



TOWN OF THOMPSON Inland Wetlands Commission

Tuesday, July 13, 2021
Via ZOOM Online Meeting Portal
MINUTES

- A. The call to order by Chair George O'Neil was at 7:01 PM
Present: George O'Neil (Chair), H. Charles Obert (Vice Chair), Diane Chapin (Treasurer), Francesca Morano (Commissioner). Marla Butts (Wetlands Agent), Amy St. Onge (First Selectman), several members of the public, Dotti Durst (Acting Recording Secretary)
- B. Appointment of Alternates: none
- C. The minutes of June 8, 2021 were accepted as presented.
- D. Citizens' Comments on Agenda Items: none
- E. Applications:
- a) Old Applications
 - 1. **IWA21012**, Strategic Commercial Realty, Inc /dba Rawson Materials, 0 East Thompson Rd (Assessor's map 154, block 5, lot 10), create 3.5 ± acre pond by the removal of about 120,000 cubic yards of sand & gravel and construct relocated driveway for proposed single family home, application withdrawn by letter dated June 23, 2021 from Attorney Harry Heller received via email on 6/24/21. *No action required by the IWA.*
 - 2. **IWA21013**, Paul M. Duquette, 0 Plum Rd (Assessor's map 83, block 56, lot 41D), construct driveway across wetlands and a new single-family home in the 100-foot upland review area, statutorily received 5/11/21. *Additional information was requested at the previous meeting. P.E. Norm Thibeault, in attendance, provided details about the cross-culvert.; his professional opinion is that, using a 10-year model, the culvert is adequately sized and there are no likely down-stream detrimental effects. Details were reviewed with the Commission and questions addressed. The Drainage Report was received, dated and sealed. Motion C. Obert seconded by D. Chapin to approve the application IWA21013 to construct a driveway across wetlands as well as a new single-family home in the 100-foot upland review area (Paul M. Duquette, 0 Plum Rd, Assessor's map 83, block 56, lot 41D) carried unanimously.*
 - 3. **WAA21014**, Town of Thompson, Blain Rd at Riverside Drive (Assessor's map 63, block 95, no lot #), reconstruction of Blain Rd and Riverside Dr intersection in the 100-foot upland review area, stamped received 5/10/21, issued 6/24/21, legal notice published 7/2/21, end of appeal period 7/17/21. *The application presented by Janet Blanchette includes a provision for leak-offs and includes stormwater management features. All being in order, IWA Agent M. Butts and issued the approval; no further action is required.*
 - b) New Applications
 - 1. **WAA21015**, Carol Moser & Richard Colburn, 20 Island View Drive (Assessor's map 143, block 16, lot 21), construction of a 14' X 20' addition to an existing house in the 100- foot upland review area for Quaddick Reservoir, received 6/21/21, issued 6/24/21, legal notice published 7/2/21, end of appeal period 7/17/21. *Detailed information was provided for this application which came before the Commission previously. After review, IWA Agent M. Butts issued the approval. No further action required.*

2. **WAA21016**, D.H. Copeland Builders, 119 New Road (Assessor's map 154, block 3, lot 2I), construction of a driveway in the 100-foot upland review area for a new single-family home, received 6/23/21, legal notice published 7/2/21, end of appeal period 7/17/21. *After review of the site plan and other materials, IWA Agent M. Butts issued the approval for a new single-family home at 119 New Road, and construction of a driveway in the 100-foot upland review area (Assessor's map 154, block 3, lot 2I) with conditions (ie: while construction is underway and until the contributing area is stabilized, sediment control both at inlet and outlet cross culverts are required to protect from siltation). No further action required.*
3. **DEC21017**, Dale & Jean Harger, 1219 Thompson Rd (Assessor's map 116, block 24, lot 9), replace ornamental garden with 8' -10' trees for maintenance & enjoyment of residential home, received via email 6/28/2021. Mr. Harger, who is in attendance, plans to modify existing plantings along his property to serve as a screen. This is a use which is permitted as of right.
Motion C. Obert seconded by D. Chapin to approve the DEC21017 modification as presented, as a proposal permitted as of right for plantings at 1219 Thompson Rd (Assessor's map 116, block 24, lot 9), carried unanimously.
4. **IWA21018**, Jason Lepino, 58 Wrightson Dr. (Assessor's reference 143/17/15), demolish existing wood retaining wall and replace with rip rap revetment along shore of Quaddick Reservoir, stamped received 7/2/21, to be statutorily received 7/13/21. *The application and documents have been received, including drawings of the proposed work. Agent M. Butts also provided photos taken from several perspectives. Application accepted by the IWA.*
5. **WAA21020**, Shaun Gray, 0 New Rd (Assessor's map 154, block 5, lot 10B), construct new single-family home with driveway, septic & well in 100-foot upland review area, stamped received 7/7/21, under review. *Documents have been received; all activities are proposed for the Upland Review area, with none in the Wetlands. The Natural Diversity Database and NDDH approval are in process. It was confirmed that if the application is in compliance with the Natural Diversity Database, the application is considered accepted as of this date.*

c) Applications Received After Agenda was Published: none

F. Permit Extensions / Changes

- a) **IWA14019**, Patricia Rudzinski, 0 Labby Rd. (Assessor's map 95, block 27, lot 17), permit issued 10/14/14, request for additional 3-year extension of gravel removal permit to expire 10/14/24, received by Wetlands Office 3/3/2021 – see Public Acts 21-163 and 21-34, Extensions of Municipal Land Use Approvals. *After 14 years of activity, the applicant requests the final 3-year extension permitted by statute. Agent M. Butts reviewed the recent Legislative changes to this provision (P.A. 21-34 and P.A. 21-163). There was a condition in the original approval in 2014 which may be a factor. The condition of the access bridge at Owen Adams Road may present a safety concern. Although a document about the question has been received, it is not signed/sealed by a Professional Engineer. M. Butts noted that this is a town-owned road; the First Selectman is aware of a possible liability as well as a possible threat to the watercourse and is working with the DOT on a bridges report, which will clarify the situation. Other aspects of the application need review.*
Motion C. Obert seconded by F. Morano to table IWA14019 Patricia Rudzinski, 0 Labby Rd. pending further information carried unanimously.

G. 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, status of order release. *The release was filed on the land records today, 07-13-2021, and is now recorded. The file will be closed.*
- b) **Notice of Violation VIOL21019**, LIS Properties, L.L.C., 715 Riverside Dr. (Assessor's map 63, block 58, Lot 23), unauthorized structures diverting watercourse, flooding Thatcher Rd. & Riverside Dr., issued 7/7/21, request remove or response by 7/13/21. *Agent M. Butts Water observed running down Thatcher Road noting that the intermittent watercourse under a shed had been diverted or disturbed.*
- Agent M. Butts sent a Notice of Violation to the owner of the apartment complex where the disturbance occurred, as did the CT DOT. The shed has now been removed. The area will be examined to determine if remediation will be required. No action is required at this time.*

H. Other Business

- a). Road Closure Schedule for West Thompson Road / Wheaton Brook Culvert Replacement, Permit IWA20044. *A Gant Chart was created depicting the scheduling of the work which will include 2 weeks of road closure in August.*
- b). Review of Conditions at 1227 Thompson Rd (Rte 193), Marc Baer, Permit IWA20022. *Photos of retaining walls being constructed very near RT 193 were exhibited; this area is technically outside the responsibility of the IWA but is the responsibility of the DOT. In addition, it was observed that the walls and a structure merit further review with the Building Official.*
- c). ZOOM Meeting status update: the members of the IWA were polled, and as permitted by the Governor's Executive Orders, have determined it best to meet exclusively via Zoom through December.

I. Reports

- a). Budget & Expenditures:
Treasurer D. Chapin- Over \$6,000 was transferred by the town to IWA for Agent responsibilities from the Conservation line item * The ad line item is about \$465 over-budget with the total expenditures for fy 21 at 82.4% but factoring in the pending bills, about 90% will be utilized.
- b). Wetlands Agent Report:
M. Butts – no change in the Appeals Court for the matter at Starr Road, River Junction Estates. * The MSR4 Annual Report is under construction. *Illicit Discharge and Connection Stormwater Ordinance draft has been reviewed by the town attorney and is ready for the BOS.
- Status of applications:
*WAA21008 East Thompson Rd: John Camilleo and the Robbins family (abutters) - the underground utilities have been installed as requested and on time but there is a question whether the submitted drawing is accurate. Any work on the timber bridge across the Five Mile River Rd will require a site plan by a Connecticut-licensed Professional Engineer certifying the structure to be capable of withstanding a 100-year return frequency storm without damage, then IWA approval.
- *21-09: 74 Watson Rd Complaint: report of a pile of concrete debris. The owner stated that the materials are temporarily situated awaiting disposal. No further action needed.
- *LIS property- copy of the "no violation" letter was provided to members
- Follow-up: no changes since last month.

*12 building permits were reviewed.

*The new electronic system is being merged with the traditional record-keeping
Expenses: legal notices as expected

J. Correspondence - None

K. Signing of Mylars

- c) Mylars entitled "Adams Land Subdivision, 1321 Thompson Road, Thompson, Connecticut, Owner: Charles R. Adams, Applicant: Keith & Karolyn Champagne" prepared by J&D Civil Engineers, LLC dated February 8, 2021, revised April 7, 2021 (4 sheets) were signed by Chair O'Neil 7/8/21, plans approved by Permit IWA21004.

L. Comments by Commissioners:

C. Obert * Erosion under RT 200 along the Airline Trail is being caused by ATVs which are deteriorating the slope and causing run-off. * Quaddick Town Farm Rd: Large cobbles have washed out of a driveway onto the road surface. * All the ponds are filled and overflowing due to 11" of rainfall in 10 days; we need to be alert for possible dam failure.

Agent M. Butts encourages all members to contact her when something is noticed.

M. Adjournment:

Motion F. Morano seconded by C. Obert to adjourn at 8:53 PM carried unanimously.

To see/hear the entire meeting via ZOOM, click here or copy/paste to your search bar

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/I-RP4YMIYrElAMdob1X74M8_kcf01lMEazBOfeGVtPd29_P53XyXIC9WtxwZy9G.1ojsi9BYJKnUgJWN Passcode: 4y4&sabu

Respectfully Submitted, Dotti Durst, Acting Recording Secretary *Dorothy Durst*

These minutes have not yet been approved by the Inland Wetlands Commission. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.