

**Town of Beacon Falls  
Inland Wet Lands & Water Courses  
10 Maple Avenue  
Beacon Falls, CT 06403  
203 729 3383**



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 11, 2013**

Chairman Edward Smith called the Regular Meeting of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission to order at 7:32 p.m.

**Present:** Chairman - Edward J. Smith, Vice Chairman - Stephen Knapik, Arlene Brumer – Secretary,  
**Commissioners:**, Michael Opuszynski, and Shari Garcia - Clerk.

**Absent:** Commissioner - Walter Opuszynski, Administrative Enforcement Officer - David Keating,  
Town Engineer - James Galligan

**Pledge of Allegiance - recited**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Michael Opuszynski and seconded by Secretary Arlene Brumer to accept the meeting minutes of November.**

**Discussion: None    Vote: 3 in favor    Abstained: Stephen Knapik    Opposed: 0**  
**Stephen abstained - did not receive the minutes**

**Stephen Knapik motioned to rearrange the agenda to accommodate public petitions and Michael Opuszynski seconded.**

**Discussion: none    Vote: 4 in favor    Abstained: 0    Opposed: 0**

**Public Petitions**

**Application A- 2004-248 Chatfield Farms Active Adult Dev. - Phases 1&2**

Matt Gilcrest, from E&G Home, wanted to see if the IWWC had any requests for him. The IWWC commented that the snow is coming and reminded Matt to take care of the curbs. Otherwise there are no new requests.

**Old Business**

A brief discussion of Xpressmart followed.

The IWWC had a discussion of number 17 – the Detention Ponds. Rich is running it by Gerry and moving forward with the ownership and maintenance pieces. Michael Opuszynski asked if the commission needs to confirm the ownership. Stephen Knapik said it will be in Rich's letter.

Arlene Brumer asked if Old Business #16 - Revision of Wetlands is complete. Stephen Knapik and Edward Smith believe that it is complete.

**New Business**

**A motion was made by Michael Opuszynski to table the election of officers and seconded by Arlene Brumer.**

**Discussion: None    Vote: 4 in favor    Abstained: 0    Opposed: 0**

**Payment of Bills**

**Michael Opuszynski made a motion to pay Dave Keating for \$158.55 and table the bill for Nafis & Young and Arlene Brumer seconded the motion.**

**Discussion: None    Vote: 4 in favor    Abstained: 0    Opposed: 0**

**Miscellaneous****Petitions from Commissioners**

The IWWC discussed how to recruit members to join the commission. Suggestions included: talking to the First Selectman, advertising in the Citizen's News, posting flyers, etc.

**Conservation Commission Report from Michael Opuszynski**

Commissioner Michael Opuszynski was ill and couldn't attend. He did recently attend a conference which included presentations on damns, rain gardens, and vernal pools. Michael is waiting for the presenters to email the presentations and then he will put something together for the IWWC. Michael Opuszynski further discussed a presentation about defining vernal pools, mentioning how the organisms that rely on the vernal pools spread out much farther and that the boundaries of the pools are uncertain. Michael also described the damn discussion and how it was not as applicable. The presentation focused about the history more than the regulations. He mentioned how both building and destroying them impacts the area. Lastly, there is a 7 acre parcel on Ellen Drive off of Rimmon Hill and there is possibly a vernal pool on the premises. Michael later added that manmade agricultural vernal pools are protected by the same vernal pool laws.

**Correspondence**

Edward John Smith read a letter from an Attorney Steven Byrne about regulating roads on farmland. He also shared a copy of the minutes of the Board of Selectman meeting from November 7, 2013. Edward J. Smith was appointed back to the board.

**Petition from Commisioners**

At the previous IWWC meeting, stickers were given out to Charlie. Stephen Knapik changed it and asked him to put the 4 by 4's up instead.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Garcia  
Clerk