

Town of Uxbridge
Conservation Commission
21 South Main Street
Uxbridge, MA 01569
508-278-8600 x 2020



Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday February 5, 2018
Board of Selectman's Room, Uxbridge Town Hall

Received by
Uxbridge
Town Clerk

Present: Chair Andrew Gorman, Clerk Jeff Shaw, Treasurer Russell Holden, Members Lauren Steele & Dale Bangma

Absent: Vice Chair Jim Hogan, Member Rick Tobin and Conservation Agent Melissa Danza

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Notice of Intent (NOI), DEP #312-1060, 57 Lackey Dam Road (Map 9, Parcel 1519) (00:00:43 – 00:02:57)**
Applicant: Griffin Homes LLC Representative: Civil Site Engineering LLC
Project Description: Replacement of an existing septic system within the Buffer Zone to a BVW.

Discussion: (PH opened 1/3/18) Margaret Bacon, Civil Site Engineering attended on behalf of the applicant. The DEP number has been issued with no comments. Members and the applicant agreed to add a condition to use tarp over stock pile as discussed previously. No public comment.

MOTION: Mr. Holden moved to close the hearing for DEP #312-1060 57 Lackey Dam Road. Mr. Shaw seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 5-0-0.

MOTION: Ms. Steele made a motion to issue an Order of Conditions for DEP #312-1060 57 Lackey Dam Road with the Uxbridge Standard Special Conditions and the added special condition that the stockpiles be covered with a tarp at the end of each day. Mr. Bangma seconded and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 5-0-0.
2. **Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA), Newell Road Sewer Easement (Map 25, Parcel 2065) (3:00-6:17)**
Applicant: Benn Sherman, Uxbridge DPW Representative: GHD, Inc.
Project Description: Rehabilitation of existing sewer infrastructure due to hydrogen sulfide degradation.

Discussion: Anastasia, GHD attended on behalf of the applicant and described the repair – replacing in kind approximately 500' of main, a manhole replacement, and approximately 50' of sewer in an existing easement. She explained the reason for the repair and stated they will be using different pipe material pvc w/ epoxy coating to protect from future hydrogen sulfide degradation. Members agreed the project was straight forward and there were no public comments.

MOTION: Ms. Steele moved to issue negative determination because the area described is subject to protection under the Wetlands Protection Act but meets the requirements for the exemptions in 310 CMR 10.02 (2)(b)2j related to repairing the existing sewer lines. Mr. Bangma seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 5-0-0.
3. **Notice of Intent (NOI), DEP #312-1054, 0 Newell Road & 0 S Main Street (Map 25, Parcels 2065 & 4434) (6:24-6:52)**
Applicant: ForeFront Power, LLC Representative: TRC Environmental Corporation
Project Description: Construction of a 4 megawatt ground mounted solar facility with work in bordering vegetated wetlands and associated buffer zones.

Discussion: Applicant formally requested to continue while awaiting peer review and Planning Board meeting in Feb.

MOTION: Mr. Holden moved to continue DEP #312-1054, 0 Newell Road & 0 South Main Street. Mr. Shaw seconded and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 5-0-0.

Mr. Bangma moved to take the agenda out of order and Commerce Drive under VIOLATIONS while awaiting the representative for the next hearing. Mr. Shaw seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 5-0-0.

REPORTED/ONGOING VIOLATIONS

- Commerce Drive – Map 40, Parcels 3085 & 3086 (00:07:37 – 00:34:00)
 - Arthur Allen, Wetland Scientist with EcoTec, Inc. attended to discuss the restoration plan. Mr. Allen initially evaluated the site after the clear cutting and delineated the wetlands. He described his initial assessment and recommendations for immediate restoration which he thought was effective in bringing the site under control.

-

-

-

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes continued – Monday, February 5, 2018

MOTION: Mr. Holden moved to issue a COC for DEP #312-855 974 Aldrich Street. Ms. Steele seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 5-0-0.

REPORTED/ONGOING VIOLATIONS

- 77 Industrial Drive (01:06:17 – 01:08:08)
 - Mr. Gorman will contact Mrs. Danza about setting up site visit before the next meeting – members agreed it would help to have the 200' staked out. No new other information.
- General discussion regarding erosion control (01:08:11 – 01:10:57)
 - There was discussion about the commission possibly forwarding site concerns to DPW particularly with the storm water permit on the horizon. Mr. Bangma offered to have an informal conversation with Mr. Sherman about their processes and report back to Commissioners.

PROCESSING

1. 1/16/18 Meeting Minutes (01:11:11 – 01:12:48)
 - MOTION: Mr. Holden moved to approve the 1/16/18 meeting minutes of the Conservation Commission as written. Ms. Steele seconded, and the motion passed by vote of 3-0-1
2. Approval of funds for MACC Annual Conference (01:12:50 – 01:15:23)
 - MOTION: Mr. Holden moved to appropriate funds of \$125 per person or up to \$1000 for the purpose of attending MACC conference as usual. Mr. Shaw seconded, and the motion passed by vote of 5-0-0.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS, WHICH MAY LAWFULLY COME BEFORE THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

1. General discussion regarding vernal pool certification (01:15:23 – 01:18:59)
 - Mr. Gorman provided other members aerial images of the sites they can start with. He chose sites that are town owned; on conservation easements; or existing projects where they already have permission to access the property. Members agreed to discuss any questions they have about the certification process and walk through the forms at the next meeting.
2. Vote to approve requested budget and agent salary (01:19:00 – 01:46:59)
 - Commissioners looked over the budget worksheet. The primary difference is the agent salary – it is currently funded 50% from the WPA Fund and 50% from the Town general budget. The proposed change reflected in the worksheet is for 25% from WPA and 75% from the town. The current 50/50 split is not sustainable because the WPA is funded from permit fees which vary year to year. The previous Town Manager discussed transitioning the funding 100% of salary from the town but a plan was not formalized. Mr. Holden suggested another possible option that the Commission contribute no more than the average revenue over a 3-year period toward the salary. Mr. Gorman noted in talking with other towns all agent's salaries were funded from the town general budget. There was also discussion of some of the budget line items in which they will look to clarify with the town accountant or Mrs. Danza. It was stated that is important to note that the agent's workload has not gone down and Orders of Conditions have become more sophisticated and Mrs. Danza does a great job.
 - MOTION: Mr. Holden moved to approve paying up to 25% of the Conservation Agent Salary (\$11,705), from the WPA funds for the 2019 fiscal year. Ms. Steele seconded, and the motion passed by unanimously vote of 5-0-0.
3. Vote to declare open vacancy due to excessive absence per Article 7, Section 10 of Uxbridge Charter (01:47:08 – 01:48:51)
 - Mr. Gorman stated, and members agreed that declaring the seat vacant was not a personal reflection of Mr. Tobin and that his input and experience was helpful, and he was valued as a member.
 - MOTION: Ms. Steele moved to declare a vacancy due to excessive absence per Article 7, Section 10 of the Uxbridge Charter. Mr. Shaw seconded, and the motion passed by vote of 5-0-0.
 - MOTION: Mr. Holden moved to post the vacancy with the town clerk. Mr. Shaw seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 5-0-0.
4. Consider requesting update from Open Space Committee (01:49:08 – 01:54:05)
 - One of the recommendations from the outgoing interim Town Manager was to formulate an open space plan which was one of the goals of the Open Space Committee. Mr. Gorman just wanted to remind everyone to advocate for membership and they discussed options for informing people about the committee. Mr. Holden proposed trying to schedule a meeting for the following Monday.

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes continued – Monday, February 5, 2018

5. Mr. Holden recommended that the ongoing projects are assigned a Commissioner as a contact person. The purpose to encourage engagement and ownership and share ideas. Mr. Gorman offered to coordinate compiling a list with Mrs. Danza.

ADJOURNMENT-NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 20, 2018

Mr. Shaw moved to adjourn the 2/5/18 meeting of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Holden, seconded and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 5-0-0.

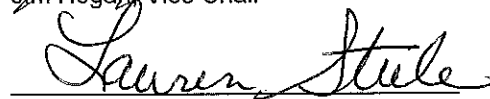
Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Shelley



Andrew Gorman, Chairman



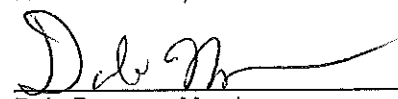
Jim Hogan, Vice Chair



Lauren Steele, Member

Jeffrey Shaw, Clerk

Russell Holden, Treasurer



Dale Bangma, Member

March 19, 2018

Date