

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES of MEETING
Tuesday, April 21, 2020
TOWN HALL ANNEX, 39 CENTRAL STREET
APPROVED: 5/12/2020

Present: Chair Daniel Shinnick, Vice Chair Sam Streiff, Robert Garner,
Judy Kehs, Howard Terrien and Howard Vogel
Absent: Jena Haag
Attending: Brent Baeslack, Conservation Agent

Opening Statement: Authorized by Wetlands Protection Act, Town of Rowley Wetlands Protection Bylaw, and the Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Bylaw. Meeting convened 7:30 PM (all Legal ads were read to open new agenda items at time noticed).

Consistent with the Governor's orders suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law and banning gatherings of more than 10 people due to the CORVID19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted by remote participation to the greatest extent possible. The Commission and the public did not physically attend this meeting, but every effort was made to allow the public to view the meeting in real time. Persons who wished to do so were invited to watch the meeting on Rowley Community Media TV or to join the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone by using a link for GoToMeeting or dialing in by phone.

Administrative: Commissioners reviewed and authorized the payroll and reimbursement of various Vendor Bill requests.

Acceptance of Minutes: After the Commission reviewed the minutes, Garner moved to accept the Minutes of March 31, 2020 with edits. Streiff seconded and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Acceptance of Minutes: After the Commission reviewed the minutes, Terrien moved to accept the Minutes of July 14, 2009 with edits. Streiff seconded and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Discussion(s):

Consideration to authorize electronic signatures – The Commission discussed the use of electronic signatures for the issuance of documents authorized by the Conservation Commission during the shutdown of municipal offices due to the COVID19 health crisis. The Commission discussed the requirements for use of the electronic signatures.

Vogel moved to authorize the Conservation staff to utilize the use of electronic signatures as discussed for the issuance of documents authorized by the Conservation Commission during the period of the Governor's Declared COVID19 public health emergency and the authorization shall cease when the emergency declaration is lifted. Garner seconded and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Request from Powerfund1 LLC for conference call re Rowley Solar Facility at 623 Wethersfield Street – Agent Baeslack presented a request from Dirk Michaels of Powerfund1 LLC for a conference call regarding the startup of construction activity in order to complete the Rowley solar facility at 623 Wethersfield Street and comply with the issued permits (OC & SMP). Agent Baeslack advised that there were a few questions that he had noted which could be addressed during the conference call. He also recommended that issues to be discussed could be addressed by the Chairman and possibly the Vice Chairman or one other member of the Commission. The Commission came to a consensus to authorize the conference call with a follow up report to the Commission.

New Request for Determination of Applicability for 185 Leslie Road (Map 6, Parcel/Lot 3) Estate of John R. Connolly – proposed construction of a driveway access to a new single family dwelling with associated grading and utilities possibly within the 100' Buffer Zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. Mr. Thomas Mannelta of Thomas Mannelta, Inc., representing the applicant, presented the project and offered to answer questions from the Commission. Agent Baeslack gave a verbal report on his review of the plans and site inspection. He recommended the issuance of a negative Determination option #3 with standard conditions contingent upon receipt of revised plans.

Garner moved to issue a negative Determination option #3 with standard conditions for construction of driveway access to a single family home. Terrien seconded and the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

New Stormwater Management Permit application for 185 Leslie Road (Map 6, Parcel/Lot 3) Estate of John R. Connolly – proposed construction of a single family house and driveway, stormwater facilities, utilities and associated grading with a total site disturbance of approximately 50,145 square feet (1.15 acres). Mr. Thomas Mannelta of Thomas Mannelta, Inc. representing the applicant was available to answer questions from the Commission. Agent Baeslack gave a verbal report noting the creation of a SWPPP for the project with recommendations for revisions to the plans. He recommended the issuance of a Stormwater Permit with standard conditions.

Vogel moved to issue a Stormwater Management Permit with standard conditions for a single family home construction project and additional conditions discussed contingent upon receipt of revised plans. Streiff seconded and the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Status Reports: Permits & Enforcement

Conservation Restriction at 237 Dodge Road Rowley Country Club LLC – The Commission discussed public access to the Rowley Country Club under the Conservation Restriction held by the Town of Rowley. The Commission discussed the necessary signage needed to inform the public of the public access during hours when the golf course is closed. Other issues relating to parking and locking of gates should be addressed possibly by consultation with the Rowley Police Department.

Garner moved authorize the Agent to draft a letter to Rowley Country Club LLC regarding proper signage under the Conservation Restriction. Streiff seconded and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

20 Cindy Lane (Map 6, Parcel 10, Lot 9-1) Paul Imbriano – failure to resolve violations with issued Order and obtain Certificate of Compliance DEP #63-553 since Nov. 19, 2018. Agent Baeslack advised there no new updates to report at this time.

54 Haverhill Street (Map 15, Parcel/Lot 88) Trevor D. LaLiberte – Notice of Violation Letter
Altering by clearing, grading, and construction of concrete slab and gravel pad within the 100' Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands without a wetlands permit. Tree cutting within the No Cut/No Disturbance Zone and possibly in Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. Agent Baeslack there no new updates to report at this time.

Adjournment:

Accomplished at 8:46 PM by a motion made by Vogel. Kehs seconded and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Submitted by Brent Baeslack, Conservation Agent