



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

7 MAIN STREET
WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 01588
Telephone: (508) 234-0817
FAX: (508) 234-0814

RECEIVED
22 SEP 26 PM 6:23

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
LINDA E. ZYWIEN

Meeting Minutes January 19, 2022

Justine Carroll, Rich Chiras, Cindee Cummiskey and Barbara McNamee were present. Chloe Mawn was late. Steve Gniadek and Justin Arbuckle were absent. David Pickart, Conservation Commission (NCC) Agent, was present. Barbara Kinney, NCC Administrative Assistant was absent.

J. Carroll opened the meeting at 7:08PM.

Attendees: Fred Lapham, Shea Engineering.

Citizen's Forum

None

(248-689) 2528 Providence Road (Map 25, Parcel 76)

Proposed septic system repair with associated grading within the 100 foot buffer zone for a single-family dwelling. The applicant for this project is Lilac Homes, LLC represented by Alpha Omega Engineering, 25 Highland View Drive, Sutton, MA 01590.

This Public Hearing was continued from the last meeting. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) file number was needed and it has been received. The applicant or engineer is not present for this meeting and they are not needed, per D. Pickart.

Motion made by B. McNamee and seconded by R. Chiras. The NCC voted 4-0 by roll call vote of B. McNamee – Yes; C. Cummiskey – Yes; J. Carroll – Yes; and R. Chiras – Yes to close the Public Hearing.

C. Mawn arrived at 7:10PM.

Motion made by B. McNamee and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of B. McNamee – Yes; C. Cummiskey – Yes; J. Carroll – Yes; C. Mawn – Yes; and R. Chiras – Yes to issue the Order of Conditions (OOC).

(248-XXX) 693 Fowler Road (Map 17, Parcel 34)

Proposed installation of a replacement septic system with clearing, excavating, filling, grading, loaming and seeding for a single-family dwelling. The applicant is Daniel & Amanda Foster represented by Shea Engineering & Surveying, 76 Uxbridge Rd, Mendon, MA 01756.

The legal requirements have been satisfied including publication of the legal ad. Fred Lapham explained that this is an existing three (3) bedroom single-family dwelling that is located on the south side of the street half way between Highland Street and Hill Street. The septic system is in failure. There is a sink in the outbuilding with a line to the septic system. The existing septic line for the dwelling comes into the other side of the septic tank from the sink in the outbuilding. They are proposing to bypass the entire system/leach field and put in a new tank where the old one is and put a new leach field. The soils are good but rocky. The further back you go the closer you are to the wetlands. It will be a Cul-Tec chamber system in a smaller footprint. It will be located on the hillside that slopes to the wetlands. Some woods will need to be cut. The new system will be Title V compliant and the Board of Health (BOH) has approved the new system. The closest point to the wetlands will be 52 feet. A small amount of fill will be needed. Northeast Ecological Services flagged the wetlands.

D. Pickart has not visited the site yet and he wants to do this before the Hearing is closed. The dwelling was built in 1940 so it is exempt from the local bylaw. The DEP file number has not been received yet.

F. Lapham explained that this is a young family with a couple of children and wanted to know if anything can be done to start limited staging. The existing system needs to be pumped out often and this is getting expensive. D. Pickart wanted to know how often the septic system is being pumped out. F. Lapham stated it is being pumped out about once a month. D. Pickart said the NCC could consider an emergency certification to start the work but that is more time consuming. B. McNamee would approve of that. F. Lapham said that they just want to install the erosion controls and remove the vegetation. They can put frost blankets over the leach system if needed to prevent frost from getting any deeper. D. Pickart thinks this is a pretty reasonable request, but he is not a voting member. F. Lapham should check with the BOH to see if they could be convinced to support this, then that would help the NCC in justifying the emergency certification order. D. Pickart can speak to the BOH agent if needed.

Motion made by R. Chiras and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of B. McNamee – Yes; C. Cummiskey – Yes; J. Carroll – Yes; C. Mawn and R. Chiras – Yes to approve the emergency certification for installation of erosion controls, clearing of vegetation and installation of frost blankets contingent upon the BOH's approval.

Motion made by R. Chiras and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of B. McNamee – Yes; C. Cummiskey – Yes; J. Carroll – Yes; C. Mawn and R. Chiras – Yes to continue the Public Hearing to February 02, 2022 at the first available time.

Old / New Business

None

Other

Christmas Tree Recycling – At the Christmas Tree Recycling event, we were short-handed on volunteers. B. McNamee has a few ideas for next year on how to maybe alleviate the issue. We could cut back on the number of hours to three (3), make sure our members hold the day free to attend the event and maybe get some outside volunteers. About 87 trees were collected.

Municipal Vulnerability Plan (MVP) – Per D. Pickart they are moving slower than anticipated regarding the Carpenter Reservoir causeway.

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

Adjournment

Motion made by B. McNamee and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The NCC voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting about 7:38PM.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE APPROVED:



Barbara A. Kinney
Conservation Administrative Assistant

09/21/2022