



Town of Thompson
Inland Wetlands Commission
815 Riverside Drive
North Grosvenordale, CT 06255
860-923-1852 (Office) 860-923-9897 (Fax)

RECEIVED
TOWN OF THOMPSON, CT.

2018 MAY 21 A 8:40

Linda Paradise
TOWN CLERK NSST

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2018 7:00 PM
MERRILL SENEY COMMUNITY ROOM - TOWN HALL

A) Call to Order & Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order by Chair Jarrett Thomas at 7:01 PM.

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

Absent: Commissioner Jasmin Berti.

Others Present: None

B) Action on Minutes of Previous Meetings: Copies of the minutes listed below were available for review. Chair Thomas asked if there were any corrections and being none:

a) **Minutes of the 2/13/18 regular meeting was accepted as amended.**

C) Citizen's Comments Pertaining to Agenda Items: None

D) Applications:

a) Old Applications:

- 1) **WAA18004** Joshua T. Foster, 0 Quaddick Town Farm Rd, Assessor's Map 162, Block 11, Lot 12C, construct single family home in upland review area, stamped received by Town Clerk 2/27/18, permit issued 4/5/18, legal notice published 4/13/18, appeal period ended 4/27/18, no appeals – final.
- 2) **WAA18005** 650 Associates, LLC, 0 Riverside Dr. Assessor's Map 63, Block 58, Lot 15, 15AA, 15P-15Z, gravel excavation in upland review area, stamped received by Wetlands Office 3/9/18, permit issued 4/16/18, legal notice published 4/27/18, appeal period ends 5/11/18, no appeals to date.

b) New Applications:

- 1) **WAA18006** Jon Nolle, 198 Ravenelle Rd, Assessor's Map 23, Block 105, Lot 28E, construct a 24'x25' garage on a concrete slab in upland review area, received by Wetlands Office 4/16/18, permit issued 4/24/18, legal notice published 5/4/18, appeal period ends 5/18/18, no appeals to date.
- 2) **DEC18007** Bernard Davis, 54 Blain Rd, Assessor's Map 63, Block 98, Lot 6, construct 8'x24' addition to existing garage in 100' upland review area for maintenance and enjoyment of residential home, stamped received by Town Clerk 4/25/18, Mr. Davis is present to answer any questions, Ms. Butts showed photos and pointed out a wet area she believes not to be a vernal pool, there's no chance of sediment getting into the wetlands because a stone wall is between the work area and the wetlands so no silt fence is required, all required info has been submitted.

Motion to approve DEC18007 as read, was made by Commissioner Obert.

Seconded by Commissioner Morano. Motion passed unanimously.

c) Applications Received After Agenda was Published: None

E) Permit Extensions / Changes:

- a) **WAA16020** Dan Julian, President of Thompson Rail Business Park, LLC, 307 Reardon Rd, Assessor's Map 65, Block 101, Lot 6, expand excavation/mining in 100-foot upland review area beyond that authorized by permit 07-06-04. Requesting transfer to Strategic Commercial Realty Inc., stamped received by Town Clerk 3/29/18, Ms. Butts updated the Commission on current conditions,

Motion to approve transfer of permit WAA16020 as read, was made by Commissioner Obert. Seconded by Commissioner Morano. Motion passed unanimously.

F) Active Violations & Pending Enforcement Actions:

- a) **IWA14019** Norman Rudzinski, 0 Labby Road, Assessor's Map 95, Block 27, Lot 17, excavating/gravel mining in upland review area, submitted on 8/8/14, receipt date 8/12/14, inspection in June 2017 found inadequate sediment controls and grading activity in the upland review area beyond what is shown on the approved plan, on 4/9/18 Ms. Butts got keys to gain access to the property for an inspection, Mrs. Rudzinski was behind her, gravel mining permit has been renewed and new operator is Chuck Ceppetelli, the old operator went onto Phase 2 area to take good material without permission, Ms. Butts found inadequate erosion controls. Mrs. Rudzinski stated this spring they discovered that a beaver had blocked Owen Adams Rd culvert which flooded the wetlands 3-4 feet high, they recently unplugged the culvert and had to top dress Rich Rd with stone. Ms. Butts stated luckily Owen Adams Rd didn't appear to have washed out but it did need some erosion sediment controls, she explained to Mr. Ceppetelli what controls were needed and he contacted her when it was done, Ms. Butts attempted to inspect the work today but the gate was locked.
- b) **VIOL17017** Linden O'Leary, President of Quaddick Mountain Resorts Inc., Assessor's Map 143, Block 16, Lots 17, 17AK, 17AL, 17AM & 17AN, violation issued on 5/8/17, the second 90-day extension expired 11/21/17, Ms. Butts showed photos taken in April of retaining walls and a steep slope with erosion probably caused by roof drains, she contacted Mr. O'Leary with concerns in the length of time and the embankment erosion, Mr. O'Leary first denied doing any work and asked what's the problem there's no siltation going into lake. Ms. Butts reminded him the properties are in the upland review area and he needs to get approvals to do work there, and she is concerned with the embankment. He stated he would go out and check and she hasn't heard back from him to date. The photos taken today show more erosion on the embankment, grass behind the lower retaining wall but no grass behind the upper wall, no evidence of stone moving on very steep road. Ms. Butts has been waiting almost a year for the purposed plans for a Wetlands Agent Approval and they have done work in the upland review area without an approval. A discussion ensued on the Commissions options for their next step; Ms. Butts is to contact NDDH for likelihood of septic system approval and send a letter to Quaddick Mountain Resorts Inc. stating they must comply by the June 12, 2018 meeting or possible Show Cause Hearing in July.
- c) **Complaint 16-04** Urgel & Fahey Lapierre, 0 & 533 Brandy Hill Rd, Assessor's Map 143, Block 17, Lot 7 & 7-7, drainage problems related to activities at 533 Brandy Hill Rd, open swell to be restored by 12/3/17, status of complaint – no letters received and nothing further done.
- d) **Notice of Violation on permit IWA17001** Madison Avenue Investments, LLC. 0 Madison Ave and Thompson Rd (a.k.a. Route 193), Assessor's Map 103, Block 31, Lot 6R, failure to install and maintain adequate erosion and sediment controls, notice of violation sent 2/13/18, on 2/27/18 Ms. Butts received a response to the NOV via email from the Engineer, stating the steps already taken and that they will be installing stone check dams every 15

feet west of the currently paved portion of Madison Ave to Rt. 193 and silt sacks (witches hats) in the existing catch basins, and will remove accumulated sediment from catch basins and wetlands by Rt. 193. She was advised sediment was vacuumed from catch basins and wetlands on 2/28/18, on 3/16/18 she requested Mr. Meehan inspect the site weekly and within 24 hours of all storm events to check function of controls and immediately make repairs to any failing controls. On 4/9/18 Ms. Butts inspected the site and found significant amount of stone had been placed along Rt. 193 and the 30" cross culvert on Rt. 193 and the downstream channel were relatively clear of sediment, among other things, they have adequately addressed the violation.

G) Other Business:

- a) FY 18-19 Budget Proposal Update – no cut to IWC budget, 1.85% increase is for salary, non-union employees usually receive same increase that union employees get, this year no increase in budget for Recording Secretary, Commission will ask for an increase, they feel their Recording Secretary is doing a great job and doesn't want to lose her.
- b) Discussion on handling public comment – Atty. Byrne's concern with "public comment on agenda items" is a Public Meeting could turn into an illegal Public Hearing, a discussion ensued, Ms. Butts gave the Commission a handout IWC Laws & Regulations.
- c) Election of Officers:
 - Motion to re-elect Commissioner Thomas as Chairman was made by Commissioner Morano. Seconded by Commissioner Chapin.**
 - Motion to re-elect Commissioner Morano as Vice Chairman was made by Commissioner Thomas. Seconded by Commissioner Chapin.**
 - Motion to re-elect Commissioner Obert as Treasurer was made by Commissioner Thomas. Seconded by Commissioner Szamocki.**
 - Motion to approve the Slate of Officers was made by Commissioner Morano. Seconded by Commissioner Obert. Motion passed unanimously.**

H) Reports:

- a) Budget & Expenditures: Wetlands Budget for Fiscal Year 2017–2018 (Results of Fiscal Reporting 7/1/17 – 4/30/18) Commissioner Obert stated that the Commission has used 74.1% overall of its budget.
- b) Wetlands Agent Report: March – May 8, 18
 - Updates:
 - Status of Court Appeal on Application IWA15029, River Junction Estates, LLC – On February 22, 2018 the trial was completed. Since then post trial briefs/memoranda and rebuttal brief have been filed. Currently awaiting a court decision.
 - MS4 Annual Report & Follow Up Actions– Ms. Butts finalized the MS4 annual report and assisted the Selectman's Office to ensure it was submitted to DEEP and posted on the town's website as required and worked with the Selectman's Office to get a contract established for developing a written Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) program. She is currently working on contracts for the required outfall monitoring in the watershed of impaired waters and the screening program for storm drain outfalls in the 2000 urbanized area.
 - Pre-1990 File Destruction Plan – Since the February 2018 records disposal authorization from the State Library, Ms. Butts has purged application files through 1985 and transferred some records to building office where appropriate. Details on these records are documented for future reference in an Excel spreadsheet entitled *Pre-1990 total IW Application Ascending.xls* located with the Wetlands Office files on the town's server.

Inspections/Follow-Up Actions:

- IWA17001, Madison Avenue Investments, LLC. – discussed under Agenda Item F.d..
- Permit 09-07-01, Vipin Agarwal, 291 Buckley Hill Rd. (Assessor's reference 83/49/7C) – After receiving a copy of a NOV issued by the Thompson ZEO on 4/16/18 regarding a trailer on the property, Ms. Butts conducted an inspection on 4/23/18 and found that a driveway had been constructed from Buckley Hill Road with an RV placed at the foot of the driveway and a shed placed behind the trailer. Upon further research of the Building Office files Ms. Butts found a driveway permit and a copy of Permit 09-07-01 issued to the prior property owner Vipin Agarwal to construct a new home on the property. On 4/24/18 Ms. Butts sent a letter to the new owners Stephanie Simas and Wayne Witherell advising them that the permit will expire on 9/9/18 and before any extension could be granted they would have to obtain a transfer of the permit. They were sent a copy of the permit, approved drawing showing the location of wetlands and permit transfer form and advised them not to do any work in wetlands. Currently it appears that the shed and RV are located within wetlands mapped in the approved permit drawings. If Ms. Butts doesn't hear from them within the next several weeks she will issue a notice of violation regarding the unauthorized activities on the property.

Wetlands Agent Approvals: discussed under Agenda Item D.

Building Permits Reviewed: There were 10 building permits reviewed – (1) 39 Parkway Dr, (2) 198 Ravenelle Rd, (3) 3 Rachel Dr, (4) 44 Parkway Dr, (5) 2 Shady Lane, (6) 67 Ravenelle Rd, (7) 29 Valley Rd (8) 37 Hillside Ave, (9) 0 Druid Ave, (10) 31 Jensen Dr.

Miscellaneous:

- UConn Student Projects: Reardon Road Pocket Park / Langers Pond Dam Inundation Mapping – UConn students have contacted Ms. Butts looking for information on site conditions for a small town owned piece of property on Reardon Road for a small "pocket park" and information on French River flows to develop a dam breach analysis and inundation map for Town owned Langers Pond Dam. Ms. Butts advised Selectman Beausoleil a soil scientist would need to flag the wetlands and seek approvals from the Commission before developing a Pocket Park. DEEP sent a notice requiring the dam be inspected by 12/31/18 by a professional engineer licensed to practice in Connecticut and to submit a report to DEEP by 3/15/19.
- USACOE Blackmer Farm Agricultural Lease at West Lake – US Army Corps of Engineers were looking for input on applicable wetlands permitting requirements needed for a renew of lease of land to Blackmer Farm for agricultural use on the West Lake flood control land. Ms. Butts advised them the farming activity is allowed under the Connecticut Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act as a use permitted as of right and no permit is required to continue the farming activity.
- Town of Thompson Facebook Page – The Town of Thompson has a Facebook page now, anyone can create a post for the page which will be held pending approval from Marie or Renee or email the info to either Marie (selectmensoffice@thompsonct.org) or Renee (townclerk@thompsonct.org) and they will post it for you.
- Thames River Basin Partnership (TRBP) is Looking for Partners – Jean Pillo, the TRBP coordinator, sent a letter explaining the function of the TRBP and is looking to increase the number of partners at the table. The meet & greet meetings have already passed but there is an opportunity to participate in the TRBP Floating Workshop (see the letter).

Purchase Requisitions Status: Paid \$154.35 and encumbered \$30.00 for Stonebridge Press for legal notices.

- I) Correspondence:
 - a) Connecticut Wildlife, Jan/Feb 2018
 - b) Re-appointment letter for H. Charles Obert, term to expire 3/15/23
 - c) Re-appointment letter for Jasmin Berti, term to expire 3/15/23 – she will be submitting a resignation letter, her husband is now on 2nd shift and with young children she cannot attend evening meetings.
 - d) Received letter from concerned citizen on 3/12/18 – Chair Thomas read letter.
 - e) Sustainable CT Lunch & Learn Program, Thursday 4/19/18 11:30AM - 12:30PM
 - f) Roseland Lake Management Plan, received 4/3/18
 - g) The Habitat – Winter/Spring 2018
 - h) Notice of Tentative Determination to Approve NPDES Permit Renewal, Received 4/30/18
- J) Signing of Mylars: None
- K) Comments by Commissioners: Commissioner Obert saw a backhoe by a small stream which flows under the road at 369 Quaddick Rd – Ms. Butts will check it out
- L) Adjournment: **Chair Thomas called to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM.**
Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Morano. Seconded by Commissioner Obert. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Minarik

Diane Minarik
Recording Secretary
05-08-18 Minutes IWC Regular Meeting