TOWN OF NEWINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
June 18, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER
Vice-Chairman Sadil called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Conference Room L101

II. ROLL CALL
Andreas Sadil
Kathleen Marie Clark
John Casasanta
Philip Block (7:05 p.m.)
Alan Paskewich

Also present:
Erik Hinckley, Inland Wetland Agent
Susan Gibbon, Recording Secretary
Gail Budrejko, Town Council Liaison

(*A portion of the minutes of the June 18, 2019 meeting are verbatim; the rest summary.)

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
(each speaker limited to 2 minutes)

Gail Budrejko, 21 Isabelle Terrace, Town Council Liaison: At the Town Council meeting the issue of retention/detention ponds was brought up; everyone knows it is an issue; gone from proactive to reactive; starting work on the catch basins in town. Craig Minor will be assigning an intern to catalogue retention/detention basins and provide a report. The Town Council sent a TVDD overlay to TPZ for their approval. There is a lot to be considered regarding this. They will be holding a public hearing on this at the next TPZ meeting. A pretty significant development on both sides of East Cedar Street. No developer approached, but idea is to have control over development when the train station is put in. State has created a new redevelopment agency with input for development around stations. Newington is excluded from this agency; focusing on distressed or large communities. State is taking an interest in development around transit stations and by creating this zone we can hopefully have local control. This may have an impact on the wetlands in the area.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Erik can you talk about the basins.

E. Hinckley: The basins in the street are in the process of getting cleaned. The other are onsite retention areas; will discuss during my agent report.

Vice Chairman Sadil: In regards to the zoning change; we have memos in here regarding the permit

E. Hinckley: The permit is currently on hold; approval is in limbo pending their litigation with TPZ; so if that is approved on their end, that will reactivate the permit and it will be live. Will discuss further during my agent report.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES
a. Regular Meeting of April 16, 2019
Motion to accept the minutes of the April 16, 2019 meeting by Commissioner Casasanta. Seconded by Commissioner Clark. Vote: (4) to accept; (1) abstention.

V. NEW BUSINESS
a. Application 2019-05, 23 Nathan Hale Dr, Shed, Deck, Pool And Carport In The Regulated Area, Owner/Applicant: Volodymyr Pylypyiv, 23 Nathan Hale Dr, Newington, CT 06111

This portion of the meeting is verbatim

Vice Chairman Sadil: If the applicant is present could they please come forward and state their name and address for the record.

E. Hinckley: Before they speak, let me give a brief background. The applicant came in looking to install a carport, pool, shed and a deck; all within the regulated area. Three of the items are in the wetland proper, the deck is just in the upland review area and I believe that the applicant may ask to allow that as an agent approval this evening and the other stuff will go through the process, that is up to you. It was also suggested that the applicant get a soil scientist, which he did, and he gave us the report this evening. This is the first I had to look at it, I will distribute that to you as well. The soil scientist is not here this evening to ask questions to. So any questions you can either call in to the meeting or use my cell, the applicant here is an intermediary. I will distribute these and let the applicant speak.

Mike Vorona: Good evening my name is Mike Vorona, I am the son-in-law. This is my mom, Olga Plyyiv. She is the owner of 23 Nathan Hale Drive. I am just helping here with understanding the language.

Vice Chairman Sadil: So, describe the property and what you plan to do.

Mr. Vorona: They plan to build a deck, install an above ground pool, build a shed in the back and a carport. Obviously we have, when we bought the house, we didn’t, they didn’t know, nobody told them there was a wetland behind the house. When we started looking more closely at the paperwork we saw the line and obviously it was a wetland. Where they want to build the deck it is dry land. So we are trying to get at least approval today to build the deck so we have the summer to at least build one thing. Obviously we did this test with the scientist. He came over and he tested the land and drilled at multiple location, at least 20 holes. We got the report and I gave it to you. He moved that line, it was behind, it was marked as a wetland and he moved that line about 70 feet away so we will have room to build whatever we want to build, so long as get approval.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Generally, where you want to build the shed, the 20 x 16 shed, will that still be in the wetland area? Do you know? Can you summarize the report for me?

Mr. Vorona: He checked that, and he said no, the guy who was checking the land and he moved that line farther away. Where we want the shed is not going to be wetland anymore.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Ok, all right.

Mr. Vorona: We specifically asked him where we can and we cannot and he tested and we showed him where we wanted the shed, the pool and the carport and he said we should be good to go.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Let’s pause for a second. Mr. Hinckley, if that is the case, and we will digest this report here for the next meeting. But if that is the case, will this require a map amendment? Based on this report from the soil scientist?

E. Hinckley: Here is what I can tell you happened in the past. Typically you do a map amendment yes. But in the past, 10 years or so ago, maybe more, they have done applications without doing map amendments and they have shown the new flagged wetlands and the conservation commission approved it. But an official map amendment was never done, there was not public hearing
held. There are many, many wetland applications that have been done that way in the past. The state
does not require you do to a map amendment, it is really for your own housekeeping and it is really up
to the commission at that point.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Block.

Commissioner Block: Yeah, there is a garden on the photo at that location where the shed, just
above where the shed will be and it is not shown on the plan, does that still exist and is that why the
shed is in that location and not higher up on the slope?

E. Hinckley: Does the garden still exist there? Do you use it?

Mr. Vorona: Yes, yes. What she is saying is when the science guy tested all the soil, it that
was wetland, nothing would be growing. They have cucumbers, tomatoes and that has been for a
couple of years already. They want to live there, they want to keep that house, they want to have more
gardens, the want to plant some raspberries and blueberries. They like that area, if they cannot build
the carport, pool and shed they might try to sell it and move to a different place or town, I don't know,
but their goal is to make their home for the rest of their life and to live there.

Commissioner Block: I know. My only suggestion is that if the shed is there, if is going to be
elevated on blocks or something that is one thing. If it is going to be on ground level it will rot out, it
is damp in that area. The only way to solve the problem is to move the shed up on the elevation, out of
the wetland area, adjacent to the wetlands line.

Mr. Vorona: It is on the blocks, we put it on the blocks. We started, we just put a base to see
where it would go.

Commissioner Block: So it is going to be elevated.

Mr. Vorona: Elevated, yes. It is not going to be straight sitting on the ground.

Vice Chairman Sadil: What if we moved that shed to the opposite side of the garden? Is that
something you would be open to?

Mr. Vorona: Can I ask her?

Vice Chairman Sadil: Sure.

Mr. Vorona: She said they are trying to keep everything in line. The shed, the garden and the
pool on one side and keep the other side nice and you know.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Yes, I understand, but what I am saying is just swap it with the garden,
keep it all on one side. Just put in on the other side and you are a very healthy distance from away
from the wetland and heaven forbid, you are a good healthy distance away from the watercourse.

Commissioner Block: It would be on the property line between the garden and the pool.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Would the applicant like to respond to that?

Mr. Vorona: To be honest, they kind of started and piled up everything where it is supposed to
be, the shed. If that is the only one option, then maybe. But they prefer to keep it on that side, farther
away, they want to keep all the tools and stuff away from the house.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Clark.

Commissioner Clark: I have several questions. Number one, I am correct in noticing that this
entire neighborhood is between an upland review line and a wetland line. Correct?

E. Hinckley: Most all the lots are encumbered by the regulated area there.
Commissioner Clark: And, I just want to make sure I have it clear, and yet we have many other structures in line with some of their required structures.

E. Hinckley: Yes, we do.

Commissioner Clark: Then I want to speak and say that the things that are likely to be the shed that is close to the actual watercourse, including a tractor material with oil, and fuel and fertilizers, you name it in a structure that contain a lot of items that are likely to contaminate the wetlands. I just want to point out the closer that is to the actual watercourse is problematic for me.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Block.

Commissioner Block: In that same tone, is that shed going to have an elevated floor or is it going to be at ground level?

Mr. Vorona: The shed is going to sit on cement blocks, plus the floor, so it is going to be probably 18 inches up high.

Commissioner Block: No, that does not compute, a cinder block is 8 inches high at most.

E. Hinckley: Well, the bottom line is that it is going to be elevated. We just don’t know yet, we can get a more defined definition.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Paskewich.

Commissioner Paskewich: Speaking to the shed and the building code. The size of the shed is going to require anchorage so they will diminish the movement of the shed if there is a windstorm or something like that and there are items inside. We can’t assume that things will just fall out and drop to the ground, if I am incorrect in that, I will be corrected.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Can the applicant explain to the commissioner about the shed and the anchoring to the ground?

Mr. Vorona: I don’t know much about it, we just hired a contractor to help us out, we can ask him and get an answer.

E. Hinckley: When he pulls the applicable building permits, the building department will go over required anchorage.

Commissioner Paskewich: That was one of the comments, that will diminish the problem. If there is a problem.

Mr. Vorona: If they are needed, they are needed. I understand.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Clark.

Commissioner Clark: Again, two things. One is, I wasn’t picturing things, I was picturing things spilling and going through the floor of the shed, so I would like to know what the floor is going to be made out of and if there are any impermeable barriers to prevent that sort of thing and also getting things out of the shed, pushing things down and dropping a bag of fertilizer, so it is not just things in there, it is the closeness. Also this ditched watercourse, what this the nature of this watercourse and does it flood?

E. Hinckley: I am not aware, I have not heard of any flooding issues there. It appears to be, as the soil scientist noticed, a ditched watercourse. I looked at it prior to the meeting with Mr. Sadil and it is a defined ditch in that area and there is water in it on the aerial. There is a pond to the north in Star Park, water discharges in to the swale on Stoddard Avenue, it flows through here, underneath Willard Avenue and it eventually gets in to the Piper Brook system. I think, by looking at some of the older maps and such, that area was generally a low area, it was late to be developed, probably because of that
and a lot of that is just storage, I don’t know the functionality of the wetlands. Water does flow, it is intermittent and it does take untreated road water off of Stoddard Avenue in to this area.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Paskewich.

Commissioner Paskewich: Back to the shed, is the shed going to be blocked or already built and put in place or is it going to be built on site?

Mr. Vorona: It is going to be built on site.

Commissioner Paskewich: Ok. So it can be built to a lesser degree of pervious floor than Commissioner Kathleen brought up. It can be built with certain specifications. We don’t handle the building permit, but I think that is something that should be brought up to them, because of our concerns.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Yes, thank you. Question for the applicant, while we digest the soil scientist report. Can you soil scientist testify at the next meeting?

Mr. Vorona: Umm...

Vice Chairman Sadil: To have him discuss the contents of the report.

Mr. Vorona: We can definitely talk to him and have him come out. That is what you mean?

Vice Chairman Sadil: Yes. Just to have him summarize it. He is the subject matter expert.

Mr. Vorona: We tried to have him come tonight, but we didn’t tell him ahead and he had plans. So he said just give them the report and whatever I got is in the report and whatever you have to ask him it is in the report. If he needs to be here, yes, we will try to schedule him being here.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Thank you. Does she want to comment. Can you translate her statements?

Mr. Vorona: No, she just was asking this same. If he needs to be here, he will be here. We just asked him a couple hours before the meeting [today] and he had other plans.

Vice Chairman Sadil: I have a question to the commission relative to the map amendment. What is the commissions feeling about that? We have this data, we had a soil scientist map the area, do we want to do a local map amendment on this? What are your feelings on this? Commissioner Clark.

Commissioner Clark: It is so obvious that the entire neighborhood is within the entire wetland, I don’t see the need for a map amendment, in this case. In general I would say oh yeah if it is a close call whether they are in the wetland or not in the wetland but in this point, again, so many structures and so many houses I don’t know that it would change the way I look at this application.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Ok, thank you. Any other comments from the commissioners?

Commissioner Block?

Commissioner Block: I agree with that emphatically. The wetland appears to be where the line is as shown on the map and there doesn’t seem to be any good reason to move it.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Or to record the data from this report, to formally document it.

E. Hinckley: We will show the line, we can show the new line on his application if it ends up getting approved, so it will show a time stamp, so it somebody ten years from now want to come in and do something they can look at this. Which happened in anther case on Willard Avenue, they didn’t do a map amendment, but it showed the line.

Vice Chairman Sadil: So there is a town record.

E. Hinckley: Yes.
Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Block.

Commissioner Block: I would be a lot happier if the shed were moved to a higher elevation.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Yeah, I am going to comment on that. One thing, it comes down to precedent, we have limited wetland space here in Newington. If we give you an allowance to build close to the wetland, then someone else can come in and want the same treatment and the same privilege, ok. So, my number one concern with this application is the close proximity of the shed to the wetland; with the anchoring and everything I'm it will be a secure structure, but I still have my reservations about that and that is the only holding me back. I'm just speaking for myself, I cannot speak for the other commissioners, but I think if that is moved back it would be very good. Good precedent for other neighbors and for the town. Maybe a little rearrangement, move the garden here and the shed here, and show it on the map. It will set good precedent and protect what little wetlands we have here in Newington. Other than that, I like the application, but that is the only thing. Even with the soil scientist, he did his job and we will review that in the next coming weeks. But that is the only sticking point, I echo Mr. Block’s comments and I offer you an action item and give you some options to address that concern at the next meeting.

Mr. Vorona: She is asking if that is only about the shed. How about everything else? The pool, the carport and the deck they want to build.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Clark, then I will answer that.

Commissioner Clark: I want to say that I personally don't have any problem with the pool, the carport or the deck because other people have them. It is established...

Vice Chairman Sadil: It falls well within the rest of the development, I don't see that as an impediment, I think that is fair.

Commissioner Clark: I do agree with Vice Chairman Sadil tonight about the shed. The property has plenty of room to put the shed, it may not be as convenient, but it is doable and whether it is aesthetic, it is not like the land is...

Vice Chairman Sadil: Sloped, graded.

Commissioner Clark: Too steep to put it in there, I know that there are many sheds in town that are way back in the corner because people don't want to look at them but I totally agree with Commissioner Sadil.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Block.

Commissioner Block: There is also the fact, I don't know what the shed is going to be used for, I am presuming a lawn mower, garden tools and things like that and I don't really understand why you would want to walk 70 feet down to that corner when you could put it behind the carport and solve all these problems and make it more convenient for yourself. So, again, I am against the shed location because of the wetland and because of what you might be storing in the shed. If you move it up closer to the house, that would resolve it. We would all be a lot happier.

Mr. Vorona: I understand, I explained it to her. She is ok with that, she is going to talk with my father in law and discuss all this stuff and come back for the next meeting and talk about it. But she is asking right now if we can get the permits for the rest of the stuff right now, even if the shed is on hold.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Clark, your comment, then I will address that.

Commissioner Clark: We did not discuss the area drain, can you describe what is going on with this area drain, which may also limit what...
E. Hinckley: Just glancing at the report, I did not see...

Commissioner Clark: It is on picture number one.

E. Hinckley: Yeah, I see it on there.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Can the applicant explain, what exactly is this area drain? What is its function? What is supplying it and where is that water going?

E. Hinckley: If you look at the last sentence on page two at the note, it makes a statement about the drain. It says “an area drain with approximately 20 inches of water exists just south of the pool.” So I don’t know if it is a dry well, or if it has a discharge point.

Commissioner Block: Is it possible that it is a foundation drain?

E. Hinckley: Anything is possible. Yes. Do you know if, you know the drain they are talking about by the pool? Does it have a discharge somewhere? Does it have a pipe that discharges somewhere, or do you know?

Mr. Vorona: She says, or she thinks, the drainage goes to that little stream in the back.

Commissioner Block: Where does it come from though?

Vice Chairman Sadil: Source?

E. Hinckley: Do you know if... are the downspouts from the house tied in there?

Mr. Vorona: I don’t know.

Commissioner Block: Does it drain from the basement?

E. Hinckley: Do you have a sump pump?

Mr. Vorona: No.

E. Hinckley: Just glancing at this, he also shows the same thing on the property to the south at number 15. So, I am wondering if it is, as Commissioner Block suggested, possibly a foundation drain or curtain drain for that area because it was wet when those houses were built and who know where they go.

Commissioner Clark: My question is does that limit where another structure can be built.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Maybe you can explain that a little better next time, what is the source of that, what is the function.

E. Hinckley: If you can find out.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Paskewich had a question.

Commissioner Paskewich: It was answered by our agent here, it was regarding the drain.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Block.

Commissioner Block: Do you have something inside the basement? A sump pump area?

Mr. Vorona: No.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Clark.

Commissioner Clark: I would also like make the point to the applicant, that the shed will be built by this family and used for a particular purpose, but the shed will exist, maybe not in perpetuity, but the shed will be there for any family that purchases the house going down the road and it will be grandfathered in, so we are not just looking at something that will be built for your family but for subsequent owners.
Vice Chairman Sadil: Ok. Are there are any other questions, because I do want to address the applicants question about the deck. That can be an agent approval, is that correct Mr. Hinckley?

E. Hinckley: Yes, you can allow me to do it as an agent approval and he can get started on this project and we will just show it on the final plan, assuming you approve it.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Have we done this before? I think that is a good idea, but I am also asking about how do you break a particular application in to two separate applications and by giving agent approval to part of the application are you implying that the rest is also approved?

E. Hinckley: No, I can grant him a letter stating that is specifically for the deck, and we can leave it on the application and just say at this point in time agent approval for the deck only and refer to the application for the other items, or something like that. You allowed me to do something along those line recently at Willard for the approval and they changed the design a little bit and made the building smaller and changed the area in the back and you said yes, do an agent approval.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Block.

Commissioner Block: I am quite curious, because if the carport is built, it looks like there is a high likelihood it will intercept the drain and therefore I would also suggest that be addressed when they return.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Ok, noted. Ok, first things first. As far as the agent approval on the deck, we don’t have to vote on that?

E. Hinckley: You can just vote on allowing me to do an agent approval for the deck. And then I can take care of that.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Do you need to write up something formal for the secretary for that?

E. Hinckley: No you can just wing it if you like. You just vote to approve the deck as an agent approval and allow me to administer it as an agent approval.

Commissioner Block: I vote for agent approval.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Clark.

Commissioner Clark: I would like the word “only” to be used as many times as we possibly can.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Ok, just to summarize, I think for the applicant we have some action items. One, we would like to have the soil scientist here at our next meeting to testify and go over questions we may have as and expert on the subject matter of the report. We would like to see options for the shed; we can’t tell you exactly where to put it, but we would like to see options on the opposite side of the garden, we would like to see options that are more acceptable to both parties here; and the third item is Commissioner Block’s concern about the area drain describing that better on the plan relative to the carport placement and the inlet of the source of that water. Does the applicant understand those items.

Mr. Vorona: Yes sir. My only, if they don’t know what that drain is for, is that somewhere in the town hall what that drain is for? Because they bought the house like that, it was there before.

Commissioner Block: If it was subject to a permit, then yes there would be a record. But if it was put in without the town knowing it, then we know as little as you know.

Mr. Vorona: But it is not only on their property, there are a couple properties that have the same thing, they have a drain, the same as they have.
Commissioner Block: Then let me put it to you this way, if you want to check the town engineers records and find something that we haven't all to the better, but we need to know where that comes from.

Mr. Vorona: But for me the town hall and engineering should already know that. Why I have to?

E. Hinckley: Well, what he is saying is if it was permitted we would have a record of it, but many little construction projects happen on weekends and stuff and things are unpermitted. I'm not saying that that is the case there, but you can come and look the files in the engineering department and I can help you look if you like. If you can't find anything I can come out and take a look at the drain and see if there is an incoming source.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Clark.

Commissioner Clark: I would also think that the person building the carport would have the expertise to look at the area and also contribute an opinion on whether it is safe to put a carport in that area that would not destroy the drain or the water coming from the drain would not destroy the carport.

Mr. Vorona: I understand. That is why we tried to pull permits and do everything by code.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Paskewich.

Commissioner Paskewich: The contractor is not going to have any knowledge of the drain, he is just building a carport. He is probably just a carpenter and is it not going to go beyond that.

Commissioner Clark: There are contractors and there are contractors.

Commissioner Paskewich: This is not major construction.

Commissioner Clark: But you still don't want someone...

Commissioner Paskewich: You are not going to have a project manager on site. We are not going have engineers on site. That I can tell you being a contractor in both major construction and building inspections for many years.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Ok. You have your action items for the next meeting. I would like someone to put a motion to allow agent approval for the deck only for the applicant at 23 Nathan Hale Drive, Newington, CT 06111. Commissioner Casasanta.

Commissioner Casasanta: I make a motion that we approve an agent approval for the deck only on...I'm looking for the application number...

Vice Chairman Sadil: 2019-05, 23 Nathan Hale Drive.

Commissioner Casasanta: 2019-05, 23 Nathan Hale Drive, for the deck only.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Do I have a second?

Commissioner Paskewich: I second.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Second from Commissioner Paskewich. All in favor?

Commissioners: Aye.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Opposed? Motion passes for agent approval for the deck only.

E. Hinckley: Have Volodymyr call me and I will discuss the agent approval for the deck area only and we can also talk about the shed and the drain.

Mr. Vorona: Ok.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Before you go, Mrs. Gibbon, did you get the spelling of their last names?
S. Gibbon: Can you please give the spelling of your last name.

Mr. Vorona: My last name?

S. Gibbon: Yes, please.

Mr. Vorona: V as in Victor, O, R as in Robert, O, N as in Nancy, and A as in apple.

Vorona.

S. Gibbon: Thank you.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Thank you. Have a good evening. Moving on to Old Business.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

• None

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

(each speaker limited to 2 minutes)

• None

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

A. Agent Report

E. Hinckley: Provided the commissioner with a memo of a few items that came up. Didn’t have a meeting in May. The first item is 550 Cedar Street. The Chairman requested I sent a revocation letter because they hadn’t produced a mylar within six months, we received a letter back from Attorney Hollister asking to rescind the letter due to the ongoing litigation with TPZ, and the cited a legal case which I forwarded to Attorney Ancona and he agreed. The case that he cited, specifically for wetland approval, and there is litigation on the PTZ, the clock stopped on the wetland application until the litigation is resolved. At Mr. Acona’s direction, I sent a letter rescinding that. I also did an agent approval for a pool and a deck at 71 New Britain Avenue; Mr. Sadil saw the final plan before the meeting tonight, it is all in the URA, so it is very minor. Another item brought to us by Commissioner Clark. At 75 Brookside Road there is a swale that was green and goopy looking. I went out and looked at it and I sent a letter to the property owner. He called me and we had a long discussion. He said the swale was put there a number of years ago when the state was doing work. He tries to maintain it, he owns the center of the brook there. The green could have been a lot of pollen, he said it does get stagnant, he is going to continue to maintain it. If the commission wants to do something else going forward, just let me know.

Commissioner Clark: I am satisfied with the explanation; I just don’t ever remember seeing anything there before. Thanks.

E. Hinckley: It looks like there may even be a spring at the base of the tree. And as was brought up by Councilor Budrejko earlier, it was brought to the town council’s attention about privately owned retention/detention basins and the town owned ones as well. The town planner is going to work to identify those properties that have retention/detention basins to see if they have a maintenance agreement and looked at to see if should be maintained. The bigger question that is going to come up for these site is that a lot of these are going to fall within the regulated area. The town can work under General Permit No. 1. But the commission has to decide what to do about commercial properties cleaning their retention/detention ponds. Are you going to require a permit? My guess is, if a permit is required that will turn people off from doing anything. Again, it is just food for thought. It probably will come up.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Block.
Commissioner Block: You are damned if you do and damned if you don’t. If you don’t require a permit, the method and dumping of the sediments will be unknown to us.

E. Hinckley: So maybe the commission wants to come up with some kind of retention/detention basin cleaning permit. Maybe something where they just come and present to you a plan of what they intend to do. I don’t know.

Commissioner Block: What I suggest is a cheap fee but a huge penalty if the work isn’t done properly.

Vice Chairman Sadil: Commissioner Paskewich.

Commissioner Paskewich: Has anyone looked at other towns and how they handled this situation?

E. Hinckley: I have not.

Commissioner Paskewich: Maybe that is something we can look in to.

Vice Chairman Sadil: How many basins are we talking about?

E. Hinckley: The town has under 15 I think. There probably another 30 to 40 in town with a couple of them begin on state property. They can take care of their own and we can take care of ours.

Commissioner Clark: My question is about if there is one and we look back and we see in the approval there were conditions that were mandated that haven’t taken place. What can we do about that?

E. Hinckley: At the time when some of these were approved they may not have been in the regulated area or there may not have been wetlands there. Without hiring a soil scientist there is no way of telling. If the basin doesn’t fall within the regulated area, I doubt we have any purview. We could see if there were any maintenance schedules.

Commissioner Casasanta: In my opinion, before we go any further with this, I think we should hold off on this discussion until we have a full commission and agree to look at this another time, so we don’t to recreate the wheel. This is something that is very important that we will need to address.

Vice Chairman Sadil: My response to that is it comes back to the precedent question. Is there another town nearby that we can consult with to see what they have done.

E. Hinckley: I will look in it. I wanted to just bring this to the commissions attention.

Commissioner Clark: Does this need to appear as Old Business or a part of the agents report on upcoming agendas?

Vice Chairman Sadil: I would keep it as an agent report at this time.

E. Hinckley: As soon as I get updated information, I will bring it back to the commission. The last item is Newington Ridge Preserve; TPZ is pulling the bond for that site, and there is money set aside for wetlands. The developer hasn’t been on site since 2016. TPZ is going to try and fix the road with the money from the bond. I believe that there is $37,000 set aside for wetlands. If it determined that there is more money needed for the road work, then they will take it from other funds and we have no control over that. At the request of the town planner, I sent a memo to TPZ regarding that. I haven’t heard anything back from them.

Commissioner Block: Is there any report on how the road will impact the wetland area.

E. Hinckley: The road does not fall within the regulated area. They created a wetland area at the southwestern portion of the property. We are still waiting for the final report from Mr. Logan. He has not been paid so that is why he hasn’t turned it over. A lot of planting are in, but they haven’t been
maintained. It may be we get what we get. Not sure of the outcome. The road it not anywhere near
the newly created wetlands and is not within the regulated area.

Commissioner Block: What created the newly created wetlands?

E. Hinckley: You guys approved it. It was created out of fill from the newly created houses there. They filled a pocket wetland there. This application was approved when I started here 13 years ago.

b. Vernal Pools

Commissioner Paskewich: I have no more information on vernal pools and implementation that we have gone over a few times with the Cromwell regulations. Hopefully we can move forward to implement that.

c. Invasive Plants

Commissioner Clark: One of the people I go bird watching with is active in South Windsor and she informed me that hey have an invasive group; she gave me the name of someone to contact. I will do that and see what they are doing about invasives.

Commissioner Block: I took a walk around mill pond and it seems like that its getting more and more filled in with briar. I thought we approved a maintenance agreement.

E. Hinckley: Yes, you did. They actually did some maintenance along the easterly side of the pond in the early spring. They removed a lot of briar and other items. The permit you approved is for along the eastern side of the pond and I believe you told them not to do anything along the western side of the pond.

Commissioner Paskewich: I was invited to a roundtable session at the Hampton branch of UConn last week. We provided information to furnish a draft for the Connecticut Forest Action Plan of 2020. Invasives, and how to mitigate them, were brought up at that meeting. One comment was made due to more precipitation in Connecticut, we could possibly see more invasives leaving out earlier than we have, along with insects. The overall discussion is that our forests are overall stable. Practitioners from three different areas are invited to attend. Part of my avenue to being invited was being on the conservation commission and being a tree warden. We are tying to get funding for forest and wetlands. Mary Tyrell, a former Yale faculty member and Eric Hammerling are involved with this as well. Quite a cadre of people involved. The draft is going to delivered to the CT Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands.

Commissioner Clark: I just wanted to point out that our next meeting is the week of the Extravaganza. The EQC will be having a booth about litter and we helped man it last year and they may need help again this year. They will display the posters that the kids designed. I will ask Deb Krawiec if they need help again this year and it will be nice if we can participate again this year.

E. Hinckley: I have a memo from the town about some regulated work that will be taking place and they hired Stamm Construction to do that work. This was brought up by two members of the public at a previous meeting. I was going through some stuff and found a DVD on an older wetland commission program; it is about 40 minutes long.

Commissioner Paskewich: Going back to the Extravaganza, the following day it is an abomination of trash along Garfield to Main Street. There aren’t enough barrels; it is possible to get more barrels for trash?

Commissioner Clark: I will make that statement to the Environmental Quality Commission. I think that is the appropriate commission to bring it to. I also encourage any member of the public to
bring it to the Parks and Rec department; they in some ways will have more impact that hearing it from a particular commission.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Block. Seconded by Commissioner Clark. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Susan Gibbon
Recording Secretary