

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.

2014 JAN 16 A 10:59

Cyle F. Murphy, Jr.
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2014, 7:00 PM
MERRILL SENEY COMMUNITY ROOM- TOWN HALL

A) Call to Order & Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Morano at 7:01 PM.

Roll Call: Commissioner and Vice Chair Steven Baranow, Commissioner and Chairperson Fran Morano, Commissioner H. Charles Obert, Commissioner and Treasurer Howard Peck, Commissioner Ron Tillen, Wetlands Agent, Marla Butts and Recording Secretary, Patricia Lacasse.

Absent: Commissioner Donald Hoenig II.

Others Present: Norman Rudzinski and Jason Lavallee.

B) Action on Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Wetlands Agent, Marla Butts requested a correction to the minutes as follows: "Public hearing was opened by Chairperson Morano to consider Permit Application #IWA13018 by the Town of Thompson to alter inland wetlands and watercourses and perform work in upland review areas for *the construction of new sewer lines and reconstruction of an existing main sewer line on properties owned by*"

Motion to accept the Special Meeting Minutes of the December 9, 2013, meeting, with corrections, made by Commissioner Obert. Seconded by Commissioner Tillen. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of the December 10, 2013, meeting, as presented, made by Commissioner Peck. Seconded by Commissioner Tillen. Motion passed unanimously.

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

D) Pending Applications:

a) Permits:

- 1) Application #IWA13018, Application #IWA13018, Town of Thompson to alter inland wetlands and watercourses and perform work in upland review areas for the construction of new sewer lines and the reconstruction of existing main sewer lines on properties owned by (1) Trinity Foundation Inc., Assessor's Reference Map 105, Block 38, Lot 1-MC3, (2) Marion of the Immaculate Conception, Assessor's Reference Map 105, Block 38, Lot 1A, and (3) State of Connecticut beginning on Route 12 near its intersection with I-395 Exit 98 east into the Marianapolis Preparatory School. Submitted October 7, 2013. Receipt date October 8, 2013.

- (i) Acceptance of Notes of December 9, 2013, Public Hearing. – Commissioner Obert stated that he would like to have a copy of the original, now expired, permit for the Marianapolis Preparatory School file.

Motion to accept the Notes of the December 9, 2013, Public Hearing, as presented, made by Commissioner Obert. Seconded by Commissioner Tillen. Motion passed unanimously.

- (ii) Render decision on application.

Motion to approve Application #IWA13018, Town of Thompson, having exhausted any and all feasible and prudent alternatives, made by Commissioner Obert, with discussion. Seconded by Commissioner Tillen.

Discussion by Commissioners regarding wetland impacts, feasible and prudent alternatives and special permit conditions.

Amended motion to approve Application #IWA13018, Town of Thompson, having exhausted any and all feasible and prudent alternatives, made by Commissioner Obert, with special conditions: 1) While trenching through the wetland crossing over the "farm dump", unearth and remove any hazardous material 2) take all necessary precautions to ensure that there is no contamination to all the wetlands during construction and 3) notify the Inland Wetland Commission 72 hours before digging trenches and horizontal boring for inspection. Seconded by Commissioner Tillen. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Wetlands Agent Approvals:

- 1) Application #WAA12012, Todd Poulin, 257 Reardon Rd., (Assessor's reference 63/101/4B), construction of a 40' X 46' barn in the upland review area. Submitted March 26, 2012. – Ms. Butts and Commissioner Obert visited the site yesterday and met with Mrs. Poulin and inspected the embankment behind the barn. She stated that there are no signs of soil structural movement in the embankment and there was no indication of cracking in the foundation. They had put in flexible drainage hose from the back of the garage all the way to the wetlands to help with any erosion issues and there did not appear to be active erosion at this time. She recommended that this application be approved as it stands and indicated she will approve it and publish the notice.
- 2) WAA13020, Bruno Gilbert, 0 Greene Acres Rd., #2, (Assessor's reference) 15/71/DD), to construct a residential home. Submitted November 11, 2013. – Ms. Butts is still waiting for a document.

c) Declaratory Rulings – None.

E) New Applications Pending Receipt Date (includes those received after agenda publication:

- a) Application #IWA14001, Jason Lavallee, 83 Rich Rd., (Assessor's reference 116/27/12Q), to (1) upgrade existing wetland crossing by replacing existing broken and clogged pipe with new 15 inch plastic culvert, raising driveway by 2 feet and widening driveway by 5 feet and (2) construction of a 50' by 80' garage and associated grading within upland review area. Submitted January 2, 2014. Receipt date January 14, 2014. – Jason Lavallee was present for discussion and to answer any questions. He presented photos of the broken pipe from one of the culverts and stated that the other culvert stays dry in the summer. He further stated that he needs to replace the pipe and fix the driveway to make it safer. Ms. Butts stated that the wetlands have been delineated but she does not know who did the survey. The Commission

asked him to stake out the area where they intend to construct the garage for a site walk on February 8, 2014.

F) Permits Extensions/Changes – None.

G) Active Violations & Pending Enforcement Actions:

- a) #VIOL12023 issued August 7, 2012, to Charles Paquette, Terrace Dr., and (Assessor's reference 103/40/6N).

Motion made by Commissioner Tillen, to approve the development of a stipulated court judgment based on the plans submitted by Charles Paquette for consideration for the Commission's review and approval. Seconded by Commissioner Obert. Some discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

H) Other Business:

- a) Old Business – Letter from DEEP to Mary Ann Chinatti dated October 29, 2013, regarding "Review of Thompson's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance". – Ms. Butts reviewed the recommended reviews with the Commission further stating that the primary item is that they are adding information called "Base Flood Elevations" which refers to the elevation of the crest of the base flood or 100-year flood. The height in relation to mean sea level expected to be reached by the waters of the base flood at pertinent points in the floodplains of coastal and riverine areas.

b) New Business:

- 1) Planning and Zoning Commission Workshop by Attorney Steve Byrne on January 27, 2014. – Ms. Butts urged the Commissioners to attend the workshop.
- 2) IWC Budget Worksheets due by January 27, 2014. – The Commission agreed to the following changes to the budget: 1) move \$200.00 from the Travel account to Professional Services and 2) move \$300.00 from the Advertising account to Professional Services for a total of \$600.00 in the Professional Services account.

I) Reports:

- a) Budget & Expenditures: Wetlands Budget for End of Fiscal Year 2013 and 2014 (Results of Fiscal Reporting July 2012 through December 2013) – Commissioner Peck stated that the Commission used 48.4% overall of its budget.
- b) Wetlands Agent Report – Ms. Butts read her written report.
 - 1) Updates: Grading behind the Knights of Columbus – On December 30, 2013, Ms. Butts inspected the conditions on the town property behind the Knights of Columbus and found the site continuing to erode into the riprap line drainage ditch that discharges into North Grosvenordale Pond. A line of hay bales had been placed along the edge of disturbance at the upper half of the ditch that failed to extend to the toe of the disturbed slope. Sediment was found in the ditch as well as sandwiched between ice on the pond. She sent an email to 1st Selectmen Paul Lenky on the same day notifying him of the problem accompanied by photographs taken at the time of inspection. Mr. Lenky stated that he could not find a contract between the Town of Thompson and the Knights of Columbus. The Commission instructed Ms. Butts to send a letter to the Town of Thompson, the Knights of Columbus and the contractor hired for the construction instructing them that they must use the proper erosion and sediment controls.

- 2) Inspections/Follow-Up Actions: Complaint #13-10 Grading on and around Rich Road – On December 30, 2013, following an anonymous complaint that old Rich Road had been blocked by logging and grading activities, Ms. Butts visited the site with ZEO John Mahon and met with Norman Rudzinski at Rich Road which abuts his property. In July of last year the Commission approved a timber harvest on Mr. Rudzinski's property that borders Rich Road and Owen Adams Road. On September 16, 2013, Ms. Butts checked on the timber harvest and found no evidence of erosion or sedimentation problems. She further stated that when she viewed the properties on December 30, 2013, she found that significant grading work had occurred, not only within Mr. Rudzinski's property, but also on Rich Road and Owen Adams Road. Also, Owen Adams Road had been top dressed with gravel material that appeared to have come from Mr. Rudzinski's property. Additionally, the grade of Rich Road from Owens Adams Road had been raised with similar gravel material for a distance of about 200 feet and fill had been graded into the adjoining wetlands. Finally, an access road had been graded into Mr. Rudzinski's property from Rich Road and the grading activities in and around Rich Road was causing eroding sediments from the disturbed areas to flow unobstructed towards the wetlands. Also, at the time of inspection, there was no sediment plume found in the wetlands on either side of Rich Road. Ms. Butts explained that this is a complicated matter in that the wetlands and watercourses have been altered and work has been performed in the upland review area on town owned property without the town's permission and without Inland Wetlands Commission approval. She further stated that she is of the opinion, that based upon her conversations with Mr. Rudzinski, Christian Kruger, the forester of the timber harvest, and Michael Bartlett of Hull Products that the top dressing of Owen Adams Road and grading and filling work on Rich Road were performed by Mr. Rudzinski, if not personally then at his direction, most likely to facilitate the removal of gravel from his property. - Norman Rudzinski was present for discussion and to answer any questions. After much discussion, Mr. Rudzinski admitted that after Thanksgiving Pyne Sand and Gravel of Douglas MA. (i.e. Pyne Sand and Stone Landscape Materials) worked with him to sort gravel from his property and top dressed Owens Adams Road and Rich Road to assist in removal of gravel by Pyne.. Ms. Butts stated that she will issue a notice of violation to Mr. Rudzinski for having done work within an upland review area and within wetlands, based upon the top dressing of the roads, to install erosion and sedimentation control to protect the wetlands from any further siltation, to cease any other grading work that is within 100 feet from wetlands and watercourses, to develop a plan to remediate the damage in the wetlands along Rich Road that have been filled and address the culverting issue on Rich Road and that there be no replacement of the culvert on Owen Adams Road without a permit from the Inland Wetlands Commission.

J) Correspondence:

- a) Connecticut Wildlife Magazine, November/December 2013 Issue.
- b) Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc., Request for Annual Support for 2014-2015 in the Amount of \$1,000.00 and Annual Report.

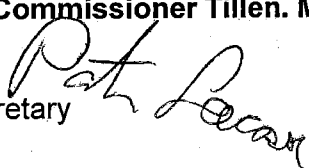
K) Signing of Mylars – None.

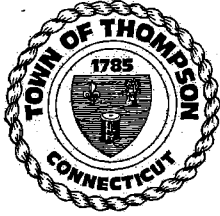
L) Comments by Commission – None.

M) Adjournment:

Chairperson Morano called to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 PM. Motion made by Commissioner Obert to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Tillen. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Lacasse – Recording Secretary
01-14-2014 Regular Meeting Minutes IWC





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

NOTES of PUBLIC HEARING
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2013, 7:00 PM
LIBRARY IN ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
26 CHASE ROAD
MARIANAPOLIS PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Morano at 7:08 PM.

Following the role call Chairperson Morano opened the public hearing by reading a hearing introduction for the record (copy attached to these hearing notes). Chairperson Morano explained that pursuant to the Inland Wetlands Commission's regulations and state law, the Commission cannot issue a permit unless it finds on the basis of the record that a feasible and prudent alternative does not exist; that a "feasible" alternative is one that is able to be constructed or implemented consistent with sound engineering principles, and "prudent" means economically and otherwise reasonable in light of the social benefits to be derived from the proposed regulated activity, and that cost may be considered in deciding what is prudent but that a mere showing of expense will not necessarily being an alternative is imprudent. At her request Thompson's Wetlands Agent, Marla Butts offered the following exhibits for the record:

- Exhibit A1: Application form #IWA13018 signed by 1st Selectman Larry Groh for the Town of Thompson as applicant and signed by Paul LaFramboise, Director MPS/Trinity as consent of landowner, including a list of property owners and a cover letter introducing existing conditions dated October 7, 2013 signed by Robert C. Russo, Soil Scientist all stamped received October 7, 2013.
- Exhibit A2: Map entitled "Perimeter Survey Plan prepared for Marianapolis Preparatory School, Inc. #293 & #327 Thompson Hill Road, Thompson, CT Re-Subdivision Plan" prepared by CME Associates, Inc., dated October 21, 2009, revised 10/27/09.
- Exhibit A3: Aerial photograph with color lines on it entitled "Town of Thompson, Connecticut-Water Pollution Control Authority Marianapolis Preparatory School, Sewer Extension Aerial Plan" prepared by CLA Engineers, Inc. (1 sheet) containing written note stating submitted at Inland Wetlands Commission meeting of 10/8/2013.
- Exhibit A4: Site plans entitled "Marianapolis Preparatory School, Sewer Extension Plans prepared for the Town of Thompson Water Pollution Control Authority" prepared by CLA Engineers, Inc. (14 sheets) stamped received October 7, 2013.
- Exhibit A5: Letter of Transmittal dated 11/23/13 signed by Robert DeLuca forwarding copies of modified documents by hand from CLA Engineers, Inc., stamped received November 26, 2013.

- Exhibit A6: Revised drawings entitled "Marianapolis Preparatory School, Sewer Extension Plans prepared for the Town of Thompson Water Pollution Control Authority" prepared by CLA Engineers, Inc. (14 sheets) dated October 1, 2013, revised November 4, 2013, revised November 18, 2013, and stamped received November 26, 2013.
- Exhibit A7: Modified list of abutters with copies of signed receipts from U.S. Post Office, stamped received November 26, 2013.
- Exhibit A8: Hydraulic Report prepared by Kyle J. Haubert, PE of CLA Engineers, Inc., dated November 22, 2013, stamped received November 26, 2013.
- Exhibit A9: Letter dated November 21, 2013 from Robert C. Russo, Soil Scientist, of CLA Engineers, Inc., containing a listing of alternative's considered with 2 drawings stamped received November 26, 2013.
- Exhibit A10: Letter dated November 25, 2013 from Kyle J. Haubert, PE of CLA Engineers, Inc., providing a summary of modifications contained in the November 18, 2013 revised site plans.
- Exhibit A11: Letter dated November 21, 2013 to Robert C. Russo of CLA Engineers, Inc. from Dawn M. McKay, Environmental Analyst 3, DEEP NDDDB Determination No: 201305924 stating the proposed activities will not impact any extant populations of federal or state endangered, threatened or special concern species that occur in that the city of this property, stamped received November 26, 2013.
- Exhibit A12: Letter dated November 25, 2013 signed by Robert C. Russo of CLA Engineers, Inc., revising his prior letter of October 7, 2013 regarding existing conditions stamped received November 26, 2013.
- Exhibit B: Copy of Legal Notice of Public Hearing published in the Thompson Villager on November 29, 2013 (Page B5).
- Exhibit C: Copy of Legal Notice of Public Hearing published in the Thompson Villager on December 6, 2013 (Page B3).
- Exhibit D: Consent Order (Order No. WC5129) entered into by the Town of Thompson with the State of Connecticut, Department of Environmental Protection to address inadequate subsurface sewage disposal systems in the Thompson Hill area, and issued as a final decision on March 24, 1994 (6 pages).
- Exhibit E: Copy of a request to the Stonebridge Press to publish Legal Notice for Public Hearing dated November 13, 2013, which accompanied exhibits A1 through A12 that were available for public viewing in the Town Clerk's office prior to the hearing.
- Exhibit F: Letter dated December 5, 2013 from new 1st Selectmen, Paul A. Lenky, stating the designation of Robert Deluca to represent the Town of Thompson as its agent to provide testimony and offer additional documentation and/or other expert witnesses to support the Town's application.

Both Robert Deluca and Robert C. Russo of CLA Engineering, Inc., were present to review the application and the plans.

Mr. Deluca provided a brief history. In 1993 the Town of Thompson was ordered by the DEP to extend sewers to the Thompson Hill area. In 1994 the town entered into a consent order with DEP to abate the pollution problems. The consent order was intended to provide for studies of possible solutions and multiple studies were performed. The studies at the time determined that the best solution was for the failing systems be connected to the municipal sewer system. Several referendums were defeated. The matter was referred to the State Attorney General's



Office and there was an agreement that additional studies would be provided and he believed were done in 2004 and 2007. That is the situation with the town's consent order.

With respect to Marianapolis Preparatory School, it had a permit for an individual sewer system that is regulated by the DEEP and that permit has lapsed. DEEP has not enforced that permit with the understanding that the school is moving forward with a solution.

He explained that the plan is a proposal to extend the municipal sewer system from the town at the Route 12 intersection cross country to the school. The extension has 2 purposes: 1) to provide an immediate connection to the school and 2) to provide a future connection for the town. Referencing maps containing aerial photography showing the layout of the proposed sewer lines, property lines, wetlands and existing roadways he stated that the school has an existing system which consists of septic tanks with sewer lines in place to pipe the sewage to an open lagoon area. He explained what is proposed is to disconnect the septic tanks and replace the existing piping to the lagoon and continue cross country and then in a directional horizontal bore under Route I-395 and Exit 98 to the existing sewage system at Route 12. Along the route there are 2 wetlands crossings downstream of the lagoons and there is also a wetland crossing behind the tennis courts at the school.

Mr. Deluca stated the alternatives considered were: (1) to take no action, which does not provide a solution to the situation, (2) continue on-site disposal system, which based on the in depth studies performed in the past the on-site soils are too restrictive for this use and is not considered to be feasible, and (3) to connect to the existing sewer line at Route 12 by West Thompson Road (Route 193) with no wetlands crossings at a cost of \$2.5 million or connect to the existing sewer line at Route 12 by a cross country route with 2 wetlands crossings at a cost of \$1.9 million. He further stated that the most prudent alternative would be the connection to the Route 12 sewer line by the cross country route through the school property and under Route I-395, which would have minimal wetland impact at a cost savings of approximately \$600,000.00 over the East Thompson Road route.

At this point Mr. Deluca turned the discussion over to Soil Scientist Robert Russo and the maps Mr. DeLuca referred to during this discussion were entitled "Town of Thompson, Connecticut – Water Pollution Control Authority, Marianapolis Preparatory School, Sewer Extension Aerial Plan" prepared by CLA Engineers, Inc. (3 sheets) dated 12/9/13 were collectively entered into the record as Exhibit G.

Mr. Russo stated his credentials for statements included his certification as soil scientist and certified in erosion and sediment control. He reviewed in detail the impact to the wetlands by the proposed plan. He first explained that the soils on the Marianapolis property are dense glacial till, which has a high content of fine material, are compact, the permeability is very slow and not suited for a larger on-site disposal facility. This is why there is an existing problem with the current system on site and other systems on Thompson Hill. The soils are very much a limiting factor here for on-site sewage disposal, eliminating that as a feasible alternative.

Referring to Exhibit G he stated that between I-395 and that part of the campus that is developed there are some large wetlands systems that are predominately forested swamps - that is they are wooded swamps dominated by red maple with skunk cabbage in the understory typical of red Maple swamp's. The functions are of a typical red maple swamp providing wildlife habitat, in cases where there is runoff from the highway or local roads they take up sediments and nutrients removing them from the surface water. There are also areas where there is interaction between the surface water and the ground water. In this case however these wetlands have perched water tables due to the high density of the soils in the area.



The wetlands that are along the edge of the school campus, by and large, have been subject to grading and dumping in places and have been impacted in the past. He further stated that one of the wetlands that is going to come into play is near the tennis courts (referring to wetlands crossing temporary disturbance on the drawing). This wetland has a discharge pipe, which drains run-off from other parts of the campus with roads and playing fields around it. It has had grading activities in the past.

The area by the existing septic lagoons has been extensively altered by grading, the lagoons were dug out and a channel was created around the lagoons. Further down from the lagoon area is a 2nd wetland crossing with a channelized watercourse coming down from the area of the septic lagoons, which was graded during the development of the lagoons. This area is vegetated with almost exclusively Japanese Knotweed, which is an invasive species.

Mr. Russo stated following further down along the property near the corner of sewer line there is a "farm dump" which contains glass and some metal pans and other debris.

Finally, from the end of the property nearest to Route I-395 there is going to be horizontal boring underneath the highway and there would be temporary wetland impact along Route 12 where they would tie into the exiting sewer line. The sewer line at this location is beneath the road, which will have to be dug up and a leak off reconstructed to fix some of the erosion in that area.

The wetland areas to be altered are small parts of a larger wetlands system that are along the edge of the previously developed areas and have experienced some disturbance. The wetlands do serve some of the typical wetland functions. However, those functions are limited because of the previous development and disturbance within those wetlands.

Mr. Russo then discussed the wetland alterations individually.

Referring to Sheet 1 of Exhibit G to the area noted as "Wetlands Crossing Temporary Disturbance" Mr. Russo stated the sewer line would go through the wetlands as a temporary disturbance; the soils would be removed and stockpiled on the side, the sewer installed and the soils replaced sequentially with the wetland topsoil on top and seeded allowing the wetland to return to much like what it is today.

Referring to Sheet 2 of Exhibit G to the area noted as "Existing Sewer to Be Replaced with New PVC Sewer Main along the Same Routing" Mr. Russo stated that in reviewing the plans in the past week they noted that an existing sewer line was to be replaced in upland review area, which previously had been not noted in the application documents. This is an additional 9400 ft.² of work in an upland review area; it is not a wetlands fill. Plans to specify proper erosion and sedimentation controls will be used.

Referring to Sheet 2 of Exhibit G to the area noted as "Permanent Wetlands Disturbance: 2-30" RCP Culvert Crossing with Gravel Access Drive & Sewer Pipe Installation (760 S.F. Perm. Disturbance)" Mr. Russo stated past the lagoon area, past the clear open area into the woods there is a crossing of the watercourse for the sewer line and to provide an access driveway for any sewer line maintenance. There needs to be a permanent crossing for future access. The engineering report provided by Kyle J. Haubert, PE of CLA Engineers, Inc. (see Exhibit A8) contains an analysis showing that the 2 proposed pipes have been sized such that in a 25-year storm event the crossing will not be overtopped. This crossing is placed at the narrowest part of the wetlands in the channel incised in old fill and is designed to minimize the area of impact. This area is a 760 square foot area of permanent disturbance.



Referring to Sheet 2 of Exhibit G to the area noted as (Permanent Wetland Disturbance: Gravel Access Drive & Sewer Pipe Installation (360 S.F. Perm. Disturbance)" Mr. Russo stated in a similar vein further out along that proposed access area there is an additional 360 square foot area of disturbance to cross another small area of wetland which is being crossed at a narrow point.

Down at Route 12 there is temporary disturbance along the edge of the wetland but that will be restored back to the slope that it exists at today.

He further stated that the plans were laid out with best management plan practices with sedimentation and erosion controls in place and any dewatering needed is detailed in the plans would be accomplished outside of the wetlands.

Mr. Russo referred to his letter of November 21, 2013 (see Exhibit A9) discussing alternatives. He concluded his testimony that the proposal before the commission is the most feasible and prudent alternative. An on-site alternative that utilizes the soils on site is not feasible using sound engineering practices as the on-site soils do not have the capacity to handle an on-site system as needed. The only other alternative was to hook up the school up to the sewer line on Route 12. There were 2 ways to do that. One was to bring a sewer line down East Thompson Road and another was to bring a sewer line cross country. The cost difference between those two alternatives is about \$600,000 for the cross country alignment being the cheaper option. The impact for the cross country option is a few hundred square feet of permanent wetlands impact and a few thousand square feet of temporary wetlands impact. At the temporary wetland impact locations are areas that don't contribute a lot to the function of those wetlands and he opined in fact when they are done they will continue to contribute in much the same way as they contribute now. The effects on the wetlands have been minimized and there is a very real cost difference but in his opinion is not a measurable savings in impact to the wetlands utilizing the East Thompson Rd. alternative.

Commissioner Obert asked about the details on tying in the new sewer line to the existing line on Route 12. From looking at the drawings he was not clear on how this was going to be done. Mr. Deluca then outlined this area on the drawing for clarification explaining how the new sewer line was to make a bend and connect with the existing sewer at Route 12.

Commissioner Tillen commented that they didn't mention any need for dealing with ledge rock and asked if there was any blasting. Mr. Deluca stated that they drilled 20 borings in the area and they only hit ledge in 1 boring down about 15 feet and that there is always the possibility of some ledge there, but predominantly, there isn't any ledge and that they found mostly boulders and soils. Chairperson Morano asked if their boring machine is able to handle any ledge if encountered, and Mr. Deluca stated that the boring rig is equipped to handle any ledge. Commissioner Morano asked "Then no blasting is required?" Mr. Deluca stated, correct, but that doesn't mean that there won't be any outcroppings and that they bore about every 200 feet; there may be some ledge but from what they have encountered there wasn't any.

Ms. Butts asked if they would explain what the difference is between the original drawings, (see Exhibit A4) and the ones that replaced them (see Exhibit A6), and to identify the changes for the Commission. She further explained that one change was making the second wetland crossing area, where the "farm dump" is, and changing it from a temporary to a permanent impact area and to explain this to the Commission. Mr. Russo explained that the purpose for the 2 permanent crossings is to gain access to the sewer lines along Route I-395 during any season for maintenance to the sewer lines. Also, the crossing with the old "farm dump" needed to have gravel placed over the area so that they can drive equipment over a sound base and not dump



debris. Ms. Butts asked about the work added by the maintenance barn / the basketball / tennis courts and asked him to explain why this is necessary. Mr. Deluca explained that they determined that the distance from the community wells on site wasn't far enough. And in order to be 75 feet from two wells located near the tennis and basketball courts they had to move the pipe on the plan and ultimately need to cross the wetlands.

Wetlands Agent Butts read her written report for the record (see Exhibit H – Memo from Wetlands Agent, Marla Butts to the Thompson Inland Wetlands Commission, dated December 9, 2013, review of application with copy of her credentials.)

Following Ms. Butts testimony Chair Morano asked if any of the public had questions or comments.

Valerie Clark (not signed in) asked how the site for the hearing was selected. Ms. Butts stated that because of past history of sewers on Thompson Hill having been controversial it was thought that it was possible that this proceeding would also be controversial. It was decided that the hearing should be held on a night that was different from the regularly scheduled wetlands Inland Wetlands Commission meeting, which is tomorrow night. Unable to find a place for a large number of people that was open this night and wishing to have the hearing held centrally located for the people with a concern for tonight's meeting agenda, Marianapolis was asked and agreed to host the public hearing. Ms. Clark questioned if holding the public hearing at a school system particularly one that is attended at night is that possibly keeping people from being able to attend because they might have a particular status with the state where they are not allowed to be on the school property. Ms. Butts stated that in her past experience when she worked at the Department of Environment Protection typically public hearings would be held at schools are at the town halls. Further Ms. Butts stated that she did not receive any adverse comments on whether or not it was appropriate to have a public hearing at a private school, and all notices posted in the newspaper, on the town's webpage and in the Town Clerk's office clearly identified the location of the public hearing.

Sally White (not signed in) had questions regarding the water level on the hill and how piping water away would impact any wetlands. Ms. Butts stated that the DEEP order never contemplated what effect withdrawing water would have on the ground water table. She was told that the overriding concern for public health for the sewers was the central question. She also stated that she has advised the engineering firm to transmit to Marianapolis the concern about them tying up all of their property to the sewer line whether they need it or not until they can look at a water budget and do a study to see what the substrata is in the area. It is not clear how much water recycling is occurring from the septic systems back to the ground water table.

Commissioner Obert stated that traditionally sewer rates are factored on a meter on the supply water. Ms. Butts stated that her conversations with Dennis Greci of the DEEP that absent a metered public water supply the sewer assessments are based on the number of bedrooms.

Paul LaFramboise stated that Marianapolis has a community water supply and all water is metered on the campus. A long-term pump test for the wells on campus was done recently reveals that the school has approximately 50,000 gallons per day available and they are using only 15,000 gallons per day. Mr. Laframbois provided further comment about his understanding of wells in the area and believed that the sewer would not cause a problem to local wells.

Ms. White asked if the sewer lines were extended would the extension have to come back for further review. Ms. Butts answered that it would depend on where future lines go - if they are not in wetlands, watercourses or upland review area extensions would not have to come before the Inland Wetlands Commission.



Ms. White said about 5 years ago the engineering firm of CME had proposed several routes for the pipe different from these and asked if the close proximity of the sewer to the abutting housing development would be provided given a permanent access point to the proposed sewer line. Ms. Butts stated that the drawings at this time show no access point for the abutting housing development where the sewer comes close to that development. Ms. White questioned the location of the access road and sewer line (i.e. so close to the boundary to the housing development). Chairperson Morano stated that the access crossing is located where it is because it has the least amount of impact on the wetlands.

Ms. White asked who the applicant is, and Ms. Butts stated the Town of Thompson; the application was signed by former First Selectmen, Larry Groh. Commissioner Obert asked who will be responsible for the sewer line in the future, and Mr. Russo stated that the town will be responsible for the entire sewer line.

Chris Wagner asked if there was an agreement between the town and the school for future access to this line. Ms. Butts commented that when the application first came in it was not signed by the 1st selectman and she was told that the agreement between the town and the school was being finalized. Subsequently 1st Selectman Groh signed the application form. She was later told that it was signed but the agreement is not currently available. She added that they direct their questions about former first Selectman Larry Groh or current Selectman Paul Lenky.

Ms. Clark asked about the "farm dump" area and why are they putting gravel over the dump and not removing all the dump material and Ms. Butts stated that it has been vegetated over for a long time and it serves no benefit to try to remove the old glass, tin cans and other debris from that area other than the sewer line.

Ms. White asked if there is no evidence of a signed agreement between the parties was it appropriate to hold this meeting. Ms. Butts stated that the 1st Selectman signed the application, it is a proper application. The execution of the work proposed by the application that is the question that needs to be asked – it is a proper application.

Dan Atwood stated that he wanted to clarify that the town would have an easement right from the edge of the Marianapolis property and Mr. Deluca further stated that the proposed easement is shown on the plan.

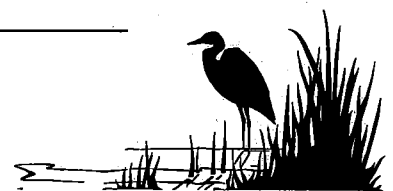
Chairperson Morano asked if there were any other questions or comments by the public. Hearing none she called for adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM and following a motion and unanimous voice vote of the Inland Wetlands Commissioners the meeting was adjourned thereby closing the public hearing.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia Lacasse - Recording Secretary

12-09-13 Public Hearing Notes



the first of these is the fact that the
the second is the fact that the
the third is the fact that the
the fourth is the fact that the
the fifth is the fact that the

the sixth is the fact that the
the seventh is the fact that the
the eighth is the fact that the
the ninth is the fact that the
the tenth is the fact that the

the eleventh is the fact that the
the twelfth is the fact that the
the thirteenth is the fact that the
the fourteenth is the fact that the
the fifteenth is the fact that the

the sixteenth is the fact that the
the seventeenth is the fact that the
the eighteenth is the fact that the
the nineteenth is the fact that the
the twentieth is the fact that the

the twenty-first is the fact that the
the twenty-second is the fact that the
the twenty-third is the fact that the
the twenty-fourth is the fact that the
the twenty-fifth is the fact that the

the twenty-sixth is the fact that the
the twenty-seventh is the fact that the
the twenty-eighth is the fact that the
the twenty-ninth is the fact that the
the thirtieth is the fact that the

the thirty-first is the fact that the
the thirty-second is the fact that the
the thirty-third is the fact that the
the thirty-fourth is the fact that the
the thirty-fifth is the fact that the

the thirty-sixth is the fact that the
the thirty-seventh is the fact that the
the thirty-eighth is the fact that the
the thirty-ninth is the fact that the
the fortieth is the fact that the

the forty-first is the fact that the
the forty-second is the fact that the
the forty-third is the fact that the
the forty-fourth is the fact that the
the forty-fifth is the fact that the

the forty-sixth is the fact that the
the forty-seventh is the fact that the
the forty-eighth is the fact that the
the forty-ninth is the fact that the
the fiftieth is the fact that the

the fifty-first is the fact that the
the fifty-second is the fact that the
the fifty-third is the fact that the
the fifty-fourth is the fact that the
the fifty-fifth is the fact that the

Good evening. I am Fran Morano, Chairman of the Thompson Inland Wetlands Commission and will be presiding over this public hearing today.

The purpose of the hearing is to take testimony on Inland Wetlands Permit Application # IWA13018 by the Town of Thompson to alter inland wetlands and watercourses and perform work in upland review areas for (1) the construction of sewer line extensions on properties owned by The Trinity Foundation Inc. (Assessor's Map 105, Block 38, Lot 1-MC3), the Marion of the Immaculate Conception (Assessor's Map 105, Block 38, Lot 1A) and the State of Connecticut beginning at the intersection of Route 12 and I-395 Exit 98 east into the Marianapolis Preparatory School at 26 Chase Road in Thompson for a distance of about 6500 feet and (2) the reconstruction of an existing main sewer line beginning at the intersection of Route 12 and I-395 Exit 98 south for a distance of about 430 feet.

As stated in Section 11(a) of the Commission's regulations the hearing is required to be completed with 35 days from today, unless granted an extension by the applicant, and upon completion of the hearing a decision is required to be rendered within 35 days from the completion of the hearing, unless granted an extension by the applicant.

Based upon the testimony and information provided in this public hearing the Commission will in accordance with Section 10 of its regulations entitled "Considerations for Decisions" render a decision. Documentary evidence or other material not in the hearing record shall not be considered by the Commission in its decision.

I will first ask the Wetlands Agent to provide from the Commission's files for the hearing record the application and support documents provided by the applicant as well as any other documents that are relevant to the processing of this application. The applicant or its agent will then be asked to explain the activities in the application and provide the relevant facts and circumstances which it wants the Commission to consider in making its decision. After the initial presentation by the applicant or agent and witnesses, I will offer to other Commissioners the opportunity to ask questions of the applicant and his witnesses. Following that I will offer the Wetlands Agent the opportunity to ask questions.

Next I will ask the Wetlands Agent for her testimony and any written report produced by her. Then I will offer to other Commissioners and then the applicant or his agent the opportunity to ask her questions.

Finally, I will ask if there are any comments from the public beginning with those individuals who provided their names and addresses on the sign up list prior to the initiation of this hearing. Please clearly state your name and address prior to making any comments or asking questions. Please keep your comments and questions specific to the subject of this public hearing. Any questions that the public may have should be directed to me and I will determine if it is appropriate for the applicant to address the question. You will be given 5 minutes for your comments and questions.

Additionally since these proceedings are being recorded please state your name each time before you begin to speak.

This hearing is being held because the Commission determined at its November 12th, 2013 meeting that a public hearing regarding the application would be in the public interest. Consequently pursuant to its regulations and state law, the Commission can not issue a permit unless it finds on the basis of the record that a feasible and prudent alternative does not exist. Currently, it is our understanding that a "feasible" alternative is one that is able to be constructed or implemented consistent with sound engineering principles. The term "prudent" means economically and otherwise reasonable in light of the social benefits to be derived from the proposed regulated activity provided cost may be considered in deciding what is prudent and further provided a mere showing of expense will not necessarily mean an alternative is imprudent. It is the applicant's burden to assure that alternatives to its proposed activity are presented for the Commission's consideration.

Are there any questions regarding this process?

[pause – answer questions]

I now ask Marla Butts, the Thompson Wetlands Agent to place into the record Application # IWA13018.

[application noted]

Mr. DeLuca you have the floor.