

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

INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2020 7:00PM
ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING

A) Call to Order & Roll Call – The call to order was by Chairman George O’Neil at 7:04pm.

Present – Chair George O’Neil, Vice Chair and Commissioner H. Charles Obert, Treasurer and Commissioner Diane Chapin, Commissioner Francesca Morano, Alternate Commissioner Barbara Roach, Marla Butts; Wetlands Agent, First Selectman Amy St. Onge, Ashley Pomes; Recording Secretary

Others Present – Scott Josey, Roger Gibson, multiple members of the public

- **Motion made by Commissioner Obert seconded by Commissioner Morano to add Election of Officers to the agenda under Other Business carried unanimously.**

B) Appointment of Alternates – Chair O’Neil appoints alternate Commissioner Roach as a voting member of the Commission

C) Action on Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a) Minutes of March 10, 2020 – **Motion made by Commissioner Obert seconded by Commissioner Morano to accept the minutes as written carries unanimously.**

D) Citizens Comments on Agenda Items - None

E) Applications

- a) Old Applications

1. **WAA20004** Richard T. Audet, 50 Wrightson Dr, Assessor’s map 143, block 17, lot 18, construct 20’ X 24’ shed on piers in the 100-foot upland review area for Quaddick Reservoir, stamped received by Town Clerk 2/5/2020. – The Commission has multiple questions surrounding the construction of this shed, they would like to know where the location of the leach field is and also how the run-off water from the roof of the shed will be handled. The Commission viewed drawings from the well drilling from 2002 that show where the well is located as well as the septic tank, but the leach field location is not included in these drawings. M. Butts will send a letter to Mr. Audet to address these issues. No further action is needed by the Commission at this time.

b) New Applications

1. **WAA20009** Hallet T. Merrick, 0 Plum Road, Assessor's map 85, block 52, lot 12, construction of single-family home, septic system and portion of home proposed in 100-foot upland review area, stamped received by Town Clerk's Office 4/13/2020. – Letter from Building Dept included in agenda, states the portion of Plum Rd that Mr. Merrick wants the driveway permit for needs multiple improvements before he can get the approval for the house. M. Butts has sent a letter to Mr. Merrick asking for submission by July 1, 2020 a full scale drawing signed and sealed by a professional engineer with erosion and sediment control measures identified to prevent unnecessary siltation of the nearby wetlands during construction and also a copy of the Northeast District Dept of Health's letter approving the design of the septic system that is located within the 100-ft upland review area.
2. **DEC20010** Valerie Clark, 0 Alms Rd (2 lots), Assessor's map 120, block 18, lots 1 & 1A, timber harvest, received 4/27/2020. – M Butts states this is a simple straight forward timber harvest with a start date of June 2020 and to be completed by June 2021, they are working in a 32-acre area and want to do a salvage cut for timber improvement due to gypsy moth damage. Commissioner Obert is concerned about them crossing wetland areas with heavy equipment during extended rainy/muddy times. M. Butts states she can send a cover letter with a copy of the signed version of the timber harvest request to her indicating Commissioner Obert's concerns and requesting to cease any work during heavy rains. Commissioner Roach says in the application it states they will be harvesting during dry or frozen conditions. **Motion made by Commissioner Obert seconded by Commissioner Chapin to issue the harvest permit carried unanimously.** M. Butts will send a letter with the signed permit stating Commissioners' concerns.
3. **IWA20011** James Jasmine, 518 Brandy Hill Rd, Assessor's map 143, block 16, lot 37, after-the-fact application for partial demolition of retaining wall and construction of new retaining wall on Quaddick Reservoir, stamped received by Town Clerk 5/6/2020. – The concern with this is the wall extends into the water 4 feet as per J&D Civil Engineers, and this might not be the homeowner's property. DEEP owns the water rights and there is a question as to who owns the lake bottom. At this time the application is only being received and there is no decision to be made by the Commission for at least 30 days.
4. **WAA20012** J and J Construction, 484 & 486 Quaddick Town Farm Rd, Assessor's map 158, block 20, lots 8I & 8J, earth excavation & grading for future residential development, stamped received by Town Clerk 5/6/2020. – M. Butts states during researching about this application she found there is no Secretary of State recording of J and J Construction as a registered corporate entity. Per an email from Janet Blanchette of J&D Civil Engineers, the name on the application to be

changed from J and J Construction to the applicant's name of Richard Desrochers. M. Butts also states revised plans will be coming in that shows a reduced amount of work in the upland review area. As this is a Wetlands Agent approval application M. Butts will receive and look at the revised plans when they come in and bring them to the Commission next meeting. She will invite any citizens comments on those plans when she has them.

c) Applications Received After Agenda was Published

1. WAA20014, Madison Avenue Investments, LLC, 0 Madison Avenue (subdivision Lot 9), Assessor's map 103, block 31, lot 6I, construction of a new single family home's septic system in the 100-foot upland review area, stamped received by the Wetlands Office 5/11/2020 – M. Butts states the application under review by M. Butts.

F) Permit Extensions / Changes

- a) **IWA15004** Frog Rock, LLC, 0 Sunset Hill Rd, Assessor's map 103, block 40, lot 3E, request for 6-month extension of permit for construction of a driveway from Sunset Hill Rd across wetlands/watercourses for existing residence that is currently accessed through 36 Terrace Dr., stamped received 3/30/2020. – The request for extension did come in prior to the expiration of Permit IWA15004 on April 14, 2020 but due to a cancelled April 21, 2020 IWC meeting this was delayed in getting a response. M. Butts states she has never seen any problems with this site while going out for visits and she recommends accepting the extension. **Motion made by Commissioner Obert seconded by Commissioner Roach to grant the 6-month extension carried unanimously.**

G) Active Violations & Pending Enforcement Actions

- a) **Cease & Restore Order VIOL20003** Scott Josey, 637 East Thompson Road, Assessor's map 154, block 5, lot 14: filling of wetlands and work within 100-foot upland review area, issued 3/5/2020, hearing and decision 3/10/2020 requiring submission of soil scientist report by 4/21/2020 and work completed by 5/11/2020. – Mr. Josey and soil scientist Roger Gibson were present for this Zoom meeting. Mr. Gibson provided a written report as well as photographs describing restoration work to be done to M. Butts and they were posted online with the agenda. The Commission reviewed all these reports and photos will Mr. Gibson further explained them. He states for restoration Mr. Josey will need to cut back the slope along the undisturbed vegetative areas as well as remove fill in the areas shown in photographs and manage the high water flooding across the access road by providing a non-engineered 6-8 inch deep compacted gravel filled swale or ford underlain by a geotextile for non-vehicle use with the exception of ATV usage during non-flooding/drier conditions. Mr. Gibson recommends completing this work later this year when conditions are drier. M. Butts suggests a completion date of Sept. 15th as that will give Mr. Josey time to complete the work and seed and mulch

during the seeding season. **Motion made by Commissioner Obert seconded by Commissioner Morano to approve all implementation of this plan including ground stabilization to be completed by Sept. 15th, 2020 carried unanimously.**

H) Other Business

- a) Approval of Bylaw Revisions discussed at 3/10/2020 Meeting – **Motion made by Commissioner Obert seconded by Commissioner Chapin to accept the Bylaw Revisions as presented carried unanimously.**
- b) Election of Officers added to agenda by Motion at beginning of the meeting – **Motion made by Commissioner Obert seconded by Commissioner Chapin to carry over the same slate of officers for one more year and close nominations carried unanimously.**

I) Reports

- a) Budget & Expenditures – Per Treasurer Chapin, the Commission has 0 encumbrances for this period, an available balance of \$7,215.06 and they have used 72% of the budget.

b) Wetlands Agent Report –

Updates- Status of Court Appeal on Application IWA15029, River Junction Estates, LLC is still pending, MS4 Annual Report & Follow Up Actions is still being worked on, no new progress on the pre-1990 file destruction.

Inspection/Followup Actions-

- Complaint 20-01, Filling of standing water along Quaddick Town Farm Road, 497 Quaddick Town Farm Road – M. Butts monitor the area to see if the standing water originally observed is a persistent feature or just a reflection of a storm event and determine what course of action, if any, is warranted given the roadway problems.
- Complaint 20-03 Report of cutting of trees within 100 feet of wetlands and watercourse along abandoned railroad right-of-way crossed Linehouse Rd to Laporte Rd. – M Butts could not see the site from Linehouse Rd, nor could I verify the identity of the individual or individuals who did the cutting. No follow up action is planned.
- Complaint 20-04 Report of cutting of trees south of Sunset Pond at 21 Marcy Lane. – M. Butts has sent a letter and talked to property owner informing him that any earth moving activities to remove the stumps may need approval by the Commission. She will photo document conditions the next time she performs field work.
- Complaint 20-05 Report of dumping of pony manure in wetlands off of Hiawatha Dr - The ZEO has visited the site and confirmed manure has been placed in or along wetlands that drain to Quaddick Reservoir. This complaint requires a field inspection.
- Complaint 20-06 Report of clearcutting of trees in the 100-foot upland review area at 208 Linehouse Rd – I visited the site and found very large pine trees had been clearcut

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in the back yard of 208 Linehouse Rd. and slash along with some soil had been pushed to the wetlands edge. I spoke to Joseph Fagan who lives at the property. He reported the trees were cut to reduce potential damage to the house. He reported a tree had fallen on the garage in the recent past causing damage. He agreed that the slash and associated fill can be pulled back from the wetlands edge and stabilized. He understands he will be getting a Notice of Violation instructing him to do the same. That NOV is in the process of being issued.

Building Permits Reviewed- 108 Gawson Rd, 1291 Thompson Rd, 175 Hill Rd, 4 Bonnette Ave, 0 Heritage Circle Lot #4, 22 Fabyan-Woodstock Rd

Miscellaneous - Posted draft Zoning Regulation revisions – On May 1st M. Butts emailed Town Planner Tyra Penn-Gesek a memo containing her comments on the draft zoning regulations that have been posed on the Town's webpage for public comment. She offered to email a copy of memo of Commissioner requests it.

J) Correspondence – none

K) Signing of Mylars - none

L) Comments by Commissioners – Commissioner Roach states the Zoom meeting seems to work well.

M) Adjournment – **Motion made by Commissioner Morano seconded by Commissioner Chapin to adjourn the meeting at 8:31pm carried unanimously.**

See/Hear the meeting on Zoom, copy and paste to your search bar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/2epOMoPA0GNLaZ3Hqwbyf60EGa7IT6a813Mc-fVczEbH0Dbju1qIHWznp6DLTU-A>

Password: 6e%5\$ln2

Respectfully Submitted

Ashley Pomes; Recording Secretary