

Town of Washington
Inland Wetlands Commission
June 28, 2023
Regular Meeting
Hybrid
MINUTES

7:00 p.m.

Main Conference Room/Zoom Teleconference

Members Present: Mr. Papsin, Mr. Bennett, (arrived at 7:16pm), Ms. Audet, Ms. Anthony-Bogue, Mr. Koppel, Alt.

Via Zoom: Mr. Gendron, Ms. Dubow, Alt.

Staff Present: Ms. White (via Zoom), Ms. Rill

Public Present: Mr. O’Leary

Via Zoom: Mr. Colangelo, Dr. Watts, Ms. Jamieson (Voices Newspaper), Mr. Cesari

Regular Business

Mr. Papsin called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Members Seated: Mr. Papsin, Ms. Audet, Ms. Anthony Bogue, Mr. Gendron and Mr. Koppel for Mr. Bennett

Consideration of the Minutes:

6-28-2023 Regular Meeting Minutes:

Motion: To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes: 6-28-2023 as submitted, by Ms. Audet, seconded by Mr. Koppel, passed by 5-0 vote.

7-5-2023 Special Meeting Minutes:

Motion: To approve the Special Meeting Minutes: 7-5-2023 Site Inspection Report for 99 West Shore Rd. - submitted by M. Dubow – #IW-23-40, as submitted, by Ms. Audet, seconded by Ms. Anthony-Bogue, passed by 5-0 vote.

7-5-2023 Special Meeting Minutes:

Motion: To approve the Special Meeting Minutes: 7-5-2023 Site Inspection Report for Shepaug Valley School, 159 South St. – Permit #IW-23-41 - submitted by J. Anthony-Bogue, as submitted, by Ms. Audet, seconded by Ms. Anthony-Bogue, passed by 5-0 vote.

Motion to Include Subsequent Business Not Already Posted on the Agenda:

None

Pending Applications:

Willenbrock for Meyer/164 West Shore Rd/Application for Permit #IW-23-19/Upgrading existing drainage, construct: 1. 3' wide x 15' long seawall, 2. 10'x 15' flagstone patio, 3. 2 boulder walls along the shoreline, and planting:

This application was tabled. Applicant requested extension through July 26, 2023 meeting.

Region 12 Schools/159 South Street/Application for Permit #IW-23-41/dredge fire pond:

Seated is Mr. Papsin, Ms. Audet, Ms. Anthony-Bogue, Mr. Gendron and Mr. Koppel for Mr. Bennett.

Mr. O'Leary, representative for Shepaug Valley School, presented the Commission with an updated site map that includes both locations and a sequence of construction information. The Commission agreed that the pond can be pumped in mid-to-late July upon completion of submitting the start card and dredging of the pond will commence after August 1, 2023. Once the hay bales and silt fencing are installed, there will be an opening for the equipment to enter the area.

Motion: To approve the application for Permit #IW-23-41 – Shepaug Valley School, 159 South St., to dredge the fire pond per plan titled, “Shepaug Valley School, NTS. Pond Dredge Info.” dated: 7/11/23 with accompanying documentation. This permit is valid for two (2) years and is subject to the following conditions: 1. that the Land Use Office be notified 48 hours prior to the commencement of work so the Wetlands Enforcement Officer can inspect and approve the erosion control measures, 2. that the property owner gives the contractor copies of both the motion of approval and approved plans prior to the commencement of work, 3. the approval of this permit is conditioned upon the performance and completion of all proposed activities and/or improvements in totality to the satisfaction of the Inland Wetlands Commission. There shall not be any modification of any kind to the plans and/or scope/sequence of the proposed activities and/or improvements shown on the approved plans without prior approval of the Inland Wetlands Commission or its designee, 4. The pond may be pumped, once the start card is submitted in mid-to-late July 2023, with hay bales and silt fencing in place with an opening to allow for equipment to enter the area 5. Pond dredging can commence after August 1, 2023. In approving this application, the Commission has considered all of the relevant criteria pursuant to Sections 11.02, 11A and 12.08 of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Regulations and finds that the proposed regulated activities as presented on the plans and conditioned herein, are not reasonably likely to lead to significant adverse impacts on any wetlands and watercourses, by Ms. Audet, seconded by Mr. Koppel, passed by 5-0 vote.

Cesari/99 West Shore Rd./Application for Permit #IW-23-40/replace existing dock:

Seated is Mr. Papsin, Ms. Audet, Ms. Anthony-Bogue, Mr. Gendron, and Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Cesari, owner of 99 West Shore Road, explained that he is proposing to replace an existing dock. The current dock is pressure-treated and being replaced with a galvanized frame.

The Commission questioned the measurements of the current dock, as there were two measurements on the plan submitted by Mr. Cesari. They also questioned if the two walkways were included in the replacement. Mr. Cesari confirmed that the walkways will be included. Mr. Bennett questioned if anything would be attached to the lake bed – Mr. Cesari stated no.

The Commission requested that Mr. Cesari submit a corrected application that includes existing and proposed dimensions of the dock and walkways, a sequence of construction, and a new, accurate plan that includes how the new dock will be attached. The Commission referred Mr. Cesari to Ms. White's Administrative Report as well as the Site Visit Inspection Report that were provided to him.

New Applications to be Received by the Commission:

Green/197 West Shore Rd./Application for permit #IW-23-42/installation of curtain drain, tie into drainage, pave existing parking area within URA:

The Commission scheduled a Site Walk for Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 4:00pm.

Colangelo/72 New Milford Turnpike/Request for Jurisdictional Ruling for as of right agricultural use #IW-23-46/Removal of invasive vegetation, standing and fallen dead trees, repair stone wall, plant trees in wetlands and URA:

Members Seated: Mr. Papsin, Mr. Bennett, Ms. Bogue, Mr. Gendron, Ms. Audet

Mr. Bennett asked for Mr. Colangelo to clarify if the proposed activity is in connection with the agricultural activity of the property.

Mr. Colangelo, owner of 72 New Milford Turnpike, explained that he was proposing to plant sugar maple trees on the property, which he currently has a sugar operation. He will be removing invasive plants to protect other trees. He would also like to replace any areas of stonewall damage done while completing this work. He added that his pond is a fire pond for the Washington Fire Department, and he would like to make the area safe in case they need to use it.

The Commission questioned what Mr. Colangelo what would be doing with the invasive species after they are stockpiled. He explained he would be burning them after he receives a permit from the Fire Marshall.

The Commission questioned if whether or not Mr. Colangelo should have checked “agricultural exemption” on the application rather than “other”. Mr. Colangelo agreed to allow the change of “agricultural exemption” on the application.

Motion: To approve the application for Permit #IW-23-46 – Colangelo, 72 New Milford Turnpike, for an agricultural exemption – for removal of invasive vegetation, standing and fallen dead trees, repair stone wall and plant trees in wetlands and URA, per plan titled, “Colangelo, 72 New Milford Tpke, July 2023”, with accompanying documentation, by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Ms. Anthony-Bogue, passed by 5-0 vote.

Other Business:

None

Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives:

Administrative Business:

None

Communications:

None

Adjournment:

Motion: to adjourn the July 12, 2023 Washington Inland Wetlands Commission meeting at 7:53pm, by Ms. Audet, seconded by Mr. Bennett, approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted by:

Tammy Rill

Tammy Rill
Land Use Clerk

*Minutes are filed, subject to approval

Link to recording of meeting:

https://townofwashingtongcc-my.sharepoint.com/:u:/g/personal/trill_washingtonct_org/ETH8n4EwTShIs7PPRUJLLBsBdT-AuGLpk5xtuRPZpCow8A?e=S09T11

