

**Town of Beacon Falls
Inland Wetlands & Watercourse Commission
10 Maple Ave
Beacon Falls, CT 06403**



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 8, 2012

Chairman Edward Smith called the Regular Meeting of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission of February 8, 2012 to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Edward Smith, Vice Chairman Stephen Knapik and Commissioners: Richard Minnick, Arlene Brumer and Michael Opuszynski.

Absent: Commissioner: Walter Opuszynski.

Also Present: Wetlands Enforcement Officer David Keating and Maryann Kempa, Clerk.

Pledge of Allegiance – recited

Motion was made by Commissioner Minnick and seconded by Vice Chairman Knapik to allow the Chairman to rearrange the agenda to accommodate the members and public.

Discussion: None Vote: 5 in favor Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0

Comments from the Public – none

Commissioner Minnick recused himself.

Application A-2012-296 – Tobey’s Pond – Repair and Maintenance

Richard Minnick came before the board for the Town of Beacon Falls and O&G Industries regarding Tobey’s Pond repairs and maintenance. Richard Minnick distributed to the board the application, maps and photos describing the work to be done. Richard Minnick explained that a lot of material was deposited from the storms and needs to be removed.

1. Correct erosion/siltation at the north spillway and boat ramp. (O&G)

Eliminate boat ramp. The current design of the north spillway caused deposition of unauthorized material into the pond. This is a violation of the Town Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Regulation and State and statutes. The IWWC recommended to the BOS that the area not be accepted because of the anticipated problem.

Print 4 of 4

- a. Remove material deposited into the pond by last year’s storm events.
- b. Heavily armor where boat ramp was located. Boat Launch area is to be relocated. (O&G)
- c. Repair cable connecting spillway blocks. (O&G)
- d. Re-grade the area on the northern end of the spillway so that the water does not flow onto the access road. This is to prevent the water from initially (minimal storm event) flowing onto the access road down where the existing boat ramp is located. (O&G)

- e. Remove and relocate the material stock pile in the area north of the spillway and under the bridge. Where it is located now, it diverts the water to the western side of the spillway and onto the access road. The material may be used for item (d) above. (O&G)
- f. Add appropriate material to the north end of berm to make access for maintenance and walking a little easier. (O&G)
- g. Apply appropriate seeding per the plan date August 2008. (O&G)
- h. Design a controlled access to the floodplain and spillway. (Town and O&G)

2. Emergency access from north through O&G property. (O&G and Beacon Hose)

Print 4 of 4

An emergency access to the pond area is required to allow larger emergency vehicles access to the pond. Some of the apparatus does not have the necessary clearance under the railroad trestle.

- a. Remove concrete block from the southern end of O&G's access road.
- b. Remove and reinstall the heavy duty gate now on the eastside of the trestles and utilize along with concrete blocks, if necessary, to allow passage of larger emergency vehicles if the need arises.

3. Boat Launch Area – Complete the relocations and construction of the relocated boat launch area.

Print 3 of 4

- a. Stabilize the path of ease of carrying a watercraft and prevent/minimize erosion. (O&G)
- b. Add a few large stones for docking ease. (O&G)
- c. Provide steps utilizing landscape timbers or stones. (O&G)
- d. Relocate existing gate and secure. (Town)
- e. Secure the gate leading to the railroad tracks. (Town)

Print 3 & 4 of 4

- f. Widen the access road below the northern spillway to the turnaround area. Remove brush from west side, grade and level using road millings and process. (Town)

4. Westside path and bridges

Print 2 of 4

- a. Replace existing wooden bridge at first stream crossing. (O&G)
- b. Riprap stream above, along and below blocks accordingly. (O&G)

Print 3 of 4

- c. Evaluate the condition of other crossings and appropriate action (O&G & Town)

Prints 2 -4 of 4

- d. Evaluate the condition of other crossings and apply appropriate action (O&G & Town)

Prints 1-4 of 4

- e. While gaining access to crossings with equipment, remove Japanese bamboo. (O&G & Town)
- f. Reseed area with appropriate grasses/wild flowers. (Town, Volunteers, individuals and Boy/Girl Scouts)
- g. Clear areas adjacent to the pond of invasive plants. (Town, Volunteers, individuals and Boy/Girl Scouts)
- h. Install steps (stone or landscape timber) at pond access area to minimize siltation problems. (Town & O&G)

5. Southern Spillway

Print 1 of 4

- a. Remove existing vegetation. It acts as a dam and does not allow the spillway to function properly. (O&G, initially and immediately then Town, etc this is a concession).
- b. After storm flooding event, remove debris. (O&G, initially and immediately then Town, etc this is a concession)
- c. After storm flooding event, remove debris from outlet pipe to the southeast. (O&G, initially and immediately then Town, etc this is a concession)

6. Fence along Railroad (O&G)

Prints 1-4 of 4

- a. Install the fence along railroad tracks as indicated per the Closure Plans dated August 28, 2008.

7. Eastern Path (riverside) (Town (part-time labor, spring, summer and fall), equipment, volunteers, individuals and boy/girl scouts to provide labor)

Prints 1-4 of 4

- a. Clear path on the top of berm.
- b. Install caution signs i.e. steep bank, on pond side (west).
- c. Where practical, clear a small path to allow access to river. Install caution signs.
- d. Don't clear brush along river without guidance from DEEP or Southwest Conservation District or other appropriate professional.
- e. Adjust roosting area.
- f. Add appropriate material to the north end of berm to make access/walking a little easier.

8. Weed, Brush Control and Plantings (Town (part-time labor, spring, summer and fall) equipment, volunteer, individuals and boy/girl scouts labor)

- a. Develop and implement a plan for maintenance, weed and brush control.
- b. Develop and implement a plan for plantings.

9. Signage (Town, volunteers, individuals and boy/girl scouts)

- a. Parking Signs/no Parking Signs
- b. Boat Launch area
- c. Caution railroad
- d. Remove trash
- e. Fishing Regulations
- f. Park Regulations
- g. etc.

10. Picnic Tables and Grills (Town (part-time labor, spring, summer and fall) equipment, volunteers, individuals and boy/girl scouts labor, donation from organizations)

- a. Locate picnic tables and grills along western walkway.

11. Main Gate (Town)

- a. Close and secure the main gate in the event of a major storm or possible flooding.

12. Swimming area (Town, volunteer and individuals)

- a. Investigate the feasibility of installing a beach and swimming area. Possible at the south end since this is the shallowest part of the pond.
- b. Water quality monitoring should be established first.

For recommended use and maintenance refer to the plan developed for the pond prepared by Southwest Regional Conservation District. Prepared by Rich Minnick – February 2012

David Keating, Wetlands Enforcement Officer stated that the application is complete. There is no fee as the applicant is the Town of Beacon Falls.

Chairman Smith stated that a construction sequence is needed regarding the work which will be done.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Knapik and seconded by Commissioner Brumer to accept the application for processing.

Discussion: None Vote: 5 in favor Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Knapik and seconded by Commissioner M. Opuszynski to approve the application as complete with standard conditions, soil and erosion control, the application fee to be waived as this is a town project, a construction sequence is to be submitted to the board, monthly reports are required and no public hearing is required as the project is for corrective work and maintenance.

Discussion: None Vote: 5 in favor Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0

Commissioner Minnick is back on the board.

Approval of Minutes – January

Motion was made by Commissioner Minnick and seconded by Commissioner Brumer to approve the minutes as amended.

Discussion: None Vote: 5 in favor Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0

Correspondence

1. Habitat
2. Connecticut Wild Life
3. Registry of Soil Scientists of Southern New England
4. Nafis & Young Invoices
5. Interoffice Memorandum from First Selectman Gerald Smith – re: posting of agendas and meeting minutes
6. Interoffice Memorandum from First Selectman Gerald Smith – re: 2012/2013 Municipal Budget
7. Southwest Conservation District re: Legislative Alert (HB 4600)

Commissioner Minnick stated that the way this legislative alert is written some of the powers of the commission is taken away. The alert is still pending. The bonding package was passed.

The board members and clerk have been signed up for the three seminars to be given by the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley.

**Public Hearings & Considerations of Public Hearings – none
Administrative Reports**

David Keating, Wetlands Enforcement Officer stated the following projects are in progress:

1. Application A-2011-291- 128 Pines Bridge Road/Lot 45 - Dr. Dey
2. Application A-2011-290 – Ryan Smith, 80 Pinesbridge Road
3. Application A-2011-294 – 50 Burton Road – Driveway

Dave Keating stated the following regarding 50 Burton Road. The work on the culvert is proceeding but slower than anticipated. There are blocks out in front of the pipe entrance areas. Vice Chairman Knapik stated that the blocks are permanent as it is a trash rack. The sleeves in the headwalls are done. The pond construction is done. Now there is clean up to be done. Commissioner Minnick stated that the installation of the rocks along the headwall was discussed with his engineer; there is question if it was reviewed by the Town Engineer. The rocks are to act as to not undermine the existing wall.

Public Petitions – none

Application A-2011-293 – Harmon Family, 53 Hubbell Ave. – Trailer Replacement

Vice Chairman Knapik stated that the new trailer has been put on the site.

Motion was made by Commissioner Minnick and seconded by Chairman Smith to remove this matter from the agenda.

Discussion: None Vote: 5 in favor Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0

New Business

Election of Officers

Motion was made by Commissioner Minnick and seconded by Commissioner M. Opuszynski to nominate: Commissioner Brumer – Secretary, Vice Chairman Knapik - Vice Chairman and Chairman Smith – Chairman.

Discussion: None Vote: 5 in favor Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0

Report of Accounts

Commissioner M. Opuszynski gave a report of accounts.

Payment of Bills

M. Kempa and D. Keating – January

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Knapik and seconded by Commissioner Minnick to pay the bills as submitted.

Discussion: None Vote: 5 in favor Abstained: 0 Opposed: 0

State of Connecticut Fees – submitted as received.

Miscellaneous – nothing

Petitions from Commissioners – none

Executive Session – none needed

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Knapik and seconded by Commissioner M. Opuszynski to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maryann Kempa".

Maryann Kempa
Clerk