

Land Use Agency
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TOWN OF NEWTOWN

Inland Wetlands Commission

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING – FOREST PRACTICES

May 13, 2015 @ 7:30 p.m.

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

These Minutes are Subject to Approval by the Inland Wetlands Commission

Present: Mary Curran, Craig Ferris, Kristen Hammar, Sharon Salling and Anne Peters.

Staff Present: Steve Maguire, Land Use Enforcement Officer and Dawn Fried, Clerk.

Ms. Curran opened the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

PENDING APPLICATIONS

FP #15-02 Pieragostini, 9 Point O'Rocks Road. Application for farmland restoration and improvement of forest area .

- Applicant, Mr. Daniel Lawrence, 39 Head of Meadows Rd., Newtown, spoke about the project.
- Ms. Salling had questions regarding farmland restoration. Mr. Lawrence responded it is to restore farmland back to its historic nature with the original crops being researched and replanted.
- Ms. Salling questioned if the project was a timber harvest or restoration. Mr. Lawrence implied both.
- Mr. Ferris inquired what percentage of trees are being cut. Mr. Lawrence responded it is not a clear cut. It will be a heavier selective cut of 11 acres which will be broken up.
- Ms. Peters inquired if a public hearing would be necessary because of the significant number of acres being cleared and of the public impact.
- Mr. Ferris inquired about the equipment being used.
- Ms. Curran and Mr. Ferris asked about the purpose of the cutting. Mr. Lawrence responded the goal was to cut trees for lumber and also for forest health. Mr. Lawrence stated he wanted to have mixed-aged trees standing with the removal of unhealthy and dying trees.
- Ms. Peters asked about possible disturbances to stream crossings and water courses. Mr. Lawrence responded that there will be minimal disturbance. He will be using the main skid trail as well as portable bridges and corduroys.
- Ms. Peters requested Mr. Lawrence to submit a new application with verbiage to include purpose of application and a detailed description of project.
- Ms. Curran would like Mr. Maguire to print up photos and site conditions to serve as helpful visuals.
- The Forest meeting will continue on May 27, 2015 with the revised application and a new description of the project. A public hearing was disinclined.

Mr. Ferris motioned to adjourn meeting at 9:05 p.m.
Seconded by Ms. Salling. All in favor.