

LITCHFIELD INLAND WETLAND COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 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, Jack Hamill, Anthony Paradise. Also present were Dennis Tobin, Ph.D, Wetlands Agent, and Ann Combs, Recording Secretary.

Members Absent: Frederick Minck, Jack Healy

Public Comment: None

Appointment of Alternates: None available

APPLICATION RECEPTIONS

1. Town of Litchfield – North Shore Road (over Bantam River) 3/14/18
Bridge substructure rehabilitation

Raz Alexe explained the wetlands are clearly delineated. Drilling shafts for concrete are behind the abutments on the upland side. This is a scour-critical job mandated to be done. It will be completed by 11/30/18 with detour being same as the other bridge on North Shore Road. Then the entire road will be asphalted. There will be no impact to wetlands or watercourses.

Motion: A. Paradise moved to approve Town of Litchfield North Shore Road Bridge over Bantam River, for bridge substructure rehabilitation, to begin coinciding with the bidding cycle.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS

2. Kalur – Kubish Road 3/14/18
Construction of single family dwelling, well, septic, driveway, underground utilities and propane tank

Brian Neff, Engineer, and Steven Kalur, applicant, were present. Mr. Neff spoke of revising the plan to come in off Milton Road as a shorter approach and reduction of disturbed area by 25 percent. The house has been reversed with the garage facing Milton Road. The septic plan remains the same, but the driveway has been moved and shortened to improve the plan. There will be no wetlands crossed or disturbed.

3. Litchfield Housing Trust - Gagarin Place, Torrington Road 3/14/18
Minor modification to Wetlands Permit #CC00001197 concerning an eight-dwelling affordable housing development of real property

Barbara Brower recused herself from this item. Engineer Ken Hrica was dismissed until next meeting as there was not a quorum to vote.

APPLICATION RECEPTIONS

4. Hannon – 38 Knox Road

3/14/18

Addition to rear of dwelling

David Hannon said he would like to put a great room on the back of the house in the area of the current patio, with covered walkway to the great room and a patio. There will be no impact to wetlands, as any runoff will run toward the road and away from the wetlands.

Motion: B. Brower moved to approve the application of Hannon, 38 Knox Road, for an addition to the rear of the house including a great room, covered walkway and patio as shown on map entitled Property Boundary Survey, dated 3/2002, revised 5/2006 and 8/2015.

Second: A. Paradise

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

5. Shay – 1499 Bantam Road

3/14/18

Construct maintenance shed (12'x16') on piers

Kyle Shay said she wants to put up a fishing/storage shed for winter storage. She left the placement and access for construction up to the discretion of the Commission. It is shown on the drawing as both level with the road and up on piers for the slope, as well as closer to the water. J. Hamill asked her to design it to the scenario she prefers, and they will address it. A. Paradise asked to see the method of pilings illustrated on the drawing. He also wants to hear from an engineer that the pilings will hold up, and would like information on the DOT's right-of-way or easement for culvert drainage at that location. Commissioners will take a look at the site.

6. Arethusa Farm – 15 Webster Road

3/14/18

Construct driveway to farm stand in upland review area

Dennis McMorrow, Berkshire Engineering and Surveying, was present to show the map with large wetlands on the farm on Webster Road. They have gardens and now want to have a farm stand with a gravel loop road and six parking spaces. Only the left leg of the driveway is in the regulated area. The stand will be a 15'x20' pole barn. He will find out if there will be sonitubes or posts with cement in the ground. B. Brower asked if they could use an alternate location for the stand, as it is close to a significant conservation area, perhaps further toward the farm. D. McMorrow will ask that as well.

APPLICATION CONSIDERATION

7. Machokas – 48 Goodhouse Road

3/14/18

Selective tree cutting of a 1/3 acre

Mr. Machokas, owner, and Forest Turner, Maple Ridge LLC, contractor for the tree cutting, were present. They said they will not plan this activity until next winter. Commissioners could not get out to visit, so they will call a day before to schedule a visit. Mr. Turner submitted a copy of his forest practitioner license valid until 11/01/18 and his business card. A. Paradise noted the date was revised, so he verified online that the license is current, although he does not have it yet. He will call DEEP and present it when he receives it. Mr. Paradise also asked him to submit the form that shows the number of cords of wood, feet of lumber, yards of chips, etc. They presented photos of the areas where work is proposed.

8. Annual Meeting and Election of Officers: This item is postponed until all members can be present.

9. Approval of Minutes

- a) **July 12, 2017:** unable to approve with members present
- b) **February 14, 2017:** unable to approve with members present

10. Correspondence

- DEEP Pesticide Application for treatment of two ponds at 29 Litchfield Ponds Drive to control various aquatic vegetation
- DEEP Pesticide Application for treatment of a small pond located at 89 South Street to control various aquatic vegetation

11. Possible Executive Session to Discuss Legal Representation: Motion: B. Brower moved to go into executive session at 7:22 p.m. with all commissioners and Dennis Tobin in attendance. A. Paradise seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried. They came out of executive session at 8:37 p.m. with the following action taken.

Motion: R. Blazek moved, as per authorization by Leo Paul, First Selectman of the Town of Litchfield, and the vote of this commission, that we shall terminate the legal representation for us by Stephen Byrne of Byrne and Byrne Associates.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion: R. Blazek moved, as per authorization of Leo Paul, First Selectman of the Town of Litchfield and by the vote of this commission, we hereby hire the law firm of Carmody and Torrance, Mary Ann Dubuque, a partner there, to be our legal counsel from this date, 3/14/18, forward.

Second: A. Paradise

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion: B. Brower moved, as per Article V of the Inland Wetlands Bylaws revised 8/2014, that all expenditures of funds, including any and all legal costs for services, including phone calls solicited, written opinions, seminars, must be certified and authorized by the Chairman, presently Robert T. Blazek.

Second: A. Paradise

Discussion: Dr. Tobin asked if that includes the Recording Secretary's invoice that he currently signs. Mr. Blazek said he will now sign that bill to stay in conformance.

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

12. Adjournment: A. Paradise moved to adjourn at 8:41 p.m.

Second: J. Hamill

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann D. Combs, Recording Secretary