

**Town of Bellingham  
Conservation Commission  
Municipal Center  
Bellingham, MA 02019  
Minutes of the meeting of September 24, 2014**

**Project: 105-742 & BWP-87**  
CNOI

**Project Description:**  
26 Blackstone Street – salt shed

**Applicant:**  
Don DiMartino, DPW Director  
26 Blackstone Street  
Bellingham, MA 02019

**Representative:**  
Don Nielsen, Guerriere & Halnon, Inc.  
55 West Central Street  
Franklin, MA 02038

**Plans: NOI including Stormwater Repost and O & M Plan, Plot Plan for Salt Shed Sheet 1 of 1, August 20, 2014 and Proposed Salt Shed on DPW Land Sheet 1 of 1, August 20, 2014**

**Continuation time: 7:30 PM**

Cliff Matthews opened the continued hearing. Neither the applicant nor his representative was present as they had requested That the Commission to advise them if their attendance was necessary. Cliff Matthews stated that the filing is for the construction of a new salt shed. He added that Don DiMartino had told him that the existing salt shed would not be demolished. Michael O'Herron, Cliff Matthews and Anne Matthews looked at the site to confirm the resource area boundary and the existing swale that would be utilized for directing stormwater off the site. Special Conditions would include cleaning out the channel (O & M Plan) and that the applicant must contact the Conservation Commission if dewatering operations becomes necessary during the construction process. There were no further comments. Barry Lariviere made a motion to close the hearing and issue the Order of Conditions. The motion was seconded by Lori Fafard and voted unanimously.

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**Informational/ Sean Boddy, prospective Eagle Scout/ bridge at High St. fields**

Sean Boddy was present for the informational meeting as well as Mr. & Mrs. Boddy and sibling. Sean presented his draft Request for Determination of Applicability filing to the Commission for review and comment. The filing is for the construction of a proposed pedestrian bridge over a degraded intermittent stream located behind the High St. fields and owned by the Town of Bellingham. The board suggested that Sean contact Denis Fraine to ask permission to use the Town of Bellingham as the applicant since the land is owned by the town. Sean included a proposed plan of the project. He indicated that it is his intention to file the RDA no later than Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>. He stated that he is holding a bottle and can return fund raiser on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> to raise funds to buy the materials. Sean stated that once the bridge is constructed, he will make every effort to maintain it himself or make arrangements with the Boy Scouts to continue the maintenance of the structure.

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**Informational/ NSTAR ROW 13 Tree Removal /John Vieira (VHB) and Bill Hare of NSTAR**

Mr. Vieira of Vanesse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. began the presentation by stating that NSTAR has filed with MEPA for portions of the ROW 13 tree removal maintenance project in Bellingham and Mendon because the areas are listed as Estimated Habitat for rare species consisting of the Eastern Box Turtle and Wood Turtle. Natural Heritage has determined that the proposed project plan includes a "taking" and has subsequently approved the plan with conditions. Therefore, the applicant is not required to file a Notice of Intent with the local Conservation Commissions. The applicant has recently undertaken the process of radio tagging the turtles as required by Natural Heritage conditions. This requires "sweeps" of the protected areas to locate and relocate the protected species, a process called conversion. The Wood Turtles overwinter in water and the Eastern Box Turtle overwinters in forests. Mr. Hare of NSTAR explained that the total width of the easements is 300 feet and that only 100 feet is currently maintained. Several large White Pines in excess of 100' tall, will be removed by excavator and will be ground into chips and removed from the site. The work should take only one day in November once the species conversion process is determined by Natural Heritage to be complete.

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The Board of Selectmen has rescheduled the All Boards Meeting to Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Members of the Conservation Commission are encouraged to attend.

The Conservation Commission received the 2016 budget process letter from the Board of Selectmen.

The site walk for the Hartford Avenue appeal is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 AM. Commissioners were encouraged to attend if possible.

Ms. Kovach of 15 Sidney Lane notified the Conservation Commission that her title insurance would pay for the removal and relocation of her shed which is currently located on Town of Bellingham property. Ms. Kovach will contact the Building Dept. to confirm that the area of relocation meets building set back requirements.

Minutes of the meetings of August 13, 2014 and September 10, 2014 were approved with minor changes.

The Commission signed:

Order of Conditions     105-742 & BWP-87/26 Blackstone St./Salt Shed/DPW

Michael O'Herron, representing the Conservation Commission, met with Finance Committee on Monday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Article in the October Special Town Meeting for the proposed change in the bylaw revolving account. The Finance Committee recommends the proposed change.

Attending the meeting were: Cliff Matthews, Barry Lariviere, Lori Fafard, Brian Norton, Michael O'Herron, and Anne Matthews.