

**Town of Washington
Inland Wetlands Commission
MINUTES**

Special Meeting

February 19, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Main Level Meeting Room

Members Present: Mr. Papsin, Mr. LaMuniere, Ms. Branson

Staff Present: Ms. White

Call to Order:

Mr. Papsin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Seated: Mr. Papsin, Mr. LaMuniere, Ms. Branson

Review Proposed Changes of Inland Wetlands Regulations (00:10):

The Commissioners reviewed the most recent revisions in Section 15 – Enforcement, of the Inland Wetlands Regulations.

Mr. LaMuniere recommended removing the sentence that begins with “A notice of violation shall not be deemed to be an order...” The Commissioners agreed that this sentence is not necessary.

Ms. White stated that she will seek counsel on this.

The Commissioners reviewed Atty. Olson’s last recommendations.

Mr. LaMuniere recommended that the following be added to 15.04 a) “In the case of minor violations that have not or are unlikely to have a significant impact on wetlands or watercourses, the duly authorized agent may proceed directly with the issuance of the notice of violation as specified in paragraph 15.04 b).”

There was a brief discussion regarding drafting a Violation Advisory Notice. Ms. White stated that she will discuss the procedure with the WEO. The Commissioners agreed that an advisory notice should be given immediately or a notice of violation should be sent out immediately upon returning to the office by the WEO.

The Commissioners discussed Section 20 - Fees, page 45 and 46, 20.05 – Fee Schedule of the IW Regulations. They agreed that Application to Correct a Violation should be added as “f)” with a \$300 fee, 20.05 e) 1) should be eliminated and the rest of the Fee Schedule would then be re-alphabetized. Ms. White stated that she would reconfigure the Inland Wetlands Application to include the new fee.

The Commissioners discussed Section 23 – Town Ordinance #720, E. Schedule of Fines, 2., page 52 of the IW Regulations. They agreed not to make any changes to the amount of the fees but change the wording from “physical impact” to “significant negative impact” under the \$150, \$350 and \$500 fees. Ms. White stated that she would speak to counsel about the procedure for revising the language of the ordinance but not the fee amounts and how to word the \$150 daily penalty in Section 15.

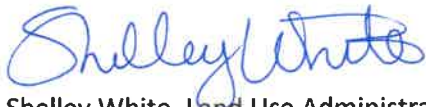
The Commissioners discussed Section 11 of the IW Regulations. Under 11A.03 – Prohibited Activities, Mr. LaMuniere suggested adding: “The alteration of any portion of the natural shore bank that provides effective dissipation of wave energy and protection to the ecotone, either by the removal or addition of any material” as item “c)” and change the existing item “c)” to item “d)”.

Ms. White stated that she would forward these revisions to counsel.

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn at 7:55 pm by Mr. Papsin, passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shelley White, Land Use Administrator
February 25, 2020