

### TOWN OF OXFORD

S.B. Church Memorial Town Hall 486 Oxford Road, Oxford, Connecticut 06478-1298 www.Oxford-CT.gov

# **Conservation Commission / Inland Wetlands Agency**

## **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

The **Regular Meeting** of the Oxford Conservation Commission/Inland Wetlands Agency was held virtually online with Google meets video on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Chairman Susan Purcella Gibbons

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

#### ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL:

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Chairman Sue Purcella Gibbons and Commission Members Brian Smith, Ethan Stewart & Joe Lanier

**STAFF**: Administrative Secretary Denise Randall and I.W. Enforcement Officer Michael Herde

## ABSENT:

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS (NOT FOR PENDING APPLICATIONS): None

#### AMENDMENT TO AGENDA:

MOTION made by Commissioner B. Smith and seconded by Commissioner J. Lanier to add an amendment to the agenda to include the following applications for acceptance: (IW 20-93) Chippy's Service Station, 140 Oxford Rd., (Proposed use=Commercial business- leasing existing building for cold storage of 3 wreckers) (Wetlands impact=0) (IW 2-94) Homes by CSP, dba Paul Ferssola, 532 Quaker Farms Rd., (Proposed use=Single family dwelling) (Total size of acres= 2.74) (Total acres of wetlands = .42) (wetlands impact =0) Amount of material removed= 500 cy. (IW 20-95) A & A Brothers, 46 Peach Farm Rd. (Proposed use is residential home) (Total size in acres= 8.174 acres) (Total wetlands = 16,383 sq.ft.) (Wetlands impact = 0) (Upland review area= 3600 sq. ft.) (amount of material removed= 0) (amount of material deposited= 0) (IW 20-96) Donald Kessler, 10 Fiddlehead Rd, (Proposed single family dwelling) (Total size of acres = 3.30 acres) (Total acres of wetlands = .30 acres) (Wetlands impact = 0) (Upland review area impact= 4,000 Sq. ft.) (IW 20-97) Michael Lodice, 402 Quaker Farms Rd, (Lot line revision) (Total acres = 15.6 acres) (Wetlands impact = 0) (Upland

review impact =0) (IW 20-98) Michael Lodice, 402 Quaker Farms Rd, (Proposed single family dwelling) (Total acres = 2.09 acres) (Wetlands impact = 0) (Total acres of wetlands= .31 acres) (Upland review impact =12,000 sq. ft.) All in favor 4-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: None** 

**NEW BUSINESS: None** 

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 48 Jacksons Cove Rd- Verbal violation, discussion with permission, separate site walks Permission (site walk performed) (Still awaiting revised plan from Fred D'Amico)

Mr. Ryan Kocsis and his engineer Mr. Fred D'Amico are present by video.

Chairman Sue P. Gibbons stated: We have been waiting a while for a revised plan on this and I know I did a site walk about 2 months ago. I believe Joe & Andrew were out there about 2 months ago.

The Chairman asked if Mr. Kocsis can give the commission an update.

Mr. Kocsis replied: I know a letter was sent to me but I was not home to sign it, so therefore I was never able to read the letter.

The Chairman asked if Mr. D'Amico can give us an update as we do have a time limit.

Enforcement Officer stated: Yes, we still have not received a restoration map.

Mr. D'Amico replied: I'm sorry, I am here by phone but I'm actually at another meeting and can be available in a little bit if that's ok.

Commissioner Andrew Ferrillo entered the meeting via video.

The Chairman agreed and went onto the next part of the agenda is 25 Lisa Drive.

Mr. & Mrs. Russell are present by via video.

Chairman Sue P. Gibbons stated: I believe everyone saw the email that Joe Lanier sent the commission with photos of this property from last weekend which was 9/4/20.

The photos were presented by Joe Lanier along with an explanation.

Commissioner Lanier explained: (pointing to the photos) About 9 to 12" inches of soil is still here. The material is still needs to be removed. In this last photo with the Hemlock tree went down 9"

Mr. Russell replied: We had 3 different people come out here and we were sort of waiting

for guidance to make sure we did the right thing. I have no problem taking the rest of it out.

The Chairman asked about the equipment that is still on the property.

Mrs. Russell explained that the equipment on site which is small farm tractors is needed because the road we live on is not a town road and we are responsible for winter maintenance.

Chairman Sue P. Gibbons stated: Ok, I understand. Maybe we can wrap this up by our next regular meeting.

Mr. Russell asked: So I can take out about a foot more?

Commissioner J. Lanier agreed and stated: We really appreciate you coming back and working with us.

The Chairman agreed and stated: Ok, we want to get this squared away and off the agenda by the next meeting. Thank you so much.

Mr. & Mrs. Russell will drop off an application.

## Fred D'Amico (applicant engineer for 48 Jacksons Cove Road is back on via telephone.

Enf. Officer Herde stated: This has been going on since May and we are coming up to the peak of hurricane season and you missed the dry season now. We need to have this restoration plan in place to get this done. Don't leave Ryan hanging.

The Chairman asked the engineer for an explanation.

Mr. D'Amico stated: I will have the restoration plan either next week or the week after.

Enf. Officer Herde stated: Well probably better to have it the week before the next meeting so that everyone can have time to look at it.

Mr. D'Amico replied: Ok, right, yes. I will have it by next week then.

The Chairman stated: Yes, we want to wrap this up and get it off the agenda.

The Applicant and Engineer thanked the commission and left the meeting.

(IW 20-24) Michael Tarby, 349 Christian Street, proposed building addition 759 sq. ft. site drainage (Total size of acres = 2.566 acres) (Wetlands impact = 0) (Upland Review area impact = 0)

Enforcement Officer Herde stated: We are still awaiting payment on the Nafis & Young invoice which was emailed 2 times to the engineer and to Mr. Tarby. He does still need sign off for this so maybe we should hold off until we receive the check. The Commission can always revoke the permit.

The Chairman stated: I believe it was for about \$345 and so maybe we can call Mr. Tarby tomorrow.

#### **RE-APPLICATION:**

## NEW APPLICATIONS REQUIRING OCCIWA APPROVAL (ACCEPTANCE):

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Chairman Sue P. Gibbons asked Commissioner Joe Lanier to explain the memo regarding "Sustainable CT. Resolution" appointed advisory team.

Commissioner Joe Lanier stated the following: This Sustainable CT mission is a voluntary Certification program to recognize thriving Connecticut municipalities, an independently funded Grassroots, municipal effort. Sustainable CT also provides opportunities for grant funding to help communities promote economic well-being and enhance equity all while respecting the finite capacity of the natural environment. Students such as the Youth Conservation Corp, which can be project based, can raise funds and thru this community foundation grant, and they will match the fund raising dollar for dollar. A great example is the increase traffic of users in Rockhouse Hill Trail can give back to the students. Our main focus as an appointed team thru the Conservation Commission is of course open space and passive recreation.

The Chairman asked about how the Covid-19 will effect this?

Commissioner Joe Lanier replied: Right now for the YCC student members, we are taking every precaution with temperature taking, gloves and masks. When Conservation Commission applications come in we make sure that they meet the criteria before sending to the community foundation. Our direct contact right now is Jeff Luff (Economic Development Director) Raising \$10,000 would be substantial for us.

Chairman Sue Gibbons stated: Well this sounds good, and it's nice to see students wanting to help out and good to see them outside.

The Commission agreed.

Commissioner Joe Lanier stated he still keeps in touch with some of the contacts at the community foundation when he worked in Bridgeport.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

## ACCEPTANCE OF APPROVAL MINUTES & CORRECTIONS TO MINUTES (IFANY):

MOTION made by Commissioner A. Ferrillo and seconded by Commissioner B. Smith to accept regular meeting minutes for 8/25/20. All in favor 5-0.

#### **ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:**

#### 10 Robinson Lane:

Enforcement Officer stated: I have been checking almost daily and making sure the river looks good and right now the trout are looking great.

## Chestnut Tree Hill Rd extension:

Enforcement Off Herde stated: It is stabilized but I think a few commission members should look at it to see if they want it pulled back even more.

Commissioner B. Smith and Commissioner A. Ferrillo will meet with Enforcement Officer on Thursday, 9/10/20 at 11 am.

## Canterbury Woods/Glendale update:

The Chairman asked the Secretary Denise Randall to take off the agenda.

#### COMPLAINT/CONCERN:

REPORTS ON SEMINARS, INSPECTIONS, and OTHER MEETINGS SCHEDULED OR ATTENDED NEWSPAPER ITEMS & P & Z MINUTES:

#### OTHER ITEMS OF CONCERN:

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN & OTHER COMMISSION MEMBERS OTHER:

APPLICATIONS NOT REQUIRING OCCIWA APPROVAL & PERMIT APPROVALS: Will update

## MATTERS OF VIOLATIONS/LITIGATIONS:

• Notice of Cease & Restore -10 Park Road violation (Ms. Tkacz) (Pending Litigation) 7/26/16 awaiting notice from Attorney. (Update on litigation on 3/28/2017 application denied at 6/27/17 regular meeting) (Return of record received by judge on 7/7/2017)

• Notice of Cease & Desist, Glendale at Oxford/Canterbury Estates, Rowland Farms Rd, Erosion controls on site are inadequate. (letter to property owner Mr. Manuel Moutinho, Registered certified mail on 1/6/2020)

## **MATTERS OF CONSERVATION:**

## ADJOURNMENT:

**MOTION** made by **Commissioner A. Ferrillo** to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. **Seconded** by **Commissioner Ethan Stewart**. All in Favor **5-0**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Randall

I/W Administrative Secretary