Inland Wetlands Commission

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

May 24, 2017

7:00 p.m. Main Level Meeting Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bedini, Mr. Davis, Mr. LaMuniere, Mr. Papsin, Mr. Wadelton

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Mr. Bennett, Mr. Kassis

STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Ajello, Mrs. Hill

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Elder, Ms. Turoczi, Mr. Baker, Mr. Neff,

 Mr. Metcalf

 Mr. Bedini called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and seated Members Bedini, Davis, LaMuniere, Papsin, and Wadelton.

Consideration of the Minutes

 The 5/10/17 Regular Meeting minutes were accepted as corrected. On page 9 under the heading of the Town Beach, it was noted that Mr. Ajello, not Mr. Papsin, had reported the violation.

MOTION: To accept the 5/10/17 Meeting minutes as amended.

 By Mr. Papsin, seconded by Mr. Davis, passed 5-0.

Pending Applications

Town of Washington/Bryan Plaza/#IW-17-14/Plaza Renovations: Mr. LaMuniere noted a complete and precise drainage report had been submitted since the last meeting and that the work proposed would improve the drainage in the Plaza. Mr. Wadelton stated a thorough presentation had been made at the last meeting.

MOTION: To approve Application #IW-17-14 submitted by the

 Town of Washington for renovations to Bryan Plaza

 in accordance with the drawings, “Renovation of

Bryan Memorial Plaza,” by TPA Design Group, dated

 4/11/17 and revised to 5/8/15 and the Stormwater

 Management Report, also by TPA Design Group, dated

 5/12/17; the permit shall be valid for 2 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,

1. that the property owner give the contractor

copies of both the motion of approval and approved

plans prior to the commencement of work, and

1. 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 feasible and prudent alternatives

 exist, and believes that there is no reasonable

 probability of significant adverse impact on any

 wetlands or watercourses.

 By Mr. Wadelton, seconded by Mr. LaMuniere, and

 passed 5-0.

Metcalf/269 Nettleton Hollow Road/#IW-17-15/Driveway and Watercourse Relocation, Demolish Garage, Construct Barn: Mr. Baker, engineer, and Ms. Turoczi, environmental consultant, were present. Mr. Baker briefly reviewed his plan, dated 5/8/17 to move the driveway into the regulated area in order to improve sight lines and decrease its grade, move the intermittent watercourse, and install stormwater treatment measures along the driveway. He said the proposed underground infiltration system and rain gardens would provide better treatment of stormwater than what exists now on the property. Ms. Turoczi explained the old driveway would be planted with herbaceous seeds and then would revert to woods. It was noted a thorough presentation had been made at the last meeting.

MOTION: To approve Application #IW-17-15 to relocate the

 driveway and intermittent watercourse, demolish the

 garage, and construct a barn for Metcalf, 269

 Nettleton Hollow Road, per the document, “Metcalf

 Residence,” 12 sheets, by Civil 1, dated 5/8/17 as

 well as a series of plans prepared for the

 relocation of the stream and including descriptions

 of rain gardens 1 and 2, by Earth Tones, dated

 5/8/17; the duration of the permit shall be 2 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,

1. that the property owner give the contractor copies

of both the motion of approval and approved plans

prior to the commencement of work, and

1. 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 feasible and prudent alternatives

 exist and believes that there is no reasonable

 probability of significant adverse impact on any

 wetlands or watercourses.

 By Mr. LaMuniere, seconded by Mr. Papsin, passed 5-0.

Washington Art Association/4 Bryan Plaza/#IW-17-16/Building Additions and Septic System: Mr. Neff, engineer, stated there had been no revisions to the plans reviewed at the last meeting. He briefly reviewed the proposal for a handicapped access on the south side of the building, classroom storage on the north side, and moving the kitchen to the east side and noted the staging area for wood materials would be on Town property to the rear of the building. The additions would be slab on grade with no underground areas or basements. Any excavated material would be immediately loaded into trucks and hauled off site. Mr. Bedini asked if the proposed work would dovetail with the upcoming Plaza improvements. Mr. Neff said it would. Mr. Neff noted the Health Dept. had approved the installation of a new septic system and the old one would be taken out.

MOTION: To approve Application #IW-17-16 submitted by

 the Washington Art Assoc., 4 Bryan Plaza, for

 building additions and septic repair according to

 the plan by Mr. Neff entitled, “Soil Erosion and

 Sediment Control Plan,” dated 4/28/17; the permit

 shall be valid for 5 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,

1. that the property owner give the contractor

copies of both the motion of approval and approved

plans prior to the commencement of work, and

1. 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 feasible 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.

Town of Washington/Romford Road at Shepaug River/#IW-17-18/ Replace Bridge: It was noted a complete presentation had been made by Mr. Elder, consulting engineer, at the last meeting. The plan, “Replacement of the Romford Road Bridge Over the Shepaug River,” 6 sheets, by WMC Consulting Engineers, dated 4/28/17 was reviewed. To recap, Mr. Elder stated the existing bridge is in critical condition and so Romford Road would be closed and the bridge blocked as early as this weekend. He said the bridge’s center piers would be removed and replaced by precast concrete piers in the same footprint. The riverbank would be lined with rip rap, which would be toed in to protect the banks. The current schedule is that work will begin in October, stop during the winter, and resume in the spring to complete all paving work.

Mr. LaMuniere said he had reviewed Mr. Elder’s reponses to the questions raised in Mrs. Hill’s 5/17/17 report and they were satisfactory. He asked if there were any plans to cope with turbidity as the work progresses. Mr. Elder explained that the contractor will be required to submit turbidity control measures for WMC’s review and approval and that these would adhere to state guidelines and best management practices. It was the consensus the application was complete.

MOTION: To approve Application #IW-17-18 submitted by the

 Town of Washington to replace the Romford Road bridge

 over the Shepaug River per plans prepared for the

 Town by WMC Consulting Engineers, 6 sheets, dated

 4/28/17; the permit shall be valid for 2 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,

1. that the property owner give the contactor copies

of both the motion of approval and approved plans

prior to the commencement of work, and

1. 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 feasible and prudent alternatives

 exist and believes that there is no reasonable

 probability of significant adverse impact on any

 wetlands or watercourses.

 By Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Wadelton, passed 5-0.

New Application

Copley/96 West Morris Road/#IW-17-19/Pond Maintenance: Mrs. Hill explained that the applicant could not be present, but had asked that the Commission review her application to dredge the pond and forward any questions to her. Mr. Ajello noted that 1) the contractor could work from within the pond so that its perimeter would not be disturbed, 2) the dewatering of the excavated material could be done at the pond’s perimeter, 3) there was a nearby bank approx. 100 ft. from the pond that could be excavated, the dewatered material deposited there, and then the material covered over and bank regraded, and 4) the pond was small so the work could probably be completed in a day. Mr. Ajello also described the pond, which has a berm with a weir around its lower portion, from which the outflow runs intermittently to the Bantam River. He said the berm area would be reinforced with rip rap. After a short discussion, the commissioners agreed that the questions raised in Mrs. Hill’s 5/24/17 review were straightforward and pertinent and responses should be submitted. In addition, they asked: 1) that a specific dewatering area be shown on the site plan, 2) that the specific location of the bank where the spoils would be buried be shown on the site plan, 3) that details be submitted re: how the pond will be emptied. The commissioners then discussed whether they were comfortable reviewing an application without either the applicant or the contractor present. It was the consensus that without exception, someone who can provide detailed answers should attend the meeting. It was strongly recommended that the contractor attend an upcoming meeting to review the application. If this is not possible, the commissioners said answers could be submitted in writing and if after receiving them, the Commission had follow up questions, consideration of the application would be continued again. Mrs. Hill will inform the applicant.

Activity Report

 Mr. Ajello briefly reviewed his 5/24/17 report.

Administrative Business

 The commissioners discussed whether the Regulations should address hot tub and pool water discharge. It was noted that Atty. Olson had been asked to comment on this matter, but her comments had not yet been received. Mr. Wadelton thought it was not necessary to include regulations for matters already covered by state statute. Mr. LaMuniere thought it was important to address situations when salt water or chemically treated hot tub or pool water is discharged near a wetland or watercourse or in a regulated area. Mr. Wadelton suggested this was a matter of educating the public and thought this was a job for the Conservation Commission or Lake Waramaug Association. Mr. Davis thought perhaps the Commission could address this matter by asking at the time an application for a pool or hot tub is being considered, how the discharge would be handled. Mr. LaMuniere suggested the Commission wait until hearing from Atty. Olson before deciding whether to address pool discharge in the Regulations.

Revision of the Regulations

 A public hearing was scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on July 26, 2017. Mrs. Hill will send the draft Regulations to the DEEP for review at least 35 days prior to the hearing.

 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

FILED SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Respectfully submitted,

Janet M. Hill

Land Use Administrator