

Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission
TOWN OF ANDOVER

Town of Andover 'Community Room'

Monday, March 11, 2019 at 7:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Michael Landolphi called to order at 7:03 P.M.

2. Roll Call:

Members Present: Chair Michael Landolphi, Richard Osborne, Ed Smith, Alternates Meghan Lally and George Elliot (alternates seated for absent members)

Members Absent: Jed Larsen, Wayne Thorpe, Alternate James Hallisey

Also present Wetlands Agent John Valente, Board Clerk Amanda Gibson

Others Present: Applicants/Land Owners Vincent & Patti Grimaldi, Applicants/Land Owner William Genovese and Engineer Chris Bell. Amanda Gibson introduced as new Board Clerk.

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda:

John Valente Requested that the commission add the approval of January 14th Meeting Minutes.

Add new item as 8b. Report from the Conservation Commission under 8a. Administrative Report.

George Elliot MOTIONED

Chair Mike Landolphi SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0

4. Public Participation:

4a. Vincent & Patti Grimaldi from 353 Lake Road, Andover

Vincent Grimaldi presented land map and proposed desire to build a retirement home on a back lot (Rear Lot) on their existing 22 acres with driveway going through wetlands. Asked for guidance and options.

Wetlands Agent John Valente explained the following:

Crossing wetlands is greater than 125 foot crossing might be a significant activity and would require a public hearing. Important for applicant to choose most feasible and prudent alternative for developing. Rely on engineer and consultant to minimize impact to wetlands and to answer how applicant will compensate for loss of wetlands.

Applicant Vincent shared the dryness of wetlands area and that current driveway is gravel.

John Valente explained that the soil scientist should discuss the values and functions of the wetlands in a report to the Commission

Megan Lally discussed options for applicant such as using a shared driveway to minimize impact.

5. New Business:

5a. Review application by William Genovese for activity of property owned immediately west of 497 Route 6, Andover (Lot ID 33/036/000023)

Map 33, Block 36, Lot 23. Removal of 33k cubic feet of sand gravel in Upland Review Area of the Hop River

Wetlands Agent John Valente distributed copies of map and presented the map on projector screen, presenter Chris Bell P.E. also had a large color copy to present.

Chris Bell P.E., the land owner William Genovese's professional engineer, presented letters to town requested from P&Z that affect application. Letter requested waiver for need of Class A2 survey.

Stated that land parcel is 6.5 acres, located next to the Hop River with a 200ft line of watercourse and 100ft buffer line from wetlands and 200 feet Upland Review Area of the neighboring Brook

Chris Bell described gravel operation to have 6 phases, to limit operation to half an acre at a time, preventing whole area to become eroded. The last phase would approach wetland area and will restore each of the 6 phases prior to starting the third phase. The first phase would be stabilized before the owner opens the third phase to be restored with a minimum of 4 inches of topsoil.

Chris Bell described the 294ft flood elevation and the benefits of doing gravel operation to make land usable, help flooding and creating a natural berm/drainage barrier. Between the gravel operation and neighboring wetlands

John Valente questioned if exploratory testing has been done, suggested to schedule for next week. The engineer said that test holes would be scheduled for this Thursday and would contact the wetlands agent so he could be present as requested.

Chris Bell shared that part of front property to be saved for future development. The grade will be pitched so site drains in same direction as it is currently going. Projecting a 6-9 month project, hence asking for a 2-year permit from P&Z. Hiring a contractor out of New Britain with 10-15 truck loads per day from 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. from Monday through Friday & 7am-12pm on Saturday.

John Valente stated they must contact the state through District 2 in Rocky Hill as they need to make sure there is a gate and signs posted 350ft before drive.

To also contact endangered species agents to ensure no endangered turtle species will be affected. The Engineer stated that he has already contacted NDDB at the DEEP and is waiting for a reply. John Valente stated that he also has a call into Dawn McKay requesting the same information. Mr. Valente also shared that he in anticipation of a list of some threatened species on the property plans on hiring a consultant to evaluate the project as the operation may impact the species, if present, on the property.

He also shared that IWWC does not wish to delay application, as they try to facilitate progress from DEEP and P&Z.

John Valente inquired about fueling and parking.

Chris Bell P.E. answered that the loaders will be diesel operated and only refueled at gas station on neighboring property. Parking of vehicles will be on the property.

John Valente inquired about dust control.

Chris Bell P.E. answered that their team will have a minimum of 300 gallons of water with a spigot control and/or sprayer.

John Valente inquired how applicants will restore site to support revegetation.

Chris Bell answered that the surrounding area is heavily wooded. That as each segment is disturbed; the team will fill areas with 4" of topsoil. Team will discover how deep the layers of good soil go after soil test is done.

Chris Bell proposed options for 12" boulders uncovered with sifter. To explore scenario if discovered materials aren't of value.

Stated that William Genovese will later decide to develop or sell his property.

Commission set up a site walk meeting on property with contractor on Monday, March 25th at 5:30 P.M.

Applicant is hoping for approval at April 8th IWWC meeting.

A public hearing with Planning and Zoning to be scheduled after April 8th meeting.

6. Old Business:

6a. Election of Officers

Commission proposed holding off on election of officers until all members are present.

Megan Lally suggested hosting election at June meeting to coincide with electing members.

Chair Michael Landolphi suggested making a motion to approve elections in June.

George MOVED to set aside 6a. from the agenda and postpone to the April 8th meeting.

Megan Lally SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

6b. Draft Lake Regulations pending P&Z Commission Approval.

Due to lack of time, commission moved on to discussing 6c.

6c. Discuss updating IWWC Regulations to be in compliance with legislative changes.

John Valente presented document edited by Megan Lally on projector screen for commission to review and edit together.

Megan Lally discussed changes she made to the document with input from the members.

Commission suggested to have a Public Hearing in May for IWWC Regulations.

John Valente stated that he would review the current fee structure to determine if the fees cover the Commission's actual cost of processing an application.

John Valente agreed with the deletion of the Appendices with the exception of the definition of Agriculture which he would like to see retained in some form as to be readily available for review.

6d. Review of IWWC Bylaws

John Valente presented document edited by Megan Lally on projector screen for commission to review and edit together.

Commission reviewed and edited document together. Megan Lally shared all changes both substantial and grammatical that she made to the document.

Agreed that Section 19 Amendments 19.1. to be voted on at next meeting.

Board Clerk Amanda Gibson to send revised document to the commission members following the meeting.

John Valente expressed gratitude for Megan Lally's time and energy on editing.

7. Approval of February 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes

George Elliot MOTIONED to approve

Megan Lally SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0

Approval of January 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes

George Elliot MOTIONED to approve

Megan Lally SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0

8. Reports (amended minute item)

8a. Administrative Report by John Valente

Updates on projects/properties...

-Home on Hendee Road

-Hector Lopez who is building a new house to clean up debris and owner to fill out application for a wetlands permit

-Long Hill Road site with wetlands is now stable.

-A complaint on Lakeside Drive, an addition without a permit, does not present any potential impact to the lake however does require a permit.

-John Valente stated that he has looked at severe drainage issue with the Town as they may impact wetlands and safety on town roads

-John Valente reported that he routinely (weekly) inspects all site around the Lake under construction.

8b. Report by John Valente on the Conservation Commission:

Site Walk with Scott Person, who has withdrawn his application. Walk included Neil Hagstrom from DEEP Fisheries and Hank Gruner an ex-DEEP Herptologist, Carrie Compton, Megan Lally, John Valente and applicant. Hank Gruner expressed concerns with hindering endangered turtles nesting area along the river.

Agreed there should be no trail there (no trail on the Northwest side of the Dam). Perhaps going in and around the nesting area to see if that would not impact turtle still under consideration and to be discussed with Hank Gruner by the CC.

Neil Hagstrom & Hank Grune r stated that it should not have a picnic area; concerned about garbage, banks of rivers being exposed without revegetation (including fishermen, etc), trail to be moved against existing soil berm away from the river.

Conservation Commission offered help with move of the trail as using the area is a threat to the endangered species.

Saturday, March 30th the Conservation Commission to lead invasive species removal at Nature Pond A.K.A. Doris Chamberlain Pond.

Also shared that BWA to use trail guidance language through the town in order to fund projects quicker and set standards.

Commission all discussed the current Membership of the IWWC Regular Members are Mike Landolphi, Wayne Thorphe, Rick Osborne, Jed Larsen and Ed Smith. Alternates George Elliott, James Halisey and Megan Lally

Megan Lally MOTIONED to amend February minutes with the change that Megan Lally is an alternate and Ed Smith is a regular member.

Rick SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0

8. Adjournment

Megan Lally MOTIONED to adjourn at 9:50 P.M.

George Elliot SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0

Meeting Minutes helpfully submitted by Board Clerk, Amanda Gibson

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.