



Town of Northborough
Earth Removal Board
Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Present: Janet Sandstrom, Nick Howorth, Fred Philcox, and Anthony Ziton

Absent: Tom Beals

Also Present: Fred Litchfield - Town Engineer; Eileen Dawson - Recording Secretary; John Fouracre – 99 Pleasant Street; Dimitrios Voyiatzis – 73-85 West Main Street; Peter Carlino – CBA; and Steve Poole – Lakeview Engineering

At 7:05 pm, Ms. Sandstrom called to order the Earth Removal Board meeting.

Old Business:

- Discussion and update from Mr. Voyiatzis regarding 73-85 West Main Street, Map 63, Parcel 11, 12, & 13.

Mr. Litchfield commented that the applicant needs to explain the lack of progress on the site work. Mr. Carlino explained the obstacle to beginning the wall construction and basin expansion. Mr. Carlino explained that the surveyor just began this week (last surveyor went out of business) to mark the location for the wall and the property lines.

Board members and Mr. Litchfield explained concerns with heavy spring rains, the need for the wall to be constructed (promised 2 months ago), the need for the pond expansion work before building the wall, and the need for the hay bales to be set into the ground reinforced with stone. Board members discussing taking the bond and shutting down the site, but agreed that this decision would not be the best plan for the site. Mr. Carlino assured the board members that the pond could be expanded quickly and the wall would take 1 ½ to 2 weeks to build.

Mr. Litchfield explained his expectations that the pond expansion needs to start tomorrow and the wall construction must begin by Monday. Board members discussed and agreed that Mr. Carlino would send a progress report email (status on survey work, status on the wall, and status on erosion control inspection) to Mr. Litchfield every Wednesday. Mr. Litchfield agreed to forward the status report to Board members.

Ms. Sandstrom asked for audience sharing; Mr. Fouracre explained his concerns with the site run-off, steep slopes, desire for construction fencing, and request for a copy of the status report emails. Board members discussed the construction fencing, requested the applicant ensure that the fencing properly surrounds the property, and gave Mr. Litchfield permission to forward the Wednesday status report emails to Mr. Fouracre.

Board members reiterated their expectations to the applicant to make pond larger, dig wall, and finish survey work. Board members agreed to meet sooner than next month if needed and may allow the applicant to build more than 150' of wall if all expectations are completed to their satisfaction.

- Discuss sending a letter to Signature Homes regarding the status of their subdivision and to request they submit a schedule for completion of all work associated with the Assabet Farms subdivision or to release the bond to the Town allowing us to proceed with the work. Board members discussed taking the bond from Assabet Farms subdivision (bond posted at \$11,000 cash). Mr. Litchfield explained that legal counsel's advice was to have the Earth Removal Board (similar process as Planning Board did with \$85K insurance bond) vote and send a letter indicating that the applicant must complete the work with as built submitted within 2 weeks or the board would pull the bond and shut down the project. Mr. Litchfield explained the details involved in Silas Drive being accepted at town meeting and town counsel's advice to allow the applicant the opportunity to complete the work.

Ms. Sandstrom motioned, Mr. Ziton seconded, and it was unanimously voted, "To send a letter to Signature Homes indicating that the applicant finish and submit as built."

Mr. Litchfield commented that he would not recommend that the street be accepted this year at town meeting, but rather wait until next year's town meeting.

- Loop and Avalon Bay – Board members and Mr. Litchfield discussed the monthly status reports and erosion control measures.

Review Minutes of February 3, 2010:

Board members discussed and had no changes.

Mr. Howorth motioned, Mr. Philcox seconded, and it was unanimously voted, "To approve the minutes of February 3, 2010."

FYI:

Tentative date for the next meeting Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 7:00 pm. Board members discussed and agreed to meet at the new time on April 7, 2010.

Bond Releases (none at this time)

New Business:

Mr. Howorth gave his resignation letter from the Earth Removal Board to Mr. Litchfield and agreed to stay on the board until a replacement has been found.

Adjourn:

Board member agreed that no further business needed to be discussed and agreed to adjourn.

Mr. Philcox motioned, Mr. Ziton seconded, and it was unanimously voted: "To adjourn the Earth Removal Board meeting."

The Earth Removal Board adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Dawson
Board Secretary