

**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes**

**February 2, 2017 (Thursday)**

**Marlborough City Hall – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Memorial Hall**

**7:00 PM**

**Present:** Edward Clancy – Chairman, David Williams, Allan White, John Skarin, Dennis Demers, Karin Paquin and Lawrence Roy. Also present was Priscila Ryder-Conservation Officer.

**Absent:** None

**Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of January 19, 2017 were unanimously approved.

**Public Hearings:**

**Notice of Intent**

**Reconstruction of Rte. 85 (Maple St.) from the Southborough town line to John St.**

Greg Russell, Meredith Avery and Dan Canata from VHB, consultants to the City of Marlborough DPW; Mark Dascoli from DPW Engineering; and Tom Currier from MassDOT were all present. Mr. Russell presented an overview of the project and explained that there would be full depth reconstruction from the Southborough town line to the second entrance of the car dealer. From there to John St. the work will involve milling and paving. All drainage structures are to be replaced with deep sump hooded catch basins to improve water quality, and sidewalks and vertical granite curbing will be added for the length of the project. Some work will be done near wetlands. Ms. Avery discussed the wetland locations and pointed out the resource areas, wetlands, buffer zones, floodplains and river front areas. The only wetland impact area is where South St. brook crosses under Maple St. This is an old 3-sided culvert that will be extended by 15' to allow for a sidewalk to be added and traffic lane reconfiguration. A small portion of bordering land subject to flooding (BLSF) will be impacted by 6" of the cover, this is being compensated in the adjacent landscaped area to ensure no change to the floodplain storage capacity. They will need to cut out a section of the existing 3-sided open channel and replace it with the same sized pre-cast concrete section which will support the added sidewalk etc. Mr. Russell indicated they would use the compost filter tubes as their erosion control method and that the specifications require that these be raked out and seeded when the project is completed. Mr. Clancy emphasized that the erosion controls would need to be removed when the project was completed. The Commission asked about the sequencing of the culvert replacement. Mr. Currier explained that this would be up to the contractor to establish. The Commission then determined that one of the conditions of the Order of Conditions would be to require the contractor to come to a Commission meeting prior to the start of work to explain the construction sequencing, dewatering system- stream diversion process, preparation for storm events and timing of the project, sequencing of drainage improvements and when they will be activated.

Mr. Russell explained that the project will have a duration of 18 months. They hope to issue the contract and start the project in the fall of 2017. Mr. Currier noted that they are coordinating with the gas company as there will be a 5-year moratorium on any work within the street after the project is completed. The Commission asked how the roadway will be left each evening.

Answer was it will be either compact gravel or temporary patch. There was discussion about process if contaminated soils are encountered, as this has been an issue in the past on Maple St. Ms. Avery explained that the contract has strict protocols to follow for any hazardous soils encountered.

There being no further questions, the hearing was closed. Ms. Ryder will draft a set of conditions for review at the next meeting.

#### **Request for Determination of Applicability (Continuation)**

329 Boston Post Rd. - 329 Boston Post Rd. Owner LLC

At the applicant's phone request to Ms. Ryder, this item was continued to the Commissions next meeting on Feb. 16, 2017.

#### **Notice of Intent**

215 Fitchburg St. - Assabet Valley Regional Vocational School District (212-1182)

The Commission voted on this item at the last meeting, but failed to sign the permit. The Commission members all signed the permit to issue the Order of Conditions for this project.

#### **Certificate of Compliance**

- DEP 212-1176 215 Cullinane Dr. - Ms. Ryder noted she did an inspection of the boathouse that was built and it came out fine, no issues. The Commission voted 7-0 unanimously to issue a full Certificate of Compliance for this project.

#### **Extension Permit**

- DEP 212-1117 Talia/The Preserve @ Ames – 2 yr. extension - Mr. Arnold from Goddard consulting was present. He noted that the project will likely be completed in June of 2017; but a two-year extension is requested just in case. The Commission determined that the project is well underway and an Extension Permit is warranted. The Commission voted unanimously 7-0 to issue a 2-year Extension Permit.

#### **Other Business/Correspondence/ Discussion:**

- Letter from Goddard Consulting, dated Jan. 20, 2017, RE: Wetland Replication As-built, The Preserve at Ames, Brookview Apartments (DEP 212-1117) – The Commission voted to accept and place this item on file.
- Mass Wildlife Grant award of \$14,483 was granted to the City for invasive plant removal at the Desert natural area. A copy of a letter to the Mayor requesting acceptance was provided to the Commission.
- Boroughs Loop Trail grant submission – Ms. Ryder working with Ms. Paquin submitted a regional grant application for a 33+ mile Boroughs Loop Trail that will go through Marlborough, Northborough, Westborough and Southborough. Ms. Ryder noted that a wetland filing for the boardwalk and bridges would be submitted to the Commission for review in the next few months.
- Mass Wildlife magazine - Ms. Ryder noted that the Commission receives a very informative magazine 4 times a year. Mr. Clancy, Williams, White said they'd like to read it. Mr. Roy and Skarin and Ms. Paquin already subscribe.

- Minor work exemption policy clarification - Ms. Ryder reviewed the exemption section of the regulation to clarify when the Commission wanted to see projects and which projects would fall under the exemption. 100' from wetland is still jurisdictional, but if work is minor i.e. decks, sheds on existing lawns 50' or more away from the wetland then the project can be exempt. Ms. Ryder shared an example of a splash pad the DPW wants to install at Ghiloni park that would meet the exemption provision. The Commission concurred, but was concerned about any chlorinated water discharging to the wetland. Ms. Ryder will follow up.

**Meetings** – Next Conservation meetings – February 16<sup>th</sup> and March 2, 2017 (Thursdays)

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Priscilla Ryder  
Conservation Officer