

COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Wednesday, September 10, 2014
Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Room 1
Minutes of Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Falk von Plachecki, Chairman; Moe Epstein, and Andrew George Alternates: Ericka Fuery and Rebecca Meyer; Staff: Gail Therian, Clerk;

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sue Bruening and Darrell York; Alternate; Kurt Frantzen, Board of Selectmen Liaison; Staff: Wetlands Enforcement Officer: Jay Gigliotti

A. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman von Plachecki called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. E. Fuery and R. Meyer were seated as voting members.

B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – None

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2014.

M. Epstein said that under Item F. – “New Applications”, Item A, the last sentence should read: “One application will be for a modification to the Tony’s Junkyard permit for **filling** of a fire pond.” A. George said that under Item J.- “Conservation’ the second sentence should read: “They are also working with the towns of Salem and East Haddam **on this property.**” The next sentence should read: **The Land Trust is working with the State** regarding the acquisition of a large piece of property near Day Pond.”

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by A. George to approve the minutes of the Colchester Conservation Commission regular meeting of August 13, 2014 with corrections. **Abstentions:** E. Fuery **Motion carried.**

D. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

E. PENDING APPLICATIONS - None

F. NEW APPLICATIONS -

- A. W2014-2977- J Healy Builders, LLC, Lebanon Avenue (Route 16), Assessor’s Map 05-06 Lot # 0030-000, Renewal of permit W2009-2909, Requested renewal of maximum allowable, 5 years**

Chairman von Plachecki reviewed the application using the power point presentation by J. Gigliotti, Wetlands Enforcement Officer.

J. Matheson, J. Healy Builders, LLC and Settlers Green, said that due to the economy this development has done been started as of yet, but will begin to move forward now. He said there are no changes to the plans submitted with the original application.

Motion by E. Fuery, seconded by M. Epstein to approve the 5 year renewal of W2014-2977. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

- B. W2014-2978- Modification of W2013-2955- Nunzio Galatro- Old Amston Rd, Assessor’s Map # 6-6 Lot 17, Application for removal of Junk vehicles stored within Wetlands/Watercourse and Upland Review Area**

Kimberly Clarke, Eolas Environmental, representing Nunzio Galatro, Peter Donahue, John Donahue, said that the original permit was for the removal of junked vehicles and debris stored within the wetlands and upland review area. She said that approximately 1200 tons of vehicles, scrap and other debris have been removed from the site. She said that the modification is for the filling of the fire pond located on the eastern portion of the site. This fire pond was created more than 30 years ago at the request of municipal officials. She said that the fire pond is more of a depression and approximately 750 cubic yards of clean fill will be used to fill the pond to surface grade. This will facilitate possible beneficial future reuse options for the site. There will be oversight, direction and documentation of the filling activities to ensure ongoing compliance.

Discussion on the size of the area to be filled, the source of the fill material, the removal of the debris and small trees, and the history of the creation of the fire pond took place.

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by E. Fuery to approve the Modification of W2013-2955 with the following conditions:

1. A certification of where the fill came from will be submitted.
2. If the Fire Department request in the future that a dry fire hydrant be installed at the area where the road crosses, the property will provide and easement area.

Motion Carried Unanimously

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TOWN CLERK

Chairman von Plachecki reviewed the power point presentation prepared by J. Gigliotti, Wetlands Enforcement Officer. He said that the application is to clean out the edges of the pond on the property that has become extremely silted. He said that J. Gigliotti discussed this with S. Tassone, the Town Engineer, and he has no concerns about this. Mr. Tassone said this is a property maintenance activity.

Richard Baldi, applicant, said that his intention is to clean out the edges of the pond and the soil removed will be moved to his gravel pit location. He will work with J. Gigliotti regarding the installation of silt fence, etc.

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by E. Fuery to accept the application as a jurisdictional ruling and to approve it as an as of right activity. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

G. OLD BUSINESS – None

H. NEW BUSINESS –

A. Election of Vice-Chairman

Chairman von Plachecki said that because the full Commission was not present, this item will be taken up at the October meeting.

ENFORCEMENTS – None

J. CONSERVATION – None

K. CORRESPONDENCE - None

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by A. George to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

Gail N. Therian, Clerk