

**Town Of Thompson**  
**Conservation Commission**  
815 Riverside Drive, PO Box 899  
North Grosvenordale, Connecticut 06255

MINUTES—REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2020, 7:00 PM  
TOWN HALL 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

Chairman Phil Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members present: Phil Thomas, Carol Smith, Norma O’Leary and Peter Cummins.

Staff present: Carolyn Werge and Audrey Witkowski.

*Approval of Minutes*

1. **Norma O’Leary moved and Peter Cummins seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the December 16, 2019 meeting as presented. All in favor. The motion carried.**

*Financial Matters*

1. 42% has been used.

*Correspondence*

- a. Members received via email:
  - 1) Minutes: Conservation Commission, December 16, 2019.
- b. Incoming Mail:
  - 1) There will be a Freedom of Information Act Workshop for board, commission and committee members and staff members on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 from 6pm-7:30pm at the Thompson Public Library/Community Center.
- b. Outgoing Mail: None.
- d. Incoming Mail via email:
  - 1) There will be an open forum and potluck supper for citizens to converse with town officials, Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 6pm in the Louis P. Faucher Community Center at the Thompson Public Library. There is some discussion on changing the date of this event.
- e. Outgoing Mail via email: None.

*Officer and Committee Reports*

1. Conservation Officer Report
  - a. New Requests: None.
  - b. Old Requests: None.
  - c. Updates:
    - 1) The PZC has requested Carolyn Werge’s assistance on the aquifer protection regulations for their re-write of the zoning regulations as they are unfamiliar with their authority in this matter. The PZC already has state approved regulations in place for the public water supply watershed area. The PZC has statutory authority to protect the groundwater sources for future use. Carolyn Werge supplied the PZC with her recommendations for incorporating aquifer and groundwater protection into their zoning regulations.
      - i. Phil Thomas discussed the mining being conducted up Route 131 in Dudley and the potentially contaminated back fill being brought in and asked what the reclamation regulations are for Thompson. The PZC requires detailed plans from the beginning to end results of all mining operations in town. Carolyn Werge will research what is being used as backfill in Dudley.
    - 2) The Wetlands Agent is now able to work for a few hours once a week but Carolyn Werge is continuing to review building permits.
    - 3) At the previous meeting, the Commission had discussed the Masonic Lodge once used as a school by the town. Carolyn Werge reviewed the deed which stated the property reverted back to the previous owner or their heirs when the town ceased using the property as a school.
    - 4) Carolyn Werge provided a map of the Bull Hill area with the town owned parcels and the Wyndham Land Trust parcels. There is a wood lot on Ravenelle Rd owned by the town and designated for the poor to collect firewood.

- 5) The Green Valley subdivision planned for Donovan Rd in Quinebaug was originally approved in 2007 and expires in Dec 2021 after an extension. No building permits will be issued until the open space parcels have been conveyed to the town and the Conservation Easement markers have been installed.
- 6) The previously approved Audubon annual membership was expended this month as well as \$45.89 to WB Mason for general office supplies.
- 7) The Finance Department is requesting a proposed budget for 2020-2021. Carolyn Werge is in need of a new department laptop and updated software. There are quotes for leasing available but they are for commercial use, Carolyn Werge has requested information on deals for municipalities. Carolyn is also willing to request a new laptop for everything else and use the old laptop for GIS mapping while it still runs.
- 8) The Board of Finance is requesting an annual report. Carolyn Werge will collect the information and draft a report.

## 2. Other

### *Old Business*

1. Update on previous Conservation reviews: No update.
2. Blue Bird houses: No update.
3. Fabyan Property with "Honor Roll" marker: No update.
4. Groundwater protection: No update.
5. Neglected Cemetery Grant:
  - a. There is still \$300 left of the \$2,500 grant. Norma O'Leary is unsure how often we can apply for the grant.

### *New Business*

### *Citizens' Comments*

### *Members' Forum*

1. Norma O'Leary is working with the town planner on a proposal for nip bottle returns. Nip bottles are a big source of pollution in the town. The town planner is working on a program to accept nip bottles and in return donate money towards the children in town.

### *Announcements*

### *Future Meeting*

1. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 21, 2020 at 7 PM in the Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room.

### *Adjournment*

1. Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 8:09PM.

Audrey Witkowski  
Recording Secretary