

MINUTES

Millbury Conservation Commission

Date: May 1, 2019

Time: 7:00 PM

Present: Ronald Stead, Anthony Cameron, Paul DiCicco, Sarah Hoecker

Absent: Donald Flynn

Vice Chairman Stead opened the meeting at 7:00 PM [times of public hearings are advertised times]

Vice Chairman Stead read mail received from Keolis commuter Services regarding their 2019 Yearly Operational Plan.

Vice Chairman Stead read mail received from TEC Associates regarding the Providence & Worcester Railroad Company's 2019 Yearly Operational Plan.

Vice Chairman Stead read mail received from The Blackstone River Coalition regarding the 2018 Water Quality Report for the Blackstone River Watershed.

Vice Chairman Stead read mail received from National Grid regarding their 2019 Yearly Operational Plan.

The members signed minutes from April 3, 2018.

7:05 P.M.

Pamela Cristo

Notice of Intent

2 Horse Shoe Lane – Construction of a 16x28 addition

Pamela and Chris Cristo were present. Pam explained that there is currently a deck that will be removed to allow for the addition with a foundation. She said their property is in the buffer zone. There is a retaining wall that can have erosion controls. The contractor said any concrete would be pumped in. Ron said the stream crossed just the back corner. Pam said yes. Ron asked if it is an intermittent stream. Pam said yes, it dries up in the summer. Pam showed the members some pictures. Tony asked where the excess materials will go. Pam said they will be taken off site. Ron read the comment from DEP. Paul said he would like to have erosion controls around the stockpile area. Pam said ok. Paul made a motion to close the hearing; Tony seconded; voted unanimously.

7:10 P.M.

Next Grid Colton, LLC

Notice of Intent

7 Colton Road – Construction of a ground mounted solar array

Rich Tabaczynski from Atlantic Design Engineers was present for the applicant. Rich said he was here about a month ago for the site next door. He said it is a smaller site and facility with lesser impacts. The site is 21.5 acres with a farm with about 3.8 acres being used for the 1.3 MW project. He pointed out where the current buildings are and also a cell tower. There are 2 wetland systems. The areas have been flagged. A small area will be left for the farm. An access road will come off the existing driveway. The impacts will be in the outer buffer zone with minor clearing done. The utility connections will be outside of the buffer zone. The fence will be raised 6 inches off the ground to allow for animals to pass under. Minimal grading will be done. Paul asked where a wetland was. Rich pointed it out. Paul asked if any replication will be done. Rich said no. Ron asked about the existing buildings. Rich said all but one is staying. Ron asked if the owners will still be living there. Rich said yes. Tony asked where the intermittent stream is. Rich pointed it out. Peter Coffin of Mendon asked what the decommissioning plan is. Rich said the Planning Board requires a plan along with a bond for that purpose. Ron asked

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
2019 MAY 16 AM 8:57
MILLBURY, MASS.

MINUTES

Page 2 of 3

Millbury Conservation Commission

what the life expectancy of the panels is based on. Rich explained the process. Tony asked if there is any extra cutting. Rich explained where the cutting will be. Tony asked how a certain gate is going to be accessed. Rich said the gates are at the suggestion of the fire chief as emergency exits. Tony made a motion to continue the hearing to 5/15 at 7:10pm; Sarah seconded; voted unanimously.

Ron called a 5 minute recess.

Peter Coffin – Blackstone River Coalition
Informal

Cold water fisheries and water quality

Peter explained that the Blackstone license plate money goes to the coalition. From April through November the coalition does it's testing along the river. They test for oxygen, nutrients and temperature. He said with grant money more testing can be done. He said a cold spring brook runs by the mall. Cold water fisheries are often spring fed. They are important because they provide habitat for trout and other cold water critters. There are 31 cold water fisheries in Massachusetts and 17 in Rhode Island. Ron asked if there are any in Millbury. Peter said not many. Temps can't exceed 60 degrees. Cronin Brook in Grafton is a cold water fishery that starts in Millbury. Peter explained the mail received from the coalition regarding the rivers water quality report. Ron said he thought there might be a cold water fishery off of McCracken Road. Tony said yes, that Mat Ashmankas had named it.

The members signed a Certificate of Compliance for 256 Riverlin Street DEP file #224-0764.

The members discussed the summer schedule, deciding the meetings for the summer will be June 19, 2019, July 24, 2019 and August 21, 2019.

Paul acknowledged the passing of Ann Weston of the Auburn Conservation Commission. The commission would like to send a note of condolences.

Paul made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23pm; seconded by Sarah; voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann M Swanson
Secretary

MINUTES

Millbury Conservation Commission

Donald Flynn

Ronald Stead

Ronald Stead

Sarah Hoecker

Sarah Hoecker

Anthony Cameron

Anthony Cameron

Paul DiCicco

Paul DiCicco