

**DURHAM INLAND WETLANDS
and
WATERCOURSES AGENCY
Durham Town Hall
Durham, CT 06422**

Minutes of September 12, 2016 Regular Meeting

Mr. Eriksen opened the meeting.

Attendance:

MEMBERS & ALTERNATES	
Cascini, Peter	X
Cheyney, Karen	X
DeFelice, Frank	A
Eriksen, Richard	X
Meisenkothen, Chris	X
Riotte, Gene	X
Ward, William	X
<i>Alternates</i>	
Augur, Phil	A
Battista, Arnold	A
Laudano, Mark	X
<i>Others</i>	
Colegrove, Geoffrey	X

Seating of Alternates

Mark Laudano was seated for Frank DeFelice.

Amendments to Agenda

None.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda as amended by email. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Gene Riotte, seconded by Peter Cascini, to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2016 meeting. Motion passed with Karen Cheyney in abstention.

Public Session

None.

Extension of Permit, Camp Farnum, Maiden La.

Douglas McDonald, VP of the Board of Directors, Farnum Neighborhood House, addressed the commission. He explained that a permit to replace a culvert at the entrance expires and is hoping to get an extension. All funding and procedures are currently in place. Engineering and plans have also been completed. The culvert will convert to 30" pipes from the current 24" pipes which will increase the flow and will not hinder any other property. Geoff Colegrove, Town of Durham Zoning Enforcement Officer, stated that the original approval noted installing 30" pipes if they could get the depth of bedrock. They will go with 5 30" pipes. There will be a silt curtain downstream and hay bales across the stream during low flow. The project will take less than a week to complete. Mr. Colegrove stated that he contacted Mr. Fowler and made him fully aware of the project. The town engineers have planned to make daily inspections until the project is completed. Mr. Colegrove stated that the paperwork for the project has been filed with the Army Corp of Engineers by Pat Benjamin. There was discussion regarding the plans for the project.

A motion was made by Chris Meisenkothen, seconded by Peter Cascini, to approve a one-year extension of their previously approved permit with the condition that it meets the standards set by the Army Corp of Engineers and the project be coordinated with the Town Engineer. Motion passed unanimously.

Nick Xenelis, grading of a portion of an agricultural field in a regulated area, corner of Cherry La. And Higganum Rd.

Mr. Xenelis presented the plans for the farm pond that was built in 1996. Mr. Xenelis pointed out the hay field and the brook. An area that was used for de-watering the wet material was pointed out. An area was burmed, wet material was placed and dried and then excavated out. The major excavation area was pointed out on the maps. Mr. Xenelis explained what was happening as they were de-watering and excavating and how the DEP made a request that they change where they pump and to place hay bales and dig the area down more. Grading was done and left the area low and now it's in the middle of the hay field. Mr. Xenelis would like to get it filled back in. He has a stockpile of material from the pond. Mr. Xenelis stated no water from the stream goes into the pond. The pond is spring fed. Mr. Xenelis presented some pictures of the area. The intent is to fill the area in and get the water to run around the pond. It will be a couple hundred cubic feet of material. The area is a natural wetland. Karen Cheyney considered this project to be an agricultural use.

A motion was made by Chris Meisenkothen, seconded by Peter Cascini, to approve the filling of a depression adjacent to a Farm Pond, that was previously approved by the Agency, as a farm related activity. Motion passed unanimously.

Rick Huntley, 22 space parking area on Town owned open space, Dead Hill Rd.

Mr. Colegrove stated that it is 26 parking spaces, not 22. Mr. Eriksen stated that this project has been coordinated with Mr. Colegrove and Brian Curtis, Town Engineer. Mr. Huntley stated that he spoke with the commission previously and discussed parking in the area. Mr. Huntley is looking for approval here and when that is received he is requesting the Town of Durham's Public Works Department give quantities and costs for materials and hopefully be able to do the work, and then go to the board of finance for the appropriation. This will be a capital project for the Conservation Commission. This project will be in the review area of the wetlands. Mr. Colegrove stated that they walked the site and there is an intermittent water course that runs down during storm events, there is no flow. Two sets of pictures were presented to the commission. The major wetlands are to the south of the area of the proposed project. The plans for the project were also provided to the commission. Mr. Huntley stated that this area has become popular with the mountain biking community and it's the trail head for the Northern Exposure Trail. The parking surface will be gravel.

A motion was made by Chris Meisenkothen, seconded by Gene Riotte, to approve the application and plans for a 26 space parking area on Town owned open space as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Town of Durham, Revised Site Plan, Public Safety Complex, Main St.

Mr. Eriksen stated that the original plan has been seen and approved. Mr. Andy Meiman, Public Safety Facilities Planning Renovation Committee, addressed the commission. The proposal is to relocate the propane tanks and generator that were adjacent to the south side of the fire house to an area to the north of the parking lot to the rear of the fire house. The proposal also includes an enclosure around it. Another addition to the plan is some fencing at 37 Main Street to diminish the effect of lights from the one-way driveway. Mr. Colegrove stated it is 6' high vinyl fencing. Mr. Brian Curtis, Town Engineer, also reviewed the plans. Mr. Colegrove stated where the generator will be the tanks will have protection and also proposing landscaping around the facility to mitigate the impact of the mechanicals in that location. Because of the wetlands on the site and the 100' buffer, any changes must go before the commission.

A motion was made by Gene Riotte, seconded by Peter Cascini, to approve the amended site plan showing a fence along a portion of the southerly property line of 37 Main Street and the relocation of the generator and propane tanks behind the fire house parking area. Motion passed unanimously.

Enforcement Officer's Report

None.

Payment of Bills

None.

Miscellaneous

None.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Keogh