

CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING APRIL 17, 2012  
CONFERENCE ROOM L 101

These minutes are not verbatim, but represent a summary of major statements and comments. For minutes verbatim, refer to audiotape on file in the Office of the Town Clerk. Audiotapes are retained for the minimum period required under the retention schedule as provided under Connecticut Law.

Chairman Block called the roll call at 7:03 p.m. and noted Commissioners Andreas, Clark, Igielski and Zelek were present. Also present were Alternate Paskewich and Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer.

NOTE: Chairman Block designated that Alternate Paskewich would vote for Commissioner Shapiro.

ITEM III  
ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of March 20, 2012

Commissioner Igielski noted the following corrections:

- A. Middle of Page 1---A. Top of Page 3 (2)---Remark "F" should read "Activities under review include replacing of...and the regrading (regarding) of the rear yard....trucked in fill) material.
- B. Middle of Page 1---B. "Top of Page 3 (2)---Remark "G" ("H") should read "The regrading (regarding) operation took place....area (per Town Map)."
- C. Bottom of Page 2---Remark "B" should read "He noted that the project...for three (3) to four (4) (3) houses at the south end....an existing health hazard."
- D. Middle of Page 4---Motion by Commissioner Igielski should read "Motion made by Commissioner Igielski (Igielski) to table the item....and the motion was carried."
- E. Bottom of Page 4---Remark by Mr. Greenlaw should read "Mr. Greenlaw noted the next three (3) applications...faith by contractor (contractions). The...condominium properties."
- F. Top of Page 7---Remark by Commissioner Igielski should read "Commissioner Igielski noted that four (4) votes...present would have to (would) vote in the affirmative...might be present."

G. Bottom of Page 7--- Remark by Commissioner Igielski should read “Commissioner Igielski noted that four (4) votes...present would have to (would) vote in the affirmative...might be present.”

Commissioner Clark noted the following corrections:

- A. Page 8---ITEM VI D should read “Chairman Block-New Initiative Invasive (Evasive) Plants”
- B. Top of Page 9---Motion by Commissioner Andreas should read “Motion made by Commissioner Andreas to hold introductory workshop on invasive (evasive) plants on...and the motion was carried.”

Motion made by Commissioner Igielski to accept the minutes as amended and was seconded by Commissioner Clark. There was no discussion. Vote was 6 yes, 0 no and the motion was carried.

#### ITEM IV

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

#### ITEM VA

Application 2012-07, 215 Lowery Place-Northwood Apartments

Mr. Mark Lucas, 199 Woodycrest Lane, East Hartford, is the applicant and contractor doing the work.

Mr. Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer, provided the applicant with a copy of the contract plan, which was part of the application.

Chairman Block asked why the applicant was appearing before the Commission? Mr. Lucas responded because the (property) owners were under a court order to replace the decks in order to bring them into conformance with the (building) code.

Mr. Lucas entered the following remarks into the record:

- A. A number of the decks are located in the buffer zone (upland review area) adjacent to the wetland.
- B. There are ten (10) to twelve (12) sonotubes (support posts) per building in the upland review area.
- C. A number of the existing sonotubes were left in place when the new decks were built, which included the installation of some new sonotubes. The installation of the new sonotubes require the excavation of material.

Chairman Block asked why the new decks were before the Commission? Mr. Lucas responded because they had to be made wider. He referred to photographs which were part of the application and were passed out to Commission members. He also noted that the majority of the existing sonotubes would not be used and would be left in place.

Mr. Greenlaw noted that work has been under way on the project for a year and six (6) buildings have been completed to date.

Chairman Blocked asked that a copy of the order to do the work be placed in the (Commission) file? Mr. Greenlaw responded that it would be done.

Alternate Paskewich asked what was the change in the width requirement? Mr. Lucas responded the code required a change from 32 inches to 36 inches.

Commissioner Zelek asked if there was any disturbance to the wetland? Mr. Lucas responded no.

Recording Secretary Peter Arburrr asked how many new sonotubes have been installed and how many remain to be installed? Mr. Lucas responded 33 and 44 respectively.

Mr. Greenlaw asked if any material would be replaced on site? Mr. Lucas responded that it would be his intention to spread the excavated material emanating from a new sonotube around the new post.

It was the consensus of Commission members to carry the item over to the May meeting.

#### ITEM VB

Permit 2010-05, Eighth Street, Request for (Permit) Modification

Mr. Michael Mancini, Director of Engineering, for the MDC noted the presence of Mr. Eric Pizzoferrato and Mr. Dwight R. Dunk, Soil Scientist with CDM.

Mr. Mancini entered the following remarks into the record:

- A. The request is for a permit modification that would relocate the generator from the south side of the access driveway (to the pump station) to the north side as shown on the plan.
- B. The new location would move the generator farther away from an existing residence.
- C. The existing over head power line to the pump station would be place in an under ground conduit.

Mr. Greenlaw asked the applicant to show the limits of the wetland and up land review area?

Mr. Mancini entered the following response into the record:

- A. Referring to the plan, he showed the limits of the wetland and upland review area.
- B. He noted that the only impact would be the installation of a short section of the proposed under ground electric service conduit line to the pump station.
- C. Most of the work would be done outside of the regulated areas.
- D. The generator would only go into service when local power to the area would be lost.

Commissioner Zelek asked the following questions:

- A. Would the pump station and generator be fenced in? Mr. Mancini responded yes.
- B. Would the existing trail in the area be cut off by the new fencing? Mr. Mancini responded no.

Commissioner Andreas asked what was the size of the fuel tank? Mr. Mancini responded a 40 gallon propane gas tank that would provide between one (1) and two (2) days of service.

Alternate Paskewich asked how was the elevation for the generator determined? Mr. Mancini responded using the FEMA maps for the area. They have not been updated since 2002.

Mr. Greenlaw noted that the approved permit is good for five (5) years. Work must be completed within two (2) years from the start of work. The request is being made for a two (2) year extension. The Commission can vote on the request tonight.

Chairman Block asked if all required information is in place? Mr. Greenlaw responded yes.

Motion made by Commissioner Andreas to approve the request for a permit modification and was seconded by Alternate Paskewich.

Mr. Greenlaw noted that that condition 13 should be added to the permit.

Recoding Secretary Arburr noted that the request for a time extension should be added to the motion.

Mr. Greenlaw noted that the request for the time extension is August 20, 2014.

Commissioner Igielski noted that it is the policy of the Commission to include the notation "all condition of the permit to remain in full force and effect".

Motion made by Commissioner Igielski to accept the three (3) amendments and was seconded by Commissioner Andreas. There was no discussion. Vote was 6 yes 0 no and the motion was carried.

Vote on the original motion as amended was 6 yes, 0 no and the motion was carried.

ITEM VI A

Application 1012-03, 167 Brookside Road

Ms. Tricia Lucas, 167 Brookside Road, the applicant, requested that the application be carried over to the May meeting. The reason for the request is that the surveyor retained to prepare the plan, could not complete it in time for tonight's meeting.

Motion made by Alternate Paskewich to table the item over to the May meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Clark. There was no discussion. Vote was 6 yes, 0 no and the motion was carried.

ITEM VI B

Application 2012-06, MDC-Church Street

Mr. Michael Mancini, Director of Engineering, for the MDC noted the presence of and Mr. Dwight R. Dunk, Soil Scientist with CDM. They would be available to answer any questions.

Mr. Greenlaw noted that the over all project was a major installation. However, the only regulated activity was a house connection that would be done in the upland review area.

Commissioner Andreas asked if the soil sample was different in the area of the proposed pipe jacking operation? Mr. Mancini responded there was no change from what was expected in the area.

Mr. Greenlaw noted on Plan Sheet C-2 that soil borings were taken on either side of the culvert crossing.

Chairman Block asked if the application was complete? Mr. Greenlaw responded yes.

Motion made by Commissioner Igielski that based on the information before it, the Commission make a finding of fact that a public hearing is not necessary for Application 2012-06 because the proposed activities would not have a major impact or significant effect on the regulated areas. Motion seconded by Commissioner Clark. There was no discussion. Vote was 6 yes, 0 no and the motion was carried.

Mr. Greenlaw handed out a list of suggested conditions for review and comment by Commission members.

There was a general discussion and review of the conditions among Commission members.

Motion made by Commissioner Igielski to grant a permit by Summary Ruling for Application 2012-06 and subject to conditions noted in the record (audio tape) or "Official Notification of Action". Motion was seconded by Commissioner Clark. There was no discussion. Vote was 6 yes, 0 no and the motion was carried.

## ITEM VI C

### Chairman Block-New Initiative (Invasive Plants)

Commissioner Clark noted that Ms. Donna Ellis, Senior Extension Educator, University of Connecticut advised her that she would be available to make a presentation to the Newington Conservation Commission on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Clark noted that Ms. Ellis would make a 1 hour power point presentation that would discuss the impacts of invasive plants in woodlands and other natural areas; how to identify some of the common invasive plants in the state, control measures and replacements options to restore wildlife habitat.

Chairman Block asked if there would be any time for questions? Commissioner Clark responded yes.

Commissioner Clark noted that it's going to be hard to determine how many persons may show up.

Alternate Paskewich asked Commissioner Clark if the Cedar Mountain group would be contacted? Commissioner Clark responded yes.

Mr. Greenlaw said that he had a discussion with IT (Information Technology) on where to hold the workshop. It was the conclusion that the Council Chambers would be the appropriate location. He suggested that if Ms. Ellis could come early to see if the set up was compatible for her presentation or might require some adjustment.

Commissioner Clark asked if notice of the meeting could be placed on the Town's website? Mr. Greenlaw responded that he would check with the Town Manager.

Chairman Block asked Alternate Paskewich if he would check with Channel14 to see if the workshop could be televised? Alternate Paskewich responded yes.

Chairman Block asked if there would be hand out material available for the workshop? Commissioner Clark responded that she would check it out.

Chairman Block said that he would be there to meet with Ms. Ellis to review the set up.

## ITEM VII

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

## ITEM VIII

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Mr. Greenlaw entered the following items into the record:

- A. He and two (2) Commission members attended the first session of the DEEP annual state training program for Commission members.

- B. Commissioner Igielski presented for use by Commission members a flow chart for processing a new application. Mr. Greenlaw noted that seeking a similar flow chart from DEEP. He would compare the two (2) charts.
- C. Mr. Greenlaw noted that there was a free seminar on invasive plant being sponsored by Middlesex Community College.
- D. He passed out the Spring 2012 volume of the “Habitat” to Commission members.

Motion made by Commissioner Clark to adjourn meeting at 8:10 p.m. and was seconded by Commissioner Andreas. There was no discussion. Vote was 6 yes, 0 no and motion was carried.

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Peter M. Arburr, Recording Secretary

Commission Members  
Tayna Lane, Town Clerk  
Town Manager, John Salamone  
Town Planner  
Councilor Myra Cohen  
Councilor David Nagel

Chairperson, Town Plan and Zoning Commission.  
Peter Borman, Esquire, Town Attorney  
Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer  
Lucy Robbins Wells Library (2)