

**Beacon Falls Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission
10 Maple Avenue
Beacon Falls, CT 06403**



**BEACON FALLS INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION
Monthly Meeting
May 9, 2018
MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)**

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman John Smith called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Members Present: John Smith, Stephen Knapik, Doug Bousquet, Michael Opuszynski, Arlene Brumer, and Walter Opuszynski (arrived at 7:35)

Others Present: Dave Keating and Rich Minnick

2. Comments from the Public

J Smith asked if there were any comments from the public and Rich Minnick was present to talk to the Members regarding Toby's Pond.

Rich Minnick, 147 Cedar Lane, is representing the Board of Selectmen regarding the proposed activities at Toby's Pond. R. Minnick submitted the application and drawings. R. Minnick noted that there are very heavy ruts when you come across the bridge and very difficult to walk. R. Minnick also noted that there was an opportunity a number of years ago to acquire the leftover material from the construction work done on Goldenrod's property. R. Minnick mentioned that he is a representative for the Board of Selectmen as their Open Space Land Use Stewart.

R. Minnick indicated that there is another opportunity to get addition fill from Goldenrod, but we must haul it to Toby's Pond. The amount of fill that will be taken is just enough to make it adequate for mowing. The fill will be used to level the site, not elevate it. Also, the fill will need to be screened. R. Minnick also indicated that getting the material depends on how the negotiations go between the contractor/sub-contractor and Goldenrod.

R. Minnick noted that there is approximately \$20,000 worth of work that needs to be done. Material, screening the material, and hauling costs is not something that R. Minnick would like to be seen coming from the Toby's Pond fund.

J. Smith noted that the application was originally approved back in 2012. J. Smith also noted that the application needs to be renewed in order to R. Minnick to move forward.

Motion to renew Application A-2012-296, Toby's Pond: M. Opuszynski/Brumer;no discussion; ayes by J. Smith, S. Knapik, A. Brumer, M. Opuszynski, and D. Bousquet. W. Opuszynski abstained from voting since he did not hear the entire discussion.

D. Keating asked where the material will be screened. R. Minnick indicated that it will be done on Goldenrod's site. If and when the time comes that the town will lose the fill, then the material will be hauled to Toby's Pond and the screening will be done at Toby's Pond.

a. Public Petitions

There were no Public Petitions presented to the Commission at this time.

3. New Applications

J. Smith asked D. Keating if there were any new applications and D. Keating indicated that there were none received.

D. Keating noted that he spoke with Mark Kehrhahn from Pond Spring Village. M Kehrhahn indicated that they want to restart the project. D. Keating informed him to attend the next meeting and discuss the activity with the Commission. M. Kehrhahn was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

D. Keating noted that one of the homeowners at Chatfield Farms wants to expand his deck. The plans and maps were brought it and reviewed by D. Keating. The expansion of the deck would comply with the 50' minimum setback requirement. It would be more than 50' from the wetlands and D. Keating could approve this administratively. The homeowner wants the stairway to go down into the area that would be less than 50' from the wetlands. D. Keating informed the homeowner to attend the next meeting, but the homeowner was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 11, 2018as submitted: M. Opuszynski/Knapik;no discussion; ayes by J. Smith, S. Knapik, A. Brumer, M. Opuszynski, and D. Bousquet. W. Opuszynski abstained from voting since he was not at the last meeting.

5. Correspondence

J. Smith distributed copies of The Habitat to the Members.

6. Show Cause Hearings & Considerations of Public Hearings

J. Smith indicated that there are no Show Cause Hearings & Considerations to discussion.

7. Administrative Report

J. Smith indicated that J. Galligan will not be able to attend tonight's meeting. J. Smith also indicated that he discussed the problem at 47 Cook Lane with J. Galligan. Rob Pruzinsky and J. Galligan visited the site and determined that the situation is a little trickier than originally thought. They are trying to come up with a solution to help the homeowner.

a. **Wetlands Enforcement Officer**

1. **Cease & Desist Order Issued – 93 South Main Street/Mario Trepca**

M. Opuszynski noted that M. Trepca has been in violation for several years and was wondering if there is a fine associated with this and what can be done. J. Smith was not sure about a fine. After a brief discussion, W. Opuszynski suggested that a registered letter could be sent to M. Trepca regarding the responsibility of Johnson Street is his, and not the town's. J. Smith added that a letter from an engineer indicating that the wall was constructed correctly needs to be submitted to the Commission in order to release M. Trepca from the responsibility.

Motion to have a registered letter sent to Mario Trepca regarding 92 South Main Street: Brumer/ Bousquet;*M. Opuszynski asked if this will release M. Trepca of everything and he could move forward. J. Smith noted that M. Trepca re-rented the property and a permit was not taken out since no construction was done. J. Smith suggested getting a legal opinion after D. Keating drafts the letter. W. Opuszynski would like to have the letter filed with the town on the deed in case the property is sold;all eyes.*

8. Applications - Old Business

J. Smith distributed the reports received from EG Homes to the Members. J. Smith noted that he still needs to follow up on Avenue D.

9. Old Business

There was no old business discussed at tonight's meeting.

10. New Business

There was no new business discussed at tonight's meeting.

11. Budget

1. Report of Accounts

A copy of the Report of Account was received and reviewed by the Commission for tonight's meeting.

2. Payment of Bills

a. Invoice from the Commission's Clerk

There was an invoice from the Commission's clerk submitted for the April 11, 2018 meeting totaling \$60.50.

b. Other Invoices

There was an invoice from Dave Keating submitted for \$198.52.

Motion to pay the two invoices as submitted for tonight's meeting for a grand total of \$259.02: M. Opuszynski/Brumer; no discussion; all ayes.

3. State of Connecticut Fees

D. Keating indicated that he will be doing April this week.

12. Miscellaneous

W. Opuszynski asked about activity at Goldenrod and J. Smith indicated that there was an addition that was being put on. S. Knapik added that it was already approved and has been done in phases.

M. Opuszynski asked about the storm drains at Woodland Regional High School, noted that there are several clogged. J. Smith noted that the Superintendent should be notified and asked D. Keating to do so. W. Opuszynski asked if he could add that the cleaning of the storm drains be done on a yearly basis.

M. Opuszynski noted that there is a house on Starwood Lane where there is debris and garbage going down the back and may be getting into the stream. He noticed it as he was driving by on Bethany Road but is not sure of the address of the property.

13. Petitions from Commissioners

a. Conservation Commission Report from Michael Opuszynski

M. Opuszynski noted that he did not attend the last meeting. M. Opuszynski also noted that the Land Use and Open Spaces mandatory meeting was not held as a meeting since there was no quorum but used the time as a workshop.

b. Community Media Center Building Committee Report from Arlene Brumer

Arlene Brumer noted that she was unable to attend the last meeting.

14. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss at tonight's meeting, J. Smith asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:14 P.M.: **Knapik/M. Opuszynski**; *no discussion*; all ayes.

The next Inland Wetland and Watercourses monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 13, 2018, starting at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission