



TOWN OF THOMPSON

Inland Wetlands Commission-Minutes

Tuesday, August 10, 2021
Via ZOOM Online Meeting Portal

A) Call to Order & Roll Call:

The call to order by Chair George O'Neil was at 7:16 PM due to a technology glitch. He reviewed the protocols for participation via Zoom.

Present: George O'Neil (Chair), H. Charles Obert at 7:15 PM (Vice Chair), Diane Chapin (Treasurer), Francesca Morano at 7:42 PM (Commissioner), Marla Butts (Wetlands Agent), Amy St. Onge (First Selectman), Members of the public, Dotti Durst (Acting Recording Secretary)

B) Appointment of Alternate: n/a

C) Action on Minutes of Previous Meeting: *The Minutes of July 13, 2021 were accepted as presented with the note that under #G. Violations (b), LIS property, strike the sentence beginning: ~~Agent M. Butts sent a Notice of Violation...~~*

D) Citizens Comments on Agenda Items: None

E) Applications

a) Old Applications

1. **IWA21018**, Jason Lepino, 58 Wrightson Dr. (Assessor's reference 143/17/15), demolished 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. *NOTE: The address is 59 Wrightson Road. Work will begin after the lake draw-down (September), including reduction of beach frontage and addition of geotextile, crushed stone and modified riprap. After review of the application by M. Butts and Commission questions and discussion, it was agreed that the revetment will be an improvement and the gradual slope should reduce erosion. Motion D. Chapin seconded by C. Obert to approve the application as presented carried unanimously.*
2. **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, issued 7/26/21, legal notice to be published 8/13/21, end of appeal period 8/27/21. *M. Butts reviewed the application last month; all documents are in place; the site is not near the Five Mile River. The Wetlands Agent approval was issued. No IWC action taken.*

b) New Applications - None

- c) Applications Received After Agenda was Published: **WAA21021**, Jodie Arpin, 0 New Rd. (subdivision lot 6, Assessor's map 154, block 3, lot 2G), construction of a driveway, underground utilities & footing drain in upland review area for new single family home *M. Butts confirmed the land between lots 5 and 6 is not a vernal pool as it does not hold water long enough. She will conduct further review of the application. No IWC action taken.*

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 Attorney Roberts advice regarding Public Acts 21-163 and 21-34, Extensions of Municipal Land Use Approvals. *The March request for a 3-year extension was reviewed. Because the 2021 legislature enacted an automatic renewal, which was confirmed by Attorney Roberts to apply to this application, the permit is automatically extended until October 14, 2028 for a total of 14 years, with the provision that an extension can be requested for up to a total of 19 years. C. Obert asked about the question of public safety regarding the bridge on the access*

road and possible town liability. The DPW Director has stated it to be unsafe and should be closed. First Selectman A. St Onge clarified the inspection process, noting that the responsibility lies with the Planning and Zoning Commission and their consideration of a Special Permit. Since that portion of the road is not town-maintained the owners may bear the responsibility should safety measures be required. It was noted that if modifications to the bridge are required, that matter would come back to the IWC. The applicant inquired about access from the Wilsonville Road end. M. Butts noted that the road may not be able to handle traffic due to beaver activity overtopping the road. Chair McNeil noted that the applicant may need to pursue these questions with other Boards/Commissions. No IWC action taken on this application.

- b) **Permit 07-08-03**, Peter Vanghel, 0 Buckley Hill Rd (Assessor's map 59, block 61, lot 62), permit issued 9/11/07, initial expiration date 9/11/12, extended to 9/11/2016 by Public Act 11-05, plan modification approved 8/20/13, permit extended to 9/11/21 on 8/15/15 in accordance with Public Act 11-05, request to extend permit to 9/11/2026 per Public Act 21-163 received by the Wetlands Office 7/13/20. *No activity has taken place over the years on this parcel.*
Motion C. Obert seconded by F. Morano to grant the 5-year extension as requested, providing that the 2013 plan will be utilized if activity does take place, carried unanimously.

G) Violations & Pending Enforcement Actions

a). 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 - status. *M. Butts: the structure spanning the intermittent watercourse has been removed, but the water course was disturbed. Since the property is for sale, she will inform the realtors as well as the owners of the property of the need to remediate the flow from upstream through the property downstream. No IWC action taken.*

H) Other Business

a). Road Closure Status, West Thompson Road / Wheaton Brook Culvert Replacement, Permit IWA20044: *M. Butts prepared photos and a brief video showing the progress to date and the details of the reconstruction, including the unplanned modifications the site required. The road should be re-opened to traffic about on schedule.*

I) Reports

- a). Budget/Expenditures: *no report. The town hall system is converting to accept data for the current fiscal year.*
b). Wetlands Agent Report: See attached

J) Correspondence - None

K) Signing of Mylars - None

- L) Comments by Commissioners: *M. Butts announced that a new Conservation Officer has been hired, and that as he also works to gains his credentials in Inland Wetlands enforcement, will act as recording Secretary for the IWC; his start date with the town is mid-August.*
C. Obert- is pleased that mapping and GIS training will be part of this person's training.

M) Adjournment:

Motion C. Obert seconded by F. Morano to adjourn at 8:42 PM carried unanimously.

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84561234567> Passcode: U6^EcR@W

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

These Minutes have not been reviewed by the Inland Wetlands Commission. Please see next month's minutes for modifications

Inland Wetlands Agent Monthly report: Marla Butts, August 10, 2021**UPDATES**

- *No change: Court Appeal on Application IWA15029, River Junction Estates, LLC (Case # AC 42644)
- * the MS4 2019-2020 Annual Report is nearly finished.
- *A very small amount of progress has been made on records disposal.

INSPECTIONS/FOLLOWUP ACTIONS

- *Complaint 20-14, Philip Leblanc, 295 Linehouse Rd, pond cleaning during drought last October and side casting spoils onto neighboring property – It would appear that last that year's disposal of dredged spoils were placed on top of the previously place dredged soils. A letter will be sent to Mr. & Mrs. Leblanc advising them to do no more earth moving or construction work either in the pond or within 100 feet of the pond without first obtaining approval from the Inland Wetlands Commission.
- *Complaint 21-11, 1208 Riverside Drive, Susan Eklund – A review of aerial photography shows the trailer was placed at its current location sometime after 2012 but before 2016. There was no evidence of any recent work since the issuance of Notice of Violation VIOL20005 in February of 2020. A course of action will need to be in coordination with the Building Office and the ZEO. It is within 100 feet of the upland review area; perhaps it is a NDDH issue.
- *Complaint 21-12, 73 Center Street, Jamie Piette – Report of a retaining wall being replaced along Little Pond beginning on 8/7/21 without a permit – I left a phone message for Ms. Piette regarding the work and received a call back from her contractor, Joseph Patterson. Mr. Patterson was instructed to cease any further work and he indicated he would be contacting J& D Civil Engineers to prepare the necessary site plan for the work including an A-2 survey of the property boundaries. The property borders a right-of-way maintained by the Little Pond Improvement Association Inc. Photos were forwarded by Peter Nalewajk of the work site. I will send confirming correspondence shortly.
- *WAA21008, 597 East Thompson Road, John Camelio property – inspection of the property on 7/21/21 followed a 7/20/21 email from Bonnie Morrison-Robbins reporting failures of the silt fencing installed along the underground utilities authorized by WAA21008. While the photos provided by Ms. Robbins showed overall flooding on both sides of the fencing, I found no evidence of erosion or sediment movement and subsequently advised her I did not plan any action. The driveway to access the new home remained flooded with ponded water. Subsequently I advised Mr. Camelio to contact me regarding approvals if he wished to relocate the driveway to higher ground in the upland review area.

BUILDING PERMITS REVIEWED

- 18 New Road (Assessor's reference 154/5/10B), Shaun Gray, single family dwelling, Wetland Agent Approval WAA20120 issued 7/26/21.
- 100 Sand Dam Road (Assessor's reference 114/24/60B), Thomas Murray, single family dwelling, see WAA20023 issued 10/9/20.
- 8 Robbins Rd (Assessor's reference 87/53/8A), Craig & Lisa Audette, 40' X 60' childcare facility, see permit IWA21002 issued 2/9/21.
- 178 Quinebaug Rd. (Assessor's reference 57/68/17), Kevin & Jane m Beno, 30' X 140'-tiered concrete slab, not in wetlands, watercourses or upland review area.
- 49 Fernwood Ave. (Assessor's reference 116/13/21A), Sharon OConnell, 8' X 10' deck connector, not in wetlands, watercourses or upland review area.
- 10 Vernon Ln. (Assessor's reference 105/34/7M), William & Brenda Cacciapouti, 28' X 25' 1-story addition, not in wetlands, watercourses or upland review area.
- 222 Ravenelle Rd (Assessor's reference 23/105/28D), William E Fongellaz IV, 20' above ground pool, not in wetlands or watercourses, may be in upland review area, need wetlands agent approval or ruling use permitted as of right if grading is to go beyond footprint of above ground swimming pool.

PURCHASE REQUISITIONS STATUS

- Encumbered \$40.00 (P.O. 122087) Stonebridge Press, legal notice, Shaun Gray, WAA21020.
- Payment pending \$73.50 (P.O. 122076), Stonebridge Press, legal notice, Paul Duquette, IWA21013.
- ** C. Obert asks that a Fees Review be conducted, and volunteered to participate