nland Wetlands Commission

MINUTES Regular Meeting January 24, 2018

7:00 p.m. main level meeting room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bennett, Mr. LaMuniere, Mr. Papsin, Mr. Wadelton

MEMBER ABSENT: Mr. Davis

ALTERNATE PRESENT: Mr. Matthews

ALTERNATE ABSENT: Mr. Kassis

STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Ajello, Mrs. Hill

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Neff, Mr. Szymanski

 Mr. Wadelton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and seated Members Bennett, LaMuniere, Papsin, and Wadelton and Alternate Matthews.

MOTION: To include the following subsequent business not already posted on the agenda: V. New Application: A. PH Partners, LLC./49 Potash Hill Road/#IW-18-02/Replace Drainage Pipes and Maintain Swales. By Mr. Papsin, seconded by Mr. LaMuniere, and passed 5-0.

Consideration of the Minutes

MOTION: To accept the January 10, 2018 minutes as written. By Mr. LaMuniere, seconded by Mr. Matthews, passed 5-0.

Pending Application

Johnson/19 East Shore Road/#IW-18-01/Repair Septic System: Mr. Neff, engineer, briefly reviewed the application and his plan, “Septic System Repair Plan,” dated 11/16/17 and revised to 12/23/17, which had been presented and discussed at the last meeting. He said there had been no revisions since then. He spoke of a possible existing septic leak flowing into the river, noted the Health Department had approved the application, and said the new system would be a great improvement over what is there now. Mr. LaMuniere noted it was a tight site and asked if deeper soil testing would be done as had been recommended at the last meeting. Mr. Neff said he would be on site to inspect the work and agreed to check the soil types. The commissioners thanked him for his cooperation.

MOTION: To approve Application #IW-18-01 submitted by Ms. Johnson/19 East Shore Road to repair the septic system per the plan, “Septic System Repair Plan,” by Mr. Neff, dated 11/16/17 and revised to 12/23/17; the permit shall be valid for two years and is subject to the following conditions: 1. that the Land Use Office be notified at least 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 give the contractor copies of both the motion of approval and approved plans prior to the commencement of work, and 3. any changes to the plans as approved must be submitted immediately to the Commission for review; in considering this application, the Commission has determined that no reasonable and prudent alternatives exist, and believes that there is no reasonable probability of significant adverse impact on any wetlands or watercourses. By Mr. Papsin, seconded by Mr. LaMuniere, passed 5-0.

New Application

PH Partners, LLC./49 Potash Hill Road/#IW-18-02/Replace Drainage Pipes and Maintain Swales: Mr. Szymanski, engineer, presented the plan, “Drainage Repair Map for Parcels 1 & 4,” by Arthur H. Howland and Assoc., dated 1/22/18. He said the drainage pipe under the driveway had failed and so it would be replaced in the same location and rip rap added on both the up and down hill ends. Also proposed, the swales would be redefined and two other 12” pipes replaced before they, too, fail. Mr. Szymanski noted these pipes have almost no flow. Drainage patterns were briefly noted. Mr. Papsin asked what would be done with the spoils. Mr. Szymanski stated they would be spread elsewhere on fields in the 150 acre property. It was the consensus there was no need to conduct a site inspection.

Other Business

101 Wykeham Road, LLC./101 Wykeham Road/Revision of Site Plan: Mr. Szymanski said 101 Wykeham Road, LLC. would soon submit an application to revise the site plan to accommodate emergency egress requirements to be located in the regulated area.

Referral from Town of Bethlehem/Timber Harvest on Property within 500 ft. of Town Line: Mr. Ajello said there was no issue with the proposed work as it would be a selective timber harvest quite a distance from the Town line. He said 25 cords would be cut on the 32 acre site. It was the consensus the Commission had no concerns to report to the Bethlehem Inland Wetlands Commission.

Activity Report: Mr. Ajello briefly reviewed his 1/24/18 report.

Enforcement

Hamilton/183 West Shore Road: When Mr. Ajello reported that work began on the property today, Mr. Papsin expressed his concern about erosion due to the recent weather, frosts, and rain we have been experiencing. He asked that the work be closely monitored and recommended a double row of silt fence be installed.

Town of Washington/16 Titus Road/Unauthorized Stockpiling: Mr. Matthews noted Mr. Talbot, president of the Washington Art Assoc., had met with the Board of Selectmen to discuss cleaning up the site so it could be used for the upcoming summer sculpture walk and asked if there was some way in which the IWC could pressure the Town to get the cleanup done. Mr. LaMuniere said that while Mr. Bedini served on the Board of Selectmen, he had made several attempts to get the Town to remove the debris and Mr. Wadelton stated that the WAA and Economic Development Committee were now working to get this accomplished. Mr. Ajello told Mr. Matthews that the Town had made progress over the years in cleaning up the site. However, Mr. Wadelton pointed out that currently there are no erosion controls around the stockpiles, the Town not only stores material, but also has a reprocessing operation there, and that the violations on the property are as bad or worse than they have ever been. Mr. Papsin and Mr. LaMuniere noted the Town must find another site to store material. Mr. Wadelton agreed, but said he did not believe the Town is actively looking for an alternate location. Mr. Ajello asked whether the Town’s Blackville Road property should be used for a fire training facility when a material storage area is so needed. It was noted the minutes would report the Commission’s concern.

 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

FILED SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Respectfully submitted,

Janet M. Hill, Land Use Administrator