

INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of December 14, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Council Chambers, Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT

Commissioners Present: Boily, Curran, Hammar, Peters, Pieragostini, Salling
Staff Present: Steve Maguire, Wetlands Enforcement Official, Ann Mazur, Clerk

Commissioner Peters convened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

NOTE IS MADE THAT THERE IS NO AUDIO RECORD OF THE MEETING.

PENDING APPLICATIONS

IW #11-45, Blakeman Construction. Application for resubdivision of Rollingwood Subdivision, Lots 65, 103, 104, 105, Marlin Road.

William Carboni, Engineer from Spath Bjorkland Associates presented the application. These lots were previously approved in Section 10 of Rollingwood in 2001 and the permits have expired. These lots may have been affected by the building of Marlin Road. The areas were remarked by Environmental Planning Associates. The plans are substantially the same as those previously approved with minor modifications. The subdivision consists of four lots with open space. Mr. Carboni described the wetlands areas in the subdivisions. In 2001 the Inland Wetlands Commission asked P&Z for a waiver to allow a three unit driveway to reduce the impact on the wetlands, which P&Z approved. The wetlands in the subdivision have remained the same. The driveway has been reduced from a 2/2 cut to 1/1. The construction of this driveway was completed in 2002. There is a very clear demarcation of rocks protecting the wetlands.

During construction a fissure in the rock was hit which created a spring in the driveway. The applicant is proposing to construct a curtain drain in the driveway down to Marlin Road which will discharge into a catch basin and then into the existing drainage system. There will be an under drain lateral to pick up the water and put it into the curtain drain to prevent erosion in the driveway. In 2001 there was a regulation that no more than 200 cubic yards could be removed; this much material will not be removed unless necessary.

In Lot 65, the driveway will provide the demarcation protecting the wetlands. The subsurface galleries will provide energy dissipation and prevent erosion.

Lot 103 has a common driveway that provides demarcation for the wetlands similar to Lot 65. The hydrology of the wetlands will not be changed. Grading will be 1/1 rip rap armored slope in that area.

Lot 105 has a retaining wall that separates the house from the wetlands. When this plan was approved in 2001 the regulated area was 50 feet from the wetlands, it is now 100 but the plans have maintained the retaining wall at 50 feet. The wetland is a detention basin. A plunge pool will be created.

Lot 104 has a potential vernal pool so construction of the septic system will be in July and August. Single boulders will be the demarcation line so as not to affect migration of small animals. Slope was changed from 2/1 to 1/1. A conservation easement is proposed from Lot 104 to 105 measuring 240 feet by 280 feet. The hydrology of the vernal pool will not be changed.

Jody Chase, wetland ecologist, discussed the wetlands assessment that she prepared both this year and as part of the original application ten years ago. Both are essentially the same. The upper reaches have characteristics of a vernal pool, which were not recognized and thus were called out ten years ago. The lower portion of the wetlands will function like the eastern portion. There are many invasives and thus this is not a valuable wetland. There is no long term impact to the wetlands system and hydrology will not be changed.

Commissioner Pieragostini asked about the 100 year system. Mr. Carboni said this is greater than a 25 year storm system. The detention study is based on a 100 year storm. Commissioner Peters said the contractors deviated slightly from the plans for the driveway; she asked if it will continue to stay to the east which is closer to the wetlands. Mr. Carboni said the driveway will be built as shown on the plans and suggested a condition of approval that the driveways are staked out for construction and another condition to request that Ron Bolmer or Rob Sibley review the construction. Commissioner Peters is concerned about the shared driveway; Mr. Carboni said the common driveway is only part of the driveway. Commissioner Salling asked if it would be beneficial to remove the invasives in the pocket; Ms. Chase said that the invasives would be removed. Commissioner Boily asked about why the septic system would be constructed in July and August; Ms. Chase said that this is not a time of migration for the animals in the area. Commissioner Curran asked where the septic systems will be for each lot which Mr. Carboni then explained. Mr. Maguire asked if the road center line and building corners are staked. Mr. Carboni said that the driveways and some septic systems were staked. He will restake the wetlands just prior to the January 11 meeting.

The Commissioners will plan to walk the site. The application will be continued at the January 11, 2012 meeting.

IW #11-48 4 Turkey Hill Road, OPEL Solar/Newtown Public Works. Application for a Photovoltaic Installation at the Newtown Wastewater Treatment Plan.

A public hearing on the application will be held on January 11, 2012.

OTHER BUSINESS

CEASE AND DESIST

IW VIO #11-06, 81 Birch Hill Road, Ronald and Dees Auriana. The property owner has since complied with the order to cease and desist and has supplied the Commission with an application for the activity.

ACCEPTANCE OF NEW APPLICATION.

IW #11-51, 81 Birch Hill Road, Ronald and Dees Auriana. Application to correct a violation. Commissioner Salling will review the application.

RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE INLAND WETLANDS AGENTS. Commissioner Salling moved that the Town of Newtown Inland Wetlands Commission hereby designates George Benson, Rob Sibley and Steve Maguire as Wetlands Agents to implement and enforce the Newtown Inland Wetlands Regulations. Second by Commissioner Curran and unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Commissioner Pieragostini motioned to approve the minutes of November 9, 2011. Second by Commissioner Curran. Motion unanimously approved. Commissioner Boily abstained. Commissioner Boily motioned to approve the minutes of November 29, 2011. Second by Commissioner Salling. Motion unanimously approved. Commissioner Pieragostini abstained.

ADJOURNMENT.

Commissioner Pieragostini motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Boily seconded the motion. The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Ann M. Mazur, Clerk Pro Tem