a cross-section through the building and through the brook. R. Orciari seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

R. Orciari recuses himself at this time and requests that the Commission add to the agenda for:

HARWINTON LAND TRUST – HABITAT RESTORATION AT FOREVER FOREST, WHETSTONE ROAD.

R. Wesneski **motioned** to add this item to the agenda, seconded by M. French. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Orciari is representing the Harwinton Land Trust. All Commissioners received information on the project including the history of the two acre marsh habitat Forever Forest and photos for the restoration of the marsh habitat that is located on the west side of Whetstone Road. Mr. Orciari explains that about half of the marsh is also located on a neighbor's property (Chavalier) located on the south side of Route 118 (no work proposed on that property) and the marsh may also touch on another neighboring property owned by DellaVecchia on Hill Road. A letter has been written to the DellaVecchia's asking for permission to work on the outlet located in the back of their property with no word back from them yet. The Land Trust recently discovered two breaches in the small dikes causing the dry condition of the marsh. By filling both breaches water levels could be restored bringing a return of more standing water and native vegetation and providing the public with better wildlife viewing at the observation deck next to the marsh. Work for restoring water levels will involve bringing in approximately 50 prefilled sand bags to raise the water level

a foot and a half. These bags will be carried in to the site by a neighbor using a tractor along a wood road that runs alongside Forever Forest's southern border and will then be wheel barrowed to the breaches. After placement is complete, the sandbags may be reinforced with rocks taken from nearby and the bags may also be covered with soil to promote vegetative growth. Water levels in the marsh will not be raised more than 1.5 feet which will unlikely re-flood the entire marsh. It will be the Land Trusts attempt to keep the level of the eastern breach lower than the western breach which should allow all low flows to pass down the eastern stream. T. Brobroske **motioned** to approve the application for work being done on the eastern breach and a second approval to do work on the neighboring property once they respond to Mr. Orciari's letter. R. Wesneski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. *It is noted that on 7/8/17 Mr. Orciari sent notice to the Land Use office that Mrs. DellaVecchia emailed him indicating she was fine with the Land Trust's plan to restore the marsh at Forever Forest. This notice shall remain on file.

R. Orciari is reseated.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

LUC Redmond reports on applications she signed off on.

- 1) Scott Butcher, 176 Woodchuck Lane – 24' x 32' barn – non regulated activity.
- 2) John Bigos III, 315 Wildcat Hill Road – 22' x 24' barn – no wetlands.
- 3) Tim Kloczko, 365 Locust Road – 22' x 24' garage attached to existing garage – no wetlands.

10. COMPLAINTS/ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/REPORTS.

IWZEO T. Mitchell has submitted his report in regards to his site visit to the Ducci property, Mansfield Road. No erosion is taking place, no vernal pools were seen and both streams on the property are running clear. His report also informs the Commission that a Cease and Desist Order was sent to property owners at 1 Brookfield Road until erosion control measures are put in place behind the house and silt fence in front of the house is repaired.

11. CORRESPONDENCE.

Copies of Habitat have been received.

12. INVOICES.

None.

13. ADJOURN.

R. Wesneski **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m., seconded by E. Rahn. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Polly Redmond
Land Use Coordinator

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT
ON 7-11-17 AT 2:20 PM
ATTEST NANCY E. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK