

LITCHFIELD INLAND WETLAND COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 14, 10, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Rd. Bantam, CT

Call to Order: Chairman Robert Blazek called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Robert Blazek, Barbara Brower, Frederick Minck, Anthony Paradise. Also present were Dennis Tobin, Ph.D, Wetlands Agent, and Ann Combs, Recording Secretary.

Members Absent: Jack Hamill, Jack Healy

Public Comment: None

Appointment of Alternates: None available

APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS

1. Parsons (agent for Bantam Cemetery Assoc.) – Bantam Road **2/14/18**
Selective tree cutting of ¼ acre of land

Dan Parsons brought a map showing the stone walls, distances, with 12 tree stumps within the regulated area. There is nothing left near the river. He presented a list with the forester's name and company, H & H Logging, and license and phone number are on file in the office. He said the number of board feet removed was 10,233 from within and outside the regulated area. Cord wood taken could not be estimated. The pile of chips there are from an old job. A. Paradise wanted a note for the file that stated which activities were part of this job, and that the pile of chips were from a previous job.

Motion: A. Paradise moved to approve the application of Parsons, agent for Bantam Cemetery Assoc., for selective tree cutting of ¼ acre of land, with submission of a note as requested above.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

2. Parsons (agent for Bantam Cemetery Assoc.) – Bantam Road **2/14/18**
After-the-fact application for selective tree cutting of ¼ acre of land

Motion: A. Paradise moved to approve the after-the-fact application of Parsons, agent for Bantam Cemetery Assoc., for selective tree cutting of ¼ acre of land.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

APPLICATION RECEPTIONS

3. Town of Litchfield – Public Works – North Lake St. (Community Field) **2/14/18**
Construct grass swale on west side of batting cages and direct into existing lawn drain

Raz Alexe, Director of Public Works, and Dennis McMorrow, Berkshire Engineering & Surveying, were present. Mr. McMorrow presented a plan that shows the installation of a grass swale that will go into a lawn drain to discharge into Tannery Brook. This will avoid erosion to the surface of the batting cages.

Motion: B. Brower moved to approve the application of Town of Litchfield to construct a grass swale on the west side of the batting cages at the Litchfield Community Field and direct the water into an existing lawn drain as per map entitled "Site Plan Prepared for the Town of Litchfield Community Field" dated 6/7/17, and sketch dated 2/14/18.

Second: A. Paradise

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

4. Town of Litchfield – Public Works – Wheeler Rd.

2/14/18

Reconstruct existing drainage, overlay road, mill and pave existing road

Raz Alexe prefaced this presentation with the fact that they have been saving to budget money and finally have enough to address 1.8 miles that really needs work, and he wants to do it this summer. D. McMorrow showed an overall drawing of road with areas where there will be only an overlay. There will be a swale in the swampy area; uphill they will be replacing pipe and doing drainage. They will have traffic control and will not have to shut down the road, as they will do one side at a time. He pointed out icy areas and drainage that is planned. A. Paradise asked them to get the flow rate now and do an after flow rate to get data to support the basis for approval. A. Paradise asked if they have to revisit, or is it acceptable? The applicant will submit a summarization or calculations.

Motion: F. Minck moved to approve the application of Town of Litchfield to reconstruct existing drainage, overlay road, and mill and pave existing road on Wheeler Road as a safety issue including measurements on the volume.

Second: A. Paradise

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

5. Town of Litchfield, Public Works, Brush Hill Rd. over West Branch of Butternut Brook 2/14/18

Replacement of existing structurally-deficient bridge superstructure with a new concrete deck on existing abutments

Raz Alexe said Cardinal Engineering (Tim Cermola present) is doing the design. Last summer during an inspection a driver identified failing rusted beams under the road. Since 1991 every bridge less than 20' has not been inspected by the DOT because of lack of money. Cardinal has inspected and cataloged a list of 26 structures under 20 feet with results. This bridge is at the top of the list and deemed a failure. Weight signs have been posted to eliminate liability. The road will be closed from 4 – 6 weeks.

Motion: B. Brower moved to approve the application of Town of Litchfield to replace the existing bridge superstructure with a new concrete deck on existing abutments, with 50 ft. of roadway to be reconstructed per map entitled "Rehabilitation of Bridge 073-010 Brush Hill Road over the West Branch of Butternut Brook" dated 2/6/18.

Second: A. Paradise

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

6. Town of Litchfield - Public Works – Mike Road

2/14/18

Replacement of existing structurally-deficient 48" corrugated metal pipe with 60" pipe

Raz Alexe explained they are replacing the 48" pipe with concrete pipe with head walls and rip rap on both sides, discharging into the west branch of the Butternut Brook. Down time will be 10 days to 2 weeks

maximum. They have an application with the Army Corps of Engineers because of the square footage of water coverage in the channel.

Motion: A. Paradise moved to approve the application of Town of Litchfield, Mike Road, for replacement of existing structurally-deficient 48” corrugated metal pipe with 60” RC pipe.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

7. Kalur – Kubish Road

2/14/18

Construction of a single family dwelling, well, septic, driveway, underground utilities and propane tank

Mr. Kalur’s engineer, Brian Neff, explained they got testing approved for the septic, long driveway, underground utilities and underground propane tank about 1/8 mi. in from Milton Road on Kubish Road. The wetlands are flagged. R. Blazek suggested that Mr. Kalur consider another good area away from the wetlands for the septic.

8. Morosani – 160 Wigwam Road

2/14/18

Three lot subdivision with no regulated activities

Dennis McMorrow showed a map entitled “Subdivision Plan, Lot Line Revision Plan, Laurel Ridge Realty. It is a unique three-lot subdivision. It is a pre-existing, non-conforming situation with two primary dwellings on the property. ZBA granted variances for two separate driveways for two homes. They went to Torrington Area Health and tested for reserve areas for the houses and will do lot line revisions to gain frontage for the houses. The goal was to get two houses on two separate properties. One is a 2.9 and one is a 3.4-acre parcel. Lot 3 will be 93 acres. It is in the regulated area, but no building is planned, as they are already there. Mr. McMorrow needs a letter to say there are no regulated activities that he can take to P&Z.

Motion: B. Brower moved to approve the application of Laurel Ridge Realty LLC, 160 Wigwam Road, for a three-lot subdivision with no regulated activities shown on map entitled “Site Plan B, 100-Acre Plan Prepared for John Morosani” dated 2/2/18.

Second: F. Minck

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

9. Machokas – 48 Goodhouse Road

2/14/18

Selective tree cutting of 1/3 acre

Mr. Machokas said there are about 20 huge pine trees that are near his garage and are dangerous. Maple Ridge (license and phone number requested) will take down the trees. He wants to take down some trees closer to the pond in the back to improve his view. R. Blazek said it was a significant wetland in the back and expressed caution for poorly drained soils in that area. He asked him to mark all the trees; 18 – 20 white pines and then a clump of trees closer to the water. Commissioners will visit the area. He will use a skid steer and a wood chipper. A. Paradise would like to have the person doing the job come in for the next meeting to explain how they are operating equipment near the water and say how many board feet will be taken as well as cu. yds of chips and number of cords of wood. These three things are needed as they must be reported to the State. He will return at the next meeting with the contractor.

10. Approval of Minutes

a) July 12, 2017: unable to approve with members present

b) January 10, 2018: B. Brower moved to approve the regular minutes of 1/10/18.

Second: F. Minck

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

11. Correspondence

- Letter from Steven Byrne saying he was not available for land use attorney interviews on 2/15/18. Another call from Selectmen's office was placed to him, and he explained his absence from the interviews and wanted to be considered when he returns from his vacation. Discussion continued on Inland Wetland's responsibility to the law first (DEEP) and to regulations second. P&Z is more interpretation. ZBA is more like a court of law.

12. Possible Executive Session to Discuss Pending Litigation: None

13. Adjournment

Motion: B. Brower moved to adjourn at 8:52 p.m.

Second: F. Minck

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann D. Combs, Recording Secretary