



## **TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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

### **Meeting Minutes December 12, 2012**

Joy Anderson, Terry Bradley, Bill Dausey, Andrew Chagnon, Justin Arbuckle and John Brown were present. Cheryl Peckham was absent. Barbara Kinney, Administrative Assistant was also absent.

Mr. Brown opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

#### **Citizen's Forum** None

#### **(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 applicant or their engineer was not in attendance tonight. The Conservation Commission is not sure if the ANRAD is still necessary now that the Order of Conditions for Douglas Road has been issued. Ms. Kinney will need to contact the applicant / engineer to let them know that this Public Hearing has been continued to the January 9, 2013 agenda at 7:10PM.

#### **(248-592) Sutton Street Roadway & Infrastructure Improvements (Maps 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 22A, 25)**

Proposed roadway reconstruction and infrastructure improvements on Sutton Street for approximately 11,200 feet from the Sutton / Northbridge town line to Providence Road (Route 122). The applicant is the Town of Northbridge represented by AECOM, 250 Apollo Drive, Chelmsford, MA 01824.

The remaining concern that the Conservation Commission had was in regards to the property owners' permission to do the work on their properties. It was explained to the Conservation Commission that the Town of Northbridge will do a taking of the property(s) if necessary.

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Dausey. The Conservation Commission voted 6-0 to close the Public Hearing.

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Dausey. The Conservation Commission voted 6-0 to issue the Order of Conditions with the condition that the need for

a fence at the junction of Cove Place be added to the project if trash is still being dumped in this area.

**Minutes**October 10, 2012

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Bradley. The Conservation Commission voted 4-0-2 (Mr. Dausey and Mr. Arbuckle abstained) to approve the minutes of October 10, 2012.

October 24, 2012

Motion made by Ms. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Bradley. The Conservation Commission voted 4-0-2 (Mr. Chagnon and Mr. Arbuckle abstained) to approve the minutes of October 24, 2012.

November 14, 2012

Motion made by Ms. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Bradley. The Conservation Commission voted 4-0-2 (Mr. Chagnon and Mr. Arbuckle abstained) to approve the minutes of November 14, 2012.

**Old / New Business**(248-589) Osterman Wetland Crossings – Review Draft of Special Conditions

Paul Knapik of BSC Group presented his comments on the draft Order of Conditions. The redline copy was made available to the Conservation members. There is no vehicle access to the area now for the restoration area. When the area can be accessed, sample pits will be taken to determine the suitability of the site via the test pits.

All special conditions offered by Mr. Knapik were agreed upon the Conservation Commission. The suggestions include NPDES permit and contractor information to be provided pre-construction. The contractor will need to provide detailed information on tree removal methods and plan for mitigation area at that time. After construction begins, the exploratory test pits will be done once access has been provided to that area.

The Conservation Commission stated that the Order of Conditions shall include that BSC Group will be the agent of the Conservation Commission and benchmarks will be determined for pre-construction, during construction and post-construction assessment.

The applicant agreed to a five year Order of Conditions. Assessment of the growth of the mitigation area will be for 5 years.

**Other**(248-590) Interstate Reliability Project Transmission Line(s)

National Grid typically does not put erosion controls in, but uses swamp mats that leave all the roots in. They would like to discuss the erosion controls and an amendment to the Order of Conditions to allow no erosion controls or the change in sequence to the installation of erosion controls. The Conservation Commission will need to decide if they will allow this administratively or whether a revision of the Order of Conditions is required.

The Conservation Commission discussed the possibility of hiring a Conservation Agent. One option is to hire a part-time agent that is experienced and pay for this agent. Another option is to use a senior under the tax break program and then pay a stipend for time

beyond that program. Research needs to be done on what the total fees are that have been raised during the last 10 years and what expenses have been paid out of the fees fund. A review will then need to be made to determine if the agent could be paid from the fees fund and what the potential is of raising the fees to some degree without being overly burdensome. Also, if a tax break can be awarded to a non-town resident. Ms. Kinney will need to do the research and provide this information to the Conservation Commission for review.

Mr. Dausey reported on his meeting with the Earth Removal Board regarding Mr. Knott's request.

Mr. Chagnon provided a review to the Commission members of the basic workings of the Conservation Commission.

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

Motion made by Ms. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Brown. The Conservation Commission voted 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at or about 8:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE APPROVED: February 13, 2013

Barbara A. Kinney  
Conservation Administrative Assistant