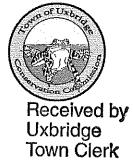


Town of Uxbridge Conservation Commission 21 South Main Street Uxbridge, MA 01569 508-278-8600 x 2020

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



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

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
 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

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

There was discussion about the proposed restoration plan which included plantings but members stated it appeared to rely on a vigorous regrowth in the spring. Members requested supplementing the plantings in number and type. Ideas were discussed with Mr. Allen to enhance the screening along the road (to benefit the residents) as well as supplement the perimeter of the pools with 2" caliper red maples and tupelos. Mr. Allen mentioned the plan is to plant in the spring and the size if trees may be limited by the need for heavy equipment to bring them in. Mr. Holden recommended, and everyone agreed to having a monitoring component – monthly status report – during the growing season. Mr. Allen will submit the enhanced plan and the enforcement order will stay open. A conference call, including Mrs. Danza, with Natural Heritage is scheduled for this week to collaborate further. There were no new comments from DEP.

Mr. Holden moved to discuss Pout Pond. Mr. Shaw seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 5-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 1. Boarding up cottage at Pout Pond (00:34:38 00:51:55)
 - Mr. Gorman explained there have been some security and insurance issues with the Capron Mill Cottage at Pout Pond requiring action be taken. To obtain more information about the structure Mr. Gorman reached out to the PPRC and former Commissioner David Lewcon. There was discussion regarding the recent upgrades and potential use as a residence as well as the historic value of the building. After discussion, the Commission agreed boarding up the cottage as a short-term solution was appropriate but would like to visit the site first. Cindy Scott was also in attendance and said the PRCC also agreed with boarding up the cottage for now. Members also agreed to collaborate with the Historic Commission and the PPRC, to determine the appropriate long term plan for the building. Everyone agreed there should be some type of public education/signage as to why it is boarded up for the potential preservation as a historic structure not just abandonment.
 - MOTION: Ms. Steele made a motion to allow the Town to temporarily board up the Capron Mill Cottage for the
 purpose of short term preservation following an informational site visit. Mr. Bangma seconded, and the motion
 passed unanimously.

Agenda returned to the published order.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. Notice of Intent (NOI), DEP#312-1039, 620 Aldrich Street (Map 48, Parcel 4524) (00:52:08 – 00:55:08)
Applicant: Jonathan E. Tibbetts
Representative: Andrews Survey & Engineering, Inc.
Project Description: Construction of a single-family home with associated septic system, earthwork, landscaping with a wetland crossing to construct a driveway.

Discussion: Steve O'Connell, Andrews Survey and Engineering, attended on behalf of the applicant. He brought stamped plans that included the updated replication ratios. Plans were also delivered to Grave's Engineering for final review. Mr. O'Connell reviewed some minor additions to the plan including a guard rail and radius changes.

MOTION: Ms. Steele moved to continue DEP #312-1039 to next meeting of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Shaw seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 5-0-0.

WETLAND UPDATES/ISSUES

- Request for Certificate of Compliance, 1025 & 1045 Quaker Highway, DEP #312-985 (00:55:11 00:59:26)
 Mr. Bangma recused himself from discussion
 - Steve O'Connell, Andrew's Survey and Engineering, attended on behalf of the applicant. He walked site with Mrs. Danza and provided an as-built plan of which there was a brief review. He reported that everything operating as intended and vegetation is well stabilized and growing.

MOTION: Mr. Holden moved to issue a COC for DEP #312-0985 1025 & 1045 Quaker Highway. Mr. Shaw seconded and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 4-0-0.

Mr. Bangma returned to the meeting.

- 2. Request for Certificate of Compliance, 974 Aldrich Street, DEP #312-855 (00:59:46 01:05:46)
 - Steve O'Connell, Andrew's Survey and Engineering, attended on behalf applicant. He visited went to the site
 and said it appears to be built according to plan. Didn't see any encroachments to take note of. Mrs. Danza was
 unable to locate the actual OOC but meeting minutes identified it was unanimously approved. Aerials of the
 property were reviewed during the meeting.

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 Manger 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	
Addrew Gorman, Chairman	Jeffrey Shaw, Clerk
Jim Hogan Vice Chair Lauren Steele, Member	Russell Holden, Treasurer Dale Bangma, Member
<u>March</u> 19,2018	