

MINUTES
WEST BOYLSTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
APRIL 1, 2013 MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charlene Hopkins, Chair, William Chase, Vice-Chair, David Eckhardt, Vice-Chair, John Hadley, Vice-Chair, and Clerk Toby Goldstein.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Meola.

Mr. Chase moved to open the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Mr. Eckhardt seconded. All in favor.

Public Hearing, West Boylston Water District, Request for Determination of Applicability, Valley Forge Circle:

(Chuck Caron of Caron Environmental and Mike Coveney of West Boylston Water District represented). The proposed work involves replacement of the entire water main along Valley Forge Circle. Ms. Hopkins made a visit to the site prior to the snowfall this winter. In addition to the water main, the applicants will also install a hydrant. The Concomm members reviewed the plan of the site with the representatives. Mr. Caron stated that a different material will be used for the main; Mr. Coveney added that they will change from a 6-in. to an 8-in. iron pipe, and will remove some at each tie-in and at some bends. Mostly the new main will be placed on top of the previous one. Mr. Caron said that erosion controls will be placed on the shoulder of the road. Silt sacks will be placed into the catch basins. The grade will be very flat. In response to questions by Mr. Eckhardt, Mr. Coveney added that the work will take place basically in the street, except for the hydrant, and June or July 1 are estimates of the start of the project. It should be completed in 90 days.

Mr. Eckhardt moved to close the public hearing, and issue a negative determination, subject to erosion controls as shown on the plans "West Boylston Water District Valley Forge Circle Water Main Replacement, West Boylston, MA", dated 2/12/13. Mr. Chase seconded. All in favor. (The Commission agreed that no pre-work site visit was needed).

Public Hearing, Joseph Evangelista and Gary De Wolfe, Notice of Intent, 150 Worcester Street, DEP File #327-0253:

(Joseph Evangelista and Ron Thunberg of Hub Survey represented). Mr. Thunberg showed the Commission members a site plan of the property and surrounding properties. The applicants proposed work involves the building of a single building with a driveway, ramps, and

two two-family dwellings. A portion of the building, driveway, and utilities is under Concomm jurisdiction. The applicants indicated the erosion measures of haybales and silt fence on the site plan. The closest approach to wetlands is 18 ft. Mr. Thunberg stated that subsurface infiltration chambers will be used, and that permeability studies have been done. He also said that there is less than a 10 percent slope, which is not in the direction of the wetlands. In addition, Mr. Thunberg indicated where water would runoff on the property. The abutters were asked to see the plan. The driveway will be new. Also, he mentioned that DCR has looked at the proposal already, and did not have any problem with it.

Mr. Chase moved to close the public hearing and issue an Order of Conditions, subject to conditions listed on the site plan, "Site Plan, 150 Worcester Street, Lot 1, West Boylston, MA," dated 2/13/13. Mr. Eckhardt seconded. All in favor. (Mr. Eckhardt added that, after a growing season, with the yard stabilized, the applicants could then file for a Certificate of Compliance). The Clerk was then instructed to e-mail Mark Brodeur, Building Inspector, to confirm recording of the Order of Conditions prior to issuance of a building permit.

Discussion of Wetland Bylaw Development Process:

Mark Archambeault of the Nashua River Watershed Association attended to discuss this subject with the Commission members. The members introduced themselves to Mr. Archambeault, and discussed their backgrounds with him. Mr. Eckhardt discussed the purpose of the Conservation Commission. Ms. Hopkins, Mr. Chase and Mr. Hadley mentioned various reasons that the Commission has for wanting to implement wetland bylaws, including the need to enforce such things as expired Orders of Conditions, stormwater management violations, and other violations involving the wetlands. Mr. Archambeault added that we would need a stormwater bylaw. He reiterated that the bylaws would be for enforcement and local control over wetland issues, going beyond state control, such as by DEP. Mr. Archambeault then asked the Concomm to discuss how they are perceived in West Boylston. After this discussion, Ms. Hopkins asked him for an estimate of prices involved for the process, to which he gave some figures, which are dependent upon level of detail. He suggested that they may use bylaws of another town as a model to work with, one which he brought with him from Groton, New Hampshire, which has no state wetlands law as Massachusetts has. He mentioned the possibility of a monthly work session, and said that he would work on a more detailed proposal. But, he felt that it does not need to be complicated. Ms. Hopkins mentioned the time frame of perhaps October, up to Spring of 2014, considering Town Bylaw Committee approval is needed. The Commission would like to have Tristan Lundgren of DCR attend the May meeting for DCR input (the Clerk will e-mail him). Mr. Archambeault also posed the idea of public outreach regarding the issue, to which Commission members discussed the possibility of a roundtable. The Commission decided to add ½ hour, after all public hearings, to the agenda for the May 6 meeting, to discuss Mr. Archambeault's proposal, and to have him attend the June 3 meeting. Also, the Clerk was instructed to e-mail Nancy Lucier of the Town Administrator's office to obtain a list of members of the Bylaw Committee.

Representative to Roundtable for Cumberland Farms:

Mr. Chase offered to attend, and the Clerk will inform Nancy Lucier.

Minutes of March 4 Meeting:

After review of the draft minutes by the Commission members, Mr. Hadley moved to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Chase seconded. All in favor.

Update on Baldarelli, DEP File #327-0252:

Mr. Eckhardt notified the Commission members that the Earth Removal Board has continued the issue to May 7, at which a final decision is expected.

Comparison of Filing Fees of Conservation Commissions in Other Towns:

Mr. Eckhardt suggested that the Commission wait until decisions are made on the wetland bylaws before deciding on fee changes.

Resident Complaint, 159 Laurel Street:

This complaint regarded an erosion problem on the resident's property. After discussion, the Commission members felt that this was a matter for DPW, and they instructed the Clerk to contact the resident, telling him to contact Mr. Silvia at DPW, regarding installation of a berm to remedy this. Then, he should let the Concomm know what resulted.

At 8:41 p.m., Mr. Hadley moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Hopkins seconded. All in favor.

Submitted by: _____

Date accepted: _____