

INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1st 2021 - 7:00 P.M.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Website Platform

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: George Elliott, Jed Larson, and William Munroe

Member Absent: Ed Smith (alternate)

Others Present: Joseph Wagner - Wetland Agent, Abbie Winter - Board Clerk, Jim Hallisey, James Cole, George Correia, Matthew Bruton, Eric Anderson, and Erik Loteczka

1) CALL TO ORDER: Chair G.Elliott called the public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m.

2) ROLL CALL/SEATING OF ALTERNATES: No alternates were seated.

3) CHANGES IN ORDER TO AGENDA

G.Elliott MOVED to add to the agenda IWWC #21-23 Application, 23 Lake Road, Town of Andover Hop River Parking Plan and IWWC #21-24 Application, 580 Lake Road, Lake Road LLC. J.Larson SECONDED. By roll call vote, MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. October 4, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

G.Elliott MOVED to approved the October 4, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. J.Larson SECONDED. By roll call vote, MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

5) PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

6) NEW BUSINESS

a. IWWC 21-21: James and Abby Cole, 83 School Rd - Rebuilding existing stone stairway into Andover Lake.

The applicant, James Cole, was present.

J.Cole described the plan to relay the existing 4' wide steps that lead into the lake, requiring no heavy equipment. J.Cole stated he has a contractor for the project, Jeff Dondero. He confirmed he submitted the plan for approval by ALMA.

The application will be acted upon at the next meeting.

- b. IWWC 21-22: Jeff Miner (Applicant), Ellen Gallnot (Owner), 326 Lake Rd- Rebuilding existing 75-foot long by 3.5-foot high lake wall using existing stone and new stone on shoreline of Andover Lake.

The applicant was not present.

J.Wagner reported on the plan to rebuild the 75' section of wall that is in disrepair, using the same stone to restack it to be the same height. The applicant will place a silt fence between the wall and the lake, using straw and hay as needed for erosion control. They will use an excavator, and there is easy access to the area. J.Larson reported the applicant is working on getting ALMA approval.

J. Larson asked for specifics on how and where the crushed stone will be added. G.Elliott reported the applicant plans to remove 8 yards of material from behind the existing wall to make room for the crushed stone. J.Larson asked what the applicant plans to do with the 8 yards of extracted material, and J.Wagner stated he will follow up with the applicant.

The application will be acted upon at the next meeting.

- c. IWWC #21-23: Town of Andover, 23 Lake Road - Hop River Parking Plan

On behalf of the Town of Andover, Eric Anderson was present.

E.Anderson described the Merritt Valley Road property and its purpose to preserve the land around Cheney Brook, address the need for parking to access the rail trail, and to create a small low-impact picnic area near the historic stone bridge on Merritt Valley Road. The plan is to improve upon the preexisting use of the area, since it is already being used for parking. The Town plans to regrade and gravel the parking area to increase its capacity, install a silt sedimentation basin, selectively clearing the underbrush of the preexisting gravel path leading to the lower parking lot, and leveling the area a little a bit. E.Anderson stated the project engineer will help to mitigate any damage during construction.

G.Elliott stated this project is within the 100 ft upland review area, and there was discussion regarding the necessity of a site walk and wetlands delineation flagging by a soil scientist.

J.Larson MOVED that the Commission schedule a site walk and delineate the wetlands.

W.Munroe SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

The site walk will tentatively be held on December 4th at 9:00 am, depending on when the area is flagged.

- d. IWWC #21-24: Lake Road LLC, 580 Lake Road – subdivision of land

On behalf of the applicant, M.Bruton was present.

M.Bruton described the site plan to subdivide the parcel into two parcels for future development. He stated there are no wetlands on this site, but the upland review area includes a part of the parcel. He clarified that this request is just to subdivide the parcel, and the applicant will return in the future with plans for development.

M.Bruton stated the property does not have wetlands, however the upland review area of Cheney Brook intersects the parcel. G.Elliott stated that Agent J.Wagner will need to approve the subdivision request before Planning and Zoning acts upon it.

7) ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

G.Elliott noted the shipping containers are still present at 93 Townsend Road. J.Wagner stated he spoke with the owner, who confirmed that he plans to move the containers once he obtains post-surgery doctor clearance to clear his belongings out of the container.

8) AGENT REPORT

J.Wagner overviewed the FAQ document he compiled to condense the IWWC's purpose, regulations, and operating terms. J.Larson stated that the document could clarify how homeowners can identify if there are wetlands on their property. J.Wagner stated the best way to do that is to reference maps, host a site walk with Agent J.Wagner, or delineate the property with a soil scientist.

J.Wagner reported he met with E.Anderson, the town engineer, Hank Gruner, and the construction company for the Andover connectivity grant on Route 6 and Long Hill Road. They walked the property and H.Gruner noted the drainage basin on the east end of the public works garage. H.Gruner requested that the sediment piles be removed, and the town engineer noted that the basin doesn't drain water correctly. Therefore they want to raise the catch basin so no point pollution will contaminate the wetlands across the street.

9) OTHER BUSINESS

a. Update on IWWC20-36 change to method of culvert construction.

The applicants, George Correia and Erik Loteczka, were present.

J.Wagner stated he asked engineer Brandon Handfield to look at the plans to evaluate the wetlands impact of the new culvert design. G.Elliott stated the letter from B.Handfield reads that the impact is not significantly greater than the original culvert plan.

G.Correia stated the price of the box culvert has increased astronomically, so although it's not as easy to install, the 3-sided culvert is now more affordable. J.Wagner confirmed the 3-sided culvert is a more optimal design.

J.Larson asked if this should have been an alternative when the proposal was being developed. E.Loteczka stated at the time, the 3-sided culvert was not a cost-effective option.

J.Larson asked for clarification regarding how the footing will be dug so that it is 42" beneath the wetlands surface and so that it is on undisturbed soils. G.Correia stated he does this work on his commercial projects - he will dig down 42" and if the materials at that elevation are undisturbed natural subsoils, then this is allowed to be built on. If at that elevation they find the materials are topsoil, organic material, or imported fills, then he will dig deeper until he comes to undisturbed natural subsoils. G.Correia stated he dug at the site before the first proposed design and he found that the topsoil is only about 9 inches deep before he came across

subsoils. G.Correia stated he intends to leave the natural invert of the water intact by digging on either side of it to cast the footing and wall.

J.Larson asked for clarification on the 3'0" maximum measurement between the bottom material and the top of the slab. G.Correia stated that he will talk to the engineer about updating the measurement from 3'0" max to 3'10" min.

G.Elliott stated there will be relatively similar disturbance to the watercourse between the original culvert plan and this modified plan. Since this plan maintains an unimpeded flow of water, this field modification does not need an application for modification to the Commission, nor does it require additional approval by the Commission.

10) NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Monday, December 6th 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

11) ADJOURNMENT

G.Elliott MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. MOTION CARRIED by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted by Abbie Winter,

Abbie Winter

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