



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**7 MAIN STREET
WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 01588
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Meeting Minutes May 9, 2012

Andrew Chagnon, Bill Freer, Terry Bradley and John Brown were present. Diane Schotanus, Cheryl Peckham and Joy Anderson were absent. Barbara Kinney, Administrative Assistant was also present.

Mr. Brown opened the meeting at 7:12PM. We were waiting for a quorum.

Citizen's Forum

Benito Alberini of 2667 Providence Road was present. Mr. Chagnon stated that at the site visit they noticed that some of the work is new, but Mr. Alberini is finishing work that was installed some time ago. It does not look like any new ongoing work being done. Mr. Freer was also present at the site visit. Mr. Chagnon mentioned to Mr. Alberini that the low retaining wall has a tilt to it. An eye should be kept on it because they do not want it to collapse and the movement of earth could be a major issue. No further action is required at this time per the Conservation Commission.

(248-584) Douglas Road (Map 3, A.P.O. Parcel 121)

Proposed delineation of wetlands using 50% or more wetland indicator plants, saturated / inundated conditions and hydric soil indicators. The applicant is Douglas Road Industrial Realty Trust represented by Andrews Survey & Engineering, Inc., PO Box 312, Uxbridge, MA 01569.

The Conservation Office received a letter dated May 9, 2012 from Andrews Survey & Engineering requesting a continuance of this Public Hearing.

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Bradley. The Conservation Commission voted 4-0 to continue the Public Hearing to May 23, 2012 at 7:05PM.

(248-585) 11 Fletcher Street (Map 5, Parcel(s) 78 & 79)

Proposed construction of a new DPW facility & associated site improvements including demolition of existing buildings. The applicant is Northbridge DPW represented by Pare Corporation, 8 Blackstone Valley Place, Lincoln, RI 02865.

Mr. Chagnon recused himself.

Motion made by Mr. Bradley and seconded by Mr. Freer. The Conservation Commission voted 3-0-1 (Mr. Chagnon abstained) to continue the Public Hearing to May 23, 2012 at 7:10PM because there was no quorum for this Public Hearing.

(248-587) Church Street Maintenance Facility Site Plan (Map 28, Parcel(s) 6, 46, 73 & 74)

Proposed construction of a parking area for the overnight parking of the propane trucks including grading and drainage within the 100 foot buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland. The applicant is Vincent Osterman, Osterman Propane, LLC represented by Heritage Design Group, One Main Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588.

Vince Osterman (owner) and David Rudge (General Manager) of Osterman Propane and Mark Anderson (Director of Planning) and Eric Bazette (Senior Designer) of Heritage Design Group were present. Also, Jeff Howland of JH Engineering was present.

Mr. Anderson explained that there are a couple of outstanding issues. He then stated that the Planning Board approved the submittal last night.

Mr. Howland stated he submitted a letter on April 19, 2012 and another one on May 9, 2012 that states that a determination needs to be made on whether the stormwater standards are met on the east side of the property as there is $\pm 11,400$ square feet of untreated impervious area. The Total Suspended Solids removal is only 69% if you take into account the new $\pm 78,000$ square feet that is treated and the $\pm 11,400$ untreated. This does not meet the standards of 80%. Also, the standards require no new untreated area.

Mr. Bazette stated that the infiltration basin design is designed up to a two year storm. All flows to the basin. The two year storm is three inches of treated and all of it flows to the basin. This comes out to 100% removal for 80% of the site. It captures the second or third inch of runoff. Mr. Chagnon stated that the first inch of runoff site wide has the most TSS than any other point of the site. He understands what Mr. Bazette is saying, however, the way the regulations are written that does not meet them. Mr. Chagnon then wanted to know if the $\pm 11,400$ could be treated with another basin. Mr. Bazette looked at the elevations and they are so low that the trench drains do not go below the front line. He looked at several options and there is no real good option to use.

Mr. Anderson explained that the driveway apron is existing and this is what will be untreated. They are not adding any adverse impact to that area of the site. Mr. Chagnon reiterated that the state regulations state that the $\pm 11,400$ must be added to the area and must be treated unless they can show that there is no alternative for treatment.

Mr. Osterman stated that the runoff from Church Street is because the town does not have proper basins at their entrance. Mr. Chagnon said that he is not sure what that has to do with the application here. He could facilitate a conference call with the DPW and Mr. Osterman to address that drainage issue at another time. Mr. Chagnon reiterated that only looking at the new area is not acceptable and the state regulations must be met. Mr. Osterman asked what the cost would be to comply with the whole site. Mr. Anderson estimated that it would be about \$15,000. Mr. Osterman stated to do it and Mr. Anderson will make the necessary revisions and submit the plan. However, he is asking the Conservation Commission to close the Public Hearing tonight.

Mr. Howland stated he could look at the plans to see if something less invasive could be done and if some of it could be a swale to move the runoff to another area. The grades will need to be looked at. Mr. Anderson agreed to take a look at that.

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Bradley. The Conservation Commission voted 4-0 to close the Public Hearing.

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Bradley. The Conservation Commission voted 4-0 to approve the plan as presented with the condition that for the remaining $\pm 11,400$ measures be presented to treat the untreated area to meet the state regulations and that they are acceptable to the Conservation Commission and their consultant.

Minutes

April 11, 2012

There was no quorum to vote on these minutes.

April 25, 2012

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Bradley. The Conservation Commission voted 4-0 to approve the minutes of April 25, 2012 as written.

Old / New Business

National Grid / Interstate Reliability Project – Informal Presentation

Dan MacIntyre, Erin Whaisken, Amy McKinnon and Lee Curtis of BSC Group were present. National Grid is looking to build a transmission line from Millbury, MA to West Smithfield, RI and a small portion of the project will be in Northbridge. Three structures are proposed and none will be in the Bordering Vegetated Wetland. One pad will be in the riverfront area and barely out of a wetland buffer zone. On Lasell Road, there will be tree clearing because they will need the full width of the right-of-way. It is mostly scrub shrubs that will be permanent growth. Temporary swamp mat pads will be used during construction. There are two existing transmission lines and they will be adding a third. Mr. Bradley asked about the timeline. They stated that the permitting process will be starting in June and looking at the first quarter of 2014 for construction. New shrubs will be planted once it is complete. There will be $\pm 11,000$ square feet of new disturbance. Ms. Curtis stated that a Notice of Intent will be filed and wanted to know if there is anything specific that the Conservation Commission would like them to address.

Mr. Bradley asked them to keep in mind seasonal activities such as spring amphibian movement, spawning, etc. Ms. Curtis stated that there are vernal pools associated with the project but none are in Northbridge. Mr. Chagnon asked that they do the clearing when the ground is frozen or when the ground is the driest. Ms. Curtis stated that they may not have control, but they basically try to do it in the winter.

(248-310) Lot 7 Moon Hill Road – Request for Certificate of Compliance

The Conservation Commission signed the Certificate of Compliance for Lot 7 Moon Hill Road.

Other

Linwood Mill – They are looking for a Certificate of Compliance and this will be on the next agenda. Mr. Bradley will look at the site on Saturday, May 12, 2012. The owners are looking for a letter from the Conservation Commission to the Building Inspector to release the occupancy permits. Mr. Chagnon stated that normally the Conservation Commission waits until the grass is growing before issuing the Certificate of Compliance. The Conservation Commission discussed the options and decided which one they will go with.

Mr. Chagnon stated that he has been by the site and it looks good. Mr. Anderson stated that the areas has been hydro seeded and only needs the grass growing. He also stated that there have been no issues whatsoever to-date.

Carpenter Road – Mark Anderson of Heritage Design Group stated that Art Allen flagged the wetland area, the area is very flat and the upland and wetland look alike. No trees over four inches will be cut and all work will be done by hand. However, if they excavate, there are no soils to replace it as the area of the crossing is mostly rocks. Mr. Anderson stated they would like to leave it the way it is and just add more plantings. If they try to import soils, etc. it will do more damage than necessary. This is for the 2,300 foot replication area. Mr. Anderson suggested that the Conservation Commission go take a look at the site and the Conservation Commission agreed. Mr. Chagnon suggested that they take the roof runoff and swale it into that area to get it more water.

The site visit has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at 6:30PM.

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Bradley. The Conservation Commission voted 4-0 to issue the Certificate of Compliance.

The Conservation Commission members present performed *administrative tasks* (signed Orders, etc.) that were needed.

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Bradley. The Conservation Commission voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at or about 8:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE APPROVED: October 10, 2012

Barbara A. Kinney
Conservation Administrative Assistant