



Town of Thompson  
Inland Wetlands Commission  
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*Linda Paradise*  
TOWN CLERK / ASST

**MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING**  
**INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2018 6:00 PM**  
**MERRILL SENEY COMMUNITY ROOM - TOWN HALL**

A) Call to Order & Roll Call:

**Meeting was called to order by Chair Jarrett Thomas at 6:44 PM.**

**Roll Call:** Commissioner & Chair Jarrett Thomas, Commissioner & Vice Chair Fran Morano, , Commissioner Diane Chapin, Commissioner Victoria Szamocki, Wetlands Agent Marla Butts and Recording Secretary Diane Minarik.

**Absent:** Commissioner Charles Obert and Commissioner Jasmin Berti

**Others Present:** Janet Blanchette and Jason Lavallee

B) Applications:

a) Old Applications:

- 1) **IWA17037** Lavallee Construction LLC, Donovan Dr., Assessor's Map 3, Block 80, Lot formerly 2, construction of Donovan Drive and Patriots Drive with associated drainage system, cross culvert and storm water discharges in wetlands, watercourses and upland review areas for a 31-Lot subdivision, subdivision and road construction were previously approved by conceptual Subdivision Application Sub #07-09-01, approved 10/9/07 and expired on 10/9/16; received by Wetlands Office 12/4/17, statutory receipt date 12/12/17. Ms. Butts gave an update summary, Janet Blanchette of J&D Civil Engineers and Jason Lavallee, Contractor were present to explain the project and answer questions, Ms. Blanchette gave a summary: the project contains 67 acres of land; 33% of land will be open space which contains most of the wetlands; there will be very few disturbances to wetlands one being a walking trail that will disturb only 50', only one road crossing which is on the cul-de-sac road and will cross an intermittent watercourse, and one lot has a very small handmade watercourse, excavated out of a gravel bank, which was checked back in April of 2007 and it does not support vernal pool habitat or wildlife. The project's sidewalks and a natural trail through the open space, which the Town will own, makes a mile-long walking trail loop so the public can enjoy it along with fishing in the river. There are no catch basins or curbs on the lower sections of Donovan Drive so the run-off can go back into the ground and river, there are storm drainage systems in the upper sections of the project, one system will outlet near a Wet Water Quality Swell Design which will then flow over land back into the aquifer. Per application requirements they submitted a request to DEEP for the National Diversity Data Base info and there is a 300' corridor shown on their maps next to the Quinebaug River for Wood Turtle Habitat, DEEP has certain recommendation that should be implemented on this project to protect that habitat, the best one being to maintain a 100' buffer strip of natural vegetation within the 300' corridor next to the river and to put up 20" high barrier. This project maintains a 200 to 700' buffer and a silt fence barrier will be put on top of the steep slope to the river especially between April 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> which is their active time. Ms. Butts' research on the Wood Turtle shows their breeding habitat to be in fine sandy loam and doesn't think the turtles will breed on the rocky slope, her only area of concern on the project is the far north end of the property but the homes will be up higher. After her site walk and research she doesn't think the turtles are using the area of the subdivision for their habitat, they are using the open space area. They have designed this project with emphasis on storm

water quality not as much quantity because any excess runoff will go into the Quinebaug River which is a large water body with the West Thompson Dam downstream; another proposal on this project is to infiltrate roof runoff which will take out some of the impervious area, during a 100 year storm the increase in runoff to the river went up from 47cfs to 53cfs, so with such a small increase in runoff they didn't feel it was warranted to design a large storm water detention basin which are becoming a maintenance issue for some towns and the storm water quality next to the Quinebaug River was the focus of the design. The size of this project requires a storm water pollution prevention plan which was included in original plans and they will be applying for a storm water discharge general permit. Ms. Butts stated the involvement in wetlands is minimal to the size of the subdivision; wetlands are String Quarter Systems which were hard to identify from a vegetative standpoint; she didn't find anything of value in Ms. Washburn's report, nor did she find a vernal pool on lot 2 or any facile faded wetland species in wetland area J in the open space area that will be crossed.

**Motion to approve IWA17037 as read was made by Commissioner Morano. Seconded by Commissioner Szamocki.** Commissioner Thomas stated as for the protection of the Wood Turtles, the silt fencing at the top of the hill is ok, but bear in mind the other recommended specific protective strategies in the letter from Dawn M. McKay dated 12/8/17 during construction and especially during the applicable phases. **Commissioner Morano amended her motion to include these conditions. Commissioner Szamocki seconded the amendment. Motion passed unanimously**

b) New Applications:

- 1) **DEC18001** Richard Daniotti Jr., 0 West Thompson Rd, Assessor's Map 27, Block 104, Lots 69, 70, 71, 75, 76, 76A & 77, timber harvest with access road upgrade in upland review area, received by Wetlands Office 1/5/18. Joseph Therault, professional forester for this project, was present to explain the project and answer questions, Ms. Butts stated this application is also for an access road and they have submitted releases from the property owners in which this road would cross to hook up with the old historic Bull Hill Rd which was discontinued in Thompson in 1933. Mr. Therault stated Mr. Daniotti has permission from the Wyndham Land Trust to use an area on their property for staging and to utilize an existing wood road which runs parallel to a small wetlands area. Once on Mr. Daniotti property there are 4 separate wetlands and/or stream crossings: 1) SC2 crossing - log corduroy. 2) WC1 - portable bridges & log corduroy. 3) SC1 - portable bridges & log corduroy. 4) - log corduroy possibly a bridge. They will also make improvements to a section of the old historic Bull Hill road riverbed which is in an upland review area by leveling out the road and put a load or two of crushed stone there.

**Motion to approve DEC18001 as read and as use permitted as of right was made by Commissioner Morano. Seconded by Commissioner Chapin. Motion passed unanimously.**

C) Adjournment: **Chair Thomas called to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 PM.**

**Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Morano. Seconded by Commissioner Chapin. Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Diane Minarik*

Diane Minarik  
Recording Secretary  
01-18-18 Minutes IWC Special Meeting