

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM
240 Springfield Street
Wilbraham, Massachusetts 01095
(413) 596-2800, EXT. 204



WILBRAHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES FROM JULY 25, 2016

The Conservation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Members present: Christopher Brown, Chairman, Tom Reavey, Stoughton Smead and George Reich.
Commission member Robert McMaster arrived at 7:05

Minutes taken by Commission member Stoughton Smead and typed by Melissa Graves

**7:05 PM Request for Determination of Applicability
34 Decorie Drive**

Conservation Commission Chairman, Chris Brown met Mr. Franka at the site on July 23, 2016. The applicant filed a Request for Determination of Applicability to determine whether the work proposed on the property is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act and the Wilbraham Wetland Bylaw. The proposed work includes removal of existing septic system and replacement with new septic system according to state regulations. Work is within 100' of Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Erosion control measures will be installed according to the site plan submitted and prior to any work beginning.

Motion: George Reich, close the public meeting and issue a Determination of Negative #3 and Positive #5.

2nd: Tom Reavey

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Tom Reavey, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

**7:15 PM Request for Determination of Applicability
1855 Boston Rd – Dean Foods (Friendlys)**

Several members of the Commission met on-site with Dave Pasquini of Friendlys and Michael Rock of the Antea Group, Environmental Specialists.

Dean food purchased Friendly manufacturing and proposes to remove five in-ground holding tanks including a 1k gallon waste oil holding tank, 10k gas tank, 10k diesel tank, 10k heating fuel tank and a 1k motor oil tank. Three of the tanks are within 100' of Bordering Vegetated Wetland and the target date to remove them is mid-August. Each site will be refilled and repaved at present grade level. New clean fill will be accumulated at the site on plastic sheets for refilling holes immediately following approval of on-site authorities including the fire inspector and Massachusetts DEP. Piping, pumps, and controls are to be removed at the same time and all drainage covers will be sealed during the operation. No holes will remain open overnight.

Motion: George Reich, close the public meeting and issue a Determination of Negative #3 and Positive #5.

2nd: Tom Reavey

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Tom Reavey, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

7:35 PM 5 Decorie Drive – Tree removal request

Property owner, Dave Irwin contacted the Conservation Commission office regarding a large tree adjacent to his house that is very large and diseased. One half of it fell into the wetlands recently and it wasn't even during a storm event. Mr. Irwin is concerned about the remaining half of the tree falling. Melissa Graves, Conservation Commission Secretary, went to the site and also noticed some adjacent trees are also storm damaged or bug diseased. There are four additional trees that

Mr. Irwin is thinking about cutting down but for now it's only the large broken one. He will contact the office if he plans on taking down the other four trees.

Motion: George Reich, allow the cutting of the large damaged tree at ground level

2nd: Tom Reavey

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Tom Reavey, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

Discussion Wilbraham Garden Club Request to place a shed at Gazebo Park (Main Street)

Present: Julie Putnam and Chris Scibelli, WGC

The Wilbraham Garden club maintains the flower gardens at Gazebo Park and would like to place a pre-constructed 8' x 10' shed on the site to have a place to put their tools and equipment. The Commission suggested they contact Melissa at the Commission office to set up a site walk for August 6th.

Discussion Hardwood Hill – Stony Hill Road

Forester, Carmine Angloni opens the discussion regarding the timber stands of Oak and select hardwoods that is on-site. The property is located behind Home Depot and Big Y Supermarket and is approximately 30 acres. The parcel needs thinning and removal of storm damaged trees to start regeneration under a tight, overgrown canopy. This particular parcel would be difficult to access from Stony Hill Road so alternate access is being investigated including coming thru The Gardens of Wilbraham Condominiums. They will be developing stage 4 of their project and will need to clear some of their land.

Motion: George, award Carmine Angeloni funding for a Forest Management Plan for Hardwood Hill at \$50/hour not to exceed \$3000.00

2nd: Tom Reavey

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Tom Reavey, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

Discussion Oakland Street Forest Management Project - UPDATE

The bidder that was awarded the project did not have the required forwarder machine (only a skidder). The bidder was notified and was given a deadline of two weeks (July 15th) to obtain the proper equipment but he did not fulfill the obligation. Carmine proposes that the Commission refund his deposit, walk away from his bid and remarket the opportunity to other harvesters. Forest product markets change continuously. Pine product is down now in value but Oak is used for cabinet makers and has a much better value now. Commission members agreed with Carmine.

Motion: George Reich, return funds to Justin McKinney to release him from Oakland Street cutting project

2nd: Tom Reavey

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Tom Reavey, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

Discussion Three Rivers Road Forest Management Project - UPDATE

This site was approved at Town Meeting for a Forest Management Project. It is approximately 38 acres with broken trees from storm and ice damage, Oak Wilt and other insect born tree problems. The three components of the CPA proposal were forest safety, regeneration of young tree growth and trails. Carmine has walked the property and reports that there are no pre-existing trails that he can identify and he advises that we not attempt to develop trails at this site. With assistance from Land Management Coordinator, Melissa Graves, he can design the forest cutting plan avoiding the western boarder by at least 50' adjacent to Pine Drive. A surveyor has recently discovered a discrepancy with property lines on Pine Drive so it would be best to have a west side "no cut zone". There would be two small landings on Three Rivers Rd for harvesters/trucks. Carmine also suggests that a boulder barrier along edge of Three Rivers Rd be established to prevent cars parking on the street edge.

Motion: George, award Carmine Angeloni funding for a Forest Management Plan for Three Rivers Road at \$50/hour not to exceed \$4000.00

2nd: Tom Reavey

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Tom Reavey, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

Discussion Annual Renewal Membership Fee - MACC

The annual renewal member fee for the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissioners is \$549.00.

Motion: George Reich, renew the MACC annual membership

2nd: Tom Reavey

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Tom Reavey, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

Commission member George Reich asks if the landing on Glendale Road that was associated with the Crane Hill Road FCP was restored by Rocky Mountain Logging. Commission member Sto Smead indicated that it was completed. There was discussion about removing Rocky Mountain from bidders list for future cutting plans. Sto suggests this is a fragile market now and we should not limit our future bidders at a time when we need more interest in our projects.

Ratify Emergency Certificate – DPW/Mountain Road

This EC was issued by Commission member Sto Smead for the replacement of a failing culvert adjacent to 344 Mountain Rd. The EC was on the agenda to be ratified by the remaining Commission members, but the original document was not available at meeting time. This will be on the next agenda to be ratified.

Minutes June 23, 2016

Motion: George Reich, accept the minutes

2nd: Tom Reavey

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Tom Reavey, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

Having no further business, a motion was made to adjourn at 9:15 PM. The Conservation Commission will reconvene at its next scheduled meeting on Monday, August 8, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

Submitted:

Approved As To Form And Content:

Melissa Graves, Administrative Assistant

Christopher Brown, Chairman

Date: _____

Date: _____