MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
LAND USE MEETING ROOM
January 6, 2020

OPENING: The regular scheduled meeting of the Conservation Commission opened at 7:00 p.m. Attendance is as follows:

- Christopher Pratt, Chairman: Present
- Dave MacWilliams, Vice Chairman: Present
- Mehmet Mizanoglu, Commissioner: Absent
- Brian Drenen, Commissioner: Absent
- Brian Pranka, Commissioner: Present
- Jerry Patria, Commissioner: Absent
- Maryssa Cook-Obregon: Present
- Dennis Clark, Coordinator: Present

7:00 Chairman Pratt opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being recorded.

MINUTES

Vice Chairman MacWilliams made a motion to accept the minutes of December 16, 2019. Chairman Pratt seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Ryan Nelson, R. Levesque & Associates

NOI 13 North Pond DEP #292-0363 Chairman Pratt opened the continuation of the public hearing. Mr. Nelson defined the trees that were to be cut, none of which are in the access way. The property owner agreed to a $60,000.00 bond on the project. Commissioner Pranka made a motion to approve the project as presented in the final revision. Vice Chairman MacWilliams seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mike Massarelli, Property Owner
Mr. Pavel Duducal, Applicant

RDA 92 Davis Road Chairman opened the continuation of the Public Hearing. Mr. Duducal proposed to add three inches of gravel on the right-of-way and cut branches along both sides. Silt fencing will be installed and there will be no impact on the wetlands as long as the submitted plan is followed in accordance with the application. The plan was reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Massarelli stated that none of the abutters were notified of the Public Hearing. Coordinator Clark stated that they do not have to be for RDA’s, but Mr. Massarelli does have the right to appeal the decision. Mr. Massarelli also wanted it noted that Mr. Duducal cannot use the right-of-way as a driveway for a residential dwelling. Vice Chairman MacWilliams made a motion for a negative determination as the application is in conformance.
with the Conservation Commission requirements for a Negative Determination. Chairman Pratt seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Jeremy Beltrandi, Builder

7 & 9 Noble Steed Crossing Chairman Pratt opened the continuation of the Public Hearing. Mr. Beltrandi resubmitted a formal plan with the elevation changes. There will be a pitch on the rear parcel allowing for more lawn space and designed so nothing will flow towards the wetlands. Commissioner Cook-Obregon made a motion for a negative determination on the project. Commissioner Pranka seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Barry Searle, Septic System Designer
Mr. Joseph Filiault, Property Owner

75 South Loomis Street Chairman Pratt opened the public hearing by reading the legal ad as posted in the Westfield News on December 24, 2019. Commissioner Pranka disclosed that he has worked with Mr. Searle but has no financial interest in this project. The property has a failed Title 5. The placement of the new septic system needs to be within 100 feet of the resource area due to ledge, and well location. Part of the new tank, leach field and pump chamber will be located within 100 feet of the wetland. Silt fencing will be in place before the project begins, and the entire project will be outside the 50’ buffer area. Vice Chairman MacWilliams made a motion for a negative determination on the project. Commissioner Cook-Obregon seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION/REVIEW/ACTION ITEMS

61 & 63 College Highway – Enforcement Order Coordinator Clark stated that the interim Building Inspector issued another letter to the property owner. It appears that work is being done on the inside of the structures even with a Cease and Desist order. The silt fencing was replaced. Coordinator Clark will continue to review the property particularly in the spring when there is more of a chance of runoff into the brook across the street.

Granville & Fred Jackson Roads DEP#292-0362 Coordinator Clark stated that the project is still not completed as designed as of this meeting, and may not be completed until the spring.

MACC Annual Conference The Conservation Commission members reviewed the workshops for the annual conference. The registrations will be emailed to MACC and a purchase order in the amount of $500.00 will be processed for the four members that will be in attendance.

Fiscal Budget FY 2021 The Conservation Commission members reviewed the budget for FY 21, with level funding, a request for additional hours for Coordinator Clark, a drone and funds for a Master Plan. Vice Chairman MacWilliams made a motion to approve the budget. Chairman Pratt seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

CC 01062020
Open Space and Conservation Goals  Coordinator Clark presented a revision of the Open Space Plan. Comments relative to the Conservation Commission will be submitted for the final draft.

Local Filing Fees  The Conservation Commission will issue a letter to the Select Board requesting that the Local Filing Fees be placed in a revolving account rather than going to the General Fund. It was always the intent of collecting the fees that they would help with funding conservation relative issues. Setting up the funding may require a Warrant Article at the Annual Town meeting for approval.

Pearl Brook Estates  Coordinator Clark related that the Conservation Commission restriction in the form of a Local Agricultural Preservation Restriction on the subdivision will terminate in six years. It was always the intent of the Conservation Restriction that the open space land in the flexible residential subdivision be preserved in perpetuity. The estimate cost to file documentation to preserve the land in perpetuity from Conservation Works is $150.00 to $300.00. As the Agricultural Commission has no budget, so they requested that the Conservation Commission pay the cost. Chairman Pratt made a motion to approve the expenditure. Commissioner Cook-Obregon seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

Alum treatment Funding  There is a lot of current information on Face Book relative to the treatment. The LMC is still attempting to secure funding for the treatment.

LMC Report  Mr. Cheever attended the meeting. The Lake Management Committee had no new updates.

Mr. Norman Cheever, LMC

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission is scheduled for January 6, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Nilsson, Secretary
cc:
Select Board
Town Clerk
CC 01062020