

LITCHFIELD INLAND WETLAND COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2017 – 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, Frederick Minck, Anthony Paradise. Also present were Dennis Tobin, Ph.D, Wetlands Agent, and Ann Combs, Recording Secretary.

Members Absent: Jack Healy

Public Comment: None

Appointment of Alternates: None available

Motion: B. Brower moved to add to 6a. "Nicholas Gabriel, 2 Old Northfield Rd., for installation of above ground pool and deck."

Second: F. Minck

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS

1. Steiner (agent for Ravin) – 283 Chestnut Hill Rd.

6/14/17

Clearing of trees and brush for installation of ground mount solar array

Lee Steiner reminded the Commission of his plan for installation of a ground mount solar array. He will take down eight 16-inch diameter trees and about 40 small trees and a dozen medium trees to allow for more sun and will just cut to 3" of the ground. He will use an excavator, and hand-drop the trees. They will use a chipper and place the chips along the silt fence area. The wood will be taken out and some used for firewood. A. Paradise was concerned with trips back and forth taking the trees out. Mr. Steiner said they will use the excavator with a thumb and walk every tree out through the driveway. Dr. Tobin added the whole area was already disturbed when they built the house. They will use helical coils to stabilize the solar stanchions.

Motion: J. Hamill moved to approve the application by Steiner, 283 Chestnut Hill Road, for clearing of trees and brush for installation of a ground mount solar array on .43 acres.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

2. Taylor/Wilson – 265 Chestnut Hill Rd.

6/14/17

After the fact application for clear cutting & removal of invasive species in regulated area

No one was present for this application. R. Blazek said they clear cut an area and were supposed to show a plan for mitigation. R. Blazek said they also need to know the use, so it is an incomplete application. He suggested the application be denied without prejudice. A. Paradise said the information about the cutting area gives no adjacent information so he cannot accept the drawing. The applicant did not return two follow-up calls.

Motion: J. Hamill moved to deny this application without prejudice because it is incomplete.

Second: A. Paradise

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

APPLICATION RECEPTIONS

3. Copeland – 342 Bantam Rd.

6/14/17

Rear patio, entry/exit ramps, access driveway

Gary Copeland explained a new drawing that showed the estimated 30' X 50' patio he would like to add at the back of his new building. The patio will be on the ground with sand on stones as a beach effect. He wants to plant willow trees and bamboo. The regulated area is 85 ft. off the back of the delivery area. Mr. Copeland said there was plenty of area for the trucks to back in. He did not want to commit to the ramp and wanted to wait and see how it goes. R. Blazek suggested getting a professional to design drainage. Mr. Copeland said he does not need drainage. There are no dimensions listed on the drawing. He added a scale to his map, but the map the commissioners were given had much more information than Mr. Copeland's. He said the accessway is 15' X 30'. J. Hamill told him he must stick to the specs from the building permit. He wants to be assured there will not be a disturbance in the accessway area. Mr. Copeland was told to put concrete or stone in the accessway as per recommendation of the building official.

Motion: B. Brower moved to approve the application of Gary Copeland of 342 Bantam Road for a rear patio and entry/exit ramps and access driveway per drawing dated and signed 6/14/17, noting alterations made to the drawing and a cement or gravel accessway as per determination of the Building Official.

Second: J. Hamill

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

4. Town of Litchfield – East Litchfield Road

6/14/17

Full depth reclamation of East Litchfield Road from Route 118 to Buell Road with drainage system

Dennis McMorrow, Berkshire Engineering and Surveying, said they will grind up the surface, add excess millings and reshape it. B. Brower wanted to be assured that the reclaimed tar will not go back to the Town Garage, as it is close to Tannery Brook that flows into the Hamill Well Field. They are assuming they are in the regulated area and were told to come in when doing such road projects. They will add drainage to the Topsmead side to prevent weeping from the road shoulder. They plan to do the project in the fall.

Motion: A. Paradise moved to approve the application of Town of Litchfield for full depth reclamation of East Litchfield Road from Route 118 to Buell Road with drainage system, with safety issues and per reconstruction plan stamped and dated 6/5/17.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

5. Town of Litchfield – Looking Glass Hill Road

6/14/17

Full depth reclamation of Looking Glass Hill Road from West Morris Road to Morris Town Line with drainage system

D. McMorrow, Berkshire Engineering and Surveying, showed a Town plan from last year on West Morris Road with drainage from a previous job going into an adjacent property. The Town will redirect this drainage as part of this reclamation job. They are in the regulated area but with no direct wetlands impact. He did notify the Town of Morris because they are within 500 ft. of the work.

Motion: B. Brower moved to approve the application of Town of Litchfield for full depth reclamation of Looking Glass Hill Road from West Morris Road to Morris town line and to install drainage per map entitled Reconstruction Plan, Looking Glass Hill Road, dated 6/7/17.

Motion: A. Paradise seconded.

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

6. Town of Litchfield – North Lake St. (Community Field)

6/14/17

Regrade ball field and construct drainage system

D. McMorrow, Berkshire Engineering and Surveying, said they will move the fence out 7 ft., redo the existing drainage and regrade in the lower field. The fence is within the regulated area of the brook. Grass will replace the clay area in the field. This will take place in September.

Motion: F. Minck moved to approve the application of Town of Litchfield at the Community Field to regrade the ball field and construct a drainage system with no direct wetlands impact.

Second: A. Paradise

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

6a. Nicholas Gabriel, 2 Old Northfield Rd.

6/14/17

Installation of above ground pool and deck.

Diane Lavoie and Lance Beckley were present to explain the map showing the placement of the 27 ft. round pool with wetlands delineated.

Motion: J. Hamill moved to approve the application of Nicholas Gabriel, 2 Old Northfield Road, for installation of an above-ground pool and deck per drawing by Mr. Lavoie dated 6/14/17.

Second: B. Brower

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

7. Approval of Minutes of May 10, 2017

Motion: F. Minck moved to approve the May 10, 2017 meeting minutes.

Second: J. Hamill

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

8. Correspondence

- CT Federation of P&Z Agencies Quarterly Newsletter, Spring 2017

9. Possible Executive Session to Discuss Pending Litigation

Motion: F. Minck moved to go into executive session at 8:11 p.m. with all commissioners attending as well as Dr. Tobin.

Second: A. Paradise

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

They came out of executive session at 8:15 p.m. with no action taken.

10. Adjournment

Motion: F. Minck moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

Second: J. Hamill

Vote: All voted aye and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann D. Combs
Recording Secretary