Town of Thompson Inland Wetlands Commission

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INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

<u>TUESDAY, January 14, 2020, 7:00pm</u> Merrill Seney Community Room – Town Hall

A) Call to Order & Roll Call- Call to order was by Chair George O'Neil at 7:01pm.

Present: Commissioner and Chair George O'Neil, Commissioner and Vice-Chair Charles Obert, Commissioner and Treasurer Diane Chapin, Commissioner Fran Morano, Commissioner John Dalton, Wetlands Agent Marla Butts, Recording Secretary Ashley Pomes

Others Present: First Selectman Amy St. Onge, Gail Arsenault, Cathleen A Godzik MD, Nadine Williams Edwards

Absent: Alternate Commissioner Barbara Roach

- B) Appointment of Alternates- none
- C) Action on Minutes of Previous Meeting
 - a) Minutes of December 10, 2019 were accepted as written, no objections.
- D) Citizens Comments on Agenda Items- Gail Arsenault and Cathleen A Godzik MD of 157 Spicer Road came to discuss the gravel mining at 363 Quaddick Town Farm Road. They brought maps showing changed boundary lines, raised concerns about recent changes in ownership affecting the legality of permits issued for the gravel mining operation and were concerned about the recent removal of wetland flags from the property that had been transferred to new owners. Subsequent discussion with Commissioners and its agent resulted in Chair O'Neil requesting M. Butts to conduct an investigation of the issues raised and report back to the Commission the results of her investigation. Nadine Williams Edwards spoke of the Thompson Residential Preservation and Protection Alliance, the monies the town is to receive for the gravel mining in relation to the change in property values.

E) Applications

- a) Old Applications
 - 1. **IWA19022** Richard Lafazia,5 Wrightson Drive, Assessor's Map143, Block 17, Lot 9, demolish and rebuild house with new septic system in 100-foot upland review area for Quaddick Reservoir, stamped received 10/7/19, revised plans received 10/22/12 to include after-the-fact approval for a rebuilt retaining wall abutting Quaddick Reservoir, application pending further review.- Janette Blanchette was present to represent this application. She showed colorized drawings of the

- proposed application and agreed that page 1 of 2 of the site plans was to be replaced with a revised drawing submitted with a detail of the retaining wall. **Motion by Commissioner Obert seconded by Commissioner Morano to approve the application carried unanimously.**
- 2. IWA19025 Mark Labonte, 0 Thompson Rd (Rt. 193), Assessor's Map 103, Block 31, Lot 5A, construct new single-family home, stamped received by the Thompson Town Clerk 11/18/2019, statutory receipt date: 12/10/2019.-Commissioner Chapin has recused herself from this matter. M. Butts has sent an email to Mr. Labonte informing him of multiple issues that need to be addressed. He needs to provide an explanation of the hydraulic function of the proposed cross culvert under the driveway in relationship to the 18in RCP for Thompson Rd. She also asks for an engineer to evaluate the stability of the gravel drive culvert and cover for it, she would like a cross section of the driveway beginning at Thompson Rd and going up 10 ft. past the stone wall. She also would like a statement from a qualified soil scientist stating that the wetlands are accurately depicted on the plans due to the plans being 14 years old and changes may have occurred. She will send a certified letter and place a phone call to Mr. Labonte informing him of these issues.
- 3. **IWA19026** Madison Avenue Investments, LLC, 0 Madison Avenue (subdivision lot #10), Assessor's Map 103, Block 31, Lot 6J, construct portion of septic system in the upland review area associated with the construction of a new home, stamped received by the Thompson Town Clerk 12/2/2019, statutory receipt date: 12/10/2019.- Greg Glaud and Brian Meehan are present at the meeting to present drawings and explanations regarding this. A letter was presented from NDDH dated 12/5/19 showing approval of the septic design proposal. Approximately 20 feet of the leech field will be extending into the 100 ft upland review area. **Motion by Commissioner Obert seconded by Commissioner Chapin to approve the permit carried unanimously.**
- 4. **IWA19027** Madison Avenue Investments, LLC, 0 Madison Avenue (subdivision lot #15), Assessor's Map 103, Block 31, Lot 60, construction and discharge of a footing drain in the upland review area the Thompson Town Clerk 12/2/2019, statutory receipt date: 12/10/2019.- Greg Glaud and Brian Meehan are present at the meeting to present drawings and explanations regarding this. Mr. Glaud states there was a barn added to the plan and there is a slight bit of clearing that happens behind the barn in the upland review area. According to a drawing M. Butts has showing where the siltation fence is occurring, it shows there is no work being done in wetlands or upland review area. **Motion by Commissioner Morano seconded by Commissioner Obert to approve the permit carried unanimously.**

b) New Applications

- 1. IWA20001, Charles Tewksbury, 32 Breaults Landing Rd., Assessor's Map 141, Block 17, Lot 196, demolition of existing cottage, reconstruction of 26' X 30' single family home, installation of new septic system, new well, and stone retaining wall at Quaddick Reservoir water line, stamped received by Town Clerk's Office 1/6/2020, statutory receipt date: 1/14/2020.-Mr. Tewksbury was present at the meeting, he would like to build an approximately 50ft long retaining wall at the water's edge to prevent land erosion. A revised drawing to show plans for the retaining wall is requested to be submitted prior to next month's regular meeting.
- c) Applications Received After Agenda was Published- **IWA20001**, Peter and Marianne Vanghel, Rawson Avenue, construction of a condominium complex, stamped received by the Thompson Town Clerk 1/13/2020, statutory receipt date 1/14/2020. M. Butts reported significant information is missing including details on site location, application signatures and that the application appears to be using documents from Permit 05-11-01 that has expired. M. Butts will be reviewing the application and determine what is deficient in the application, she will send a detailed letter explaining these deficiencies and request the applicants to be present at the next meeting.
- F) Permit Extensions / Changes None
- G) Active Violations & Pending Enforcement Actions
 - a) Cease & Restore Order VIOL19018, Federal Home Loan Corporation, 0 & 533 Brandy Hill Road, Assessor's Map 143, Block 17, Lot 7-7: action on hold pending return of Wetlands Agent.- M. Butts needs to visit this site prior to any further action, continue next month.
 - b) Complaint 19-03, Richard Desrochers, 484 Quaddick Town Farm Road, Assessor's Map 158, Block 20, Lot J: action on hold pending return of Wetlands Agent.- M. Butts needs to visit this site, no further action is allowed until then, continue next month.
 - c) 637 East Thompson Road, Scott Josey, Assessor's Map 154, Block 5, Lot 14: action on hold pending return of Wetlands Agent.- Looks like more work may have been done on this property this past October after property owner being told all work to be stopped, M. Butts will send a violation letter to the owner and request his presence at the next regular meeting.
- H) Other Business- none
- I) Review of responsibilities under "Ordinance Concerning Measures for Minimization of Flood Damage" adopted April 28, 1975.- to be addressed further next month. M. Butts has been working on draft zoning regulations and was asked to review number of special provisions. While reviewing flood protection special provisions she found a reference to zoning agents doing certain activities and planning and

zoning doing certain things under subdivisions and inland wetlands doing things for flood management. M. Butts will be adding these regulations to the Inland Wetland requirements because that ordinance was never rescinded.

J) Reports

- a) Budget & Expenditures- Per Treasurer D. Chapin, an amount of \$18,834.42 is available, 27% of budget has been spent. Per M. Butts, an item will be put on to next month's agenda to discuss the 2021 Fiscal Year Budget.
- b) Wetlands Agent Report- M. Butts has been revising the zoning regulations, she has been asked to look at the Aquifer section and she suggests a complete rewrite of the current regulations, she has suggested changes be made to the Erosion Sediment Control section, and while looking at the Storm Water Management section she noticed that all drainage standards had somehow been removed from the current draft zoning regulations so she has made comments back to the Town Planner regarding the missing standards.
- K) Correspondence- Eastern Connecticut Conservation District has submitted their annual report for all the work that was done last year.
- L) Signing of Mylars- none
- M) Comments by Commissioners- Commissioner Dalton thanks all commissioners for welcoming him to the commission and he is looking forward to joining in on future meetings.
- N) Adjournment- Motion to adjourn at 9:05 by Commissioner Obert seconded by Commissioner Morano carried unanimously.

Submitted by Ashley Pomes, Recording Secretary