

**HANSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF NOVEMBER 22nd, 2016
TOWN HALL, 542 LIBERTY STREET, HANSON, MA**

Called to Order at 7:00 PM under M.G.L. c 131, §40 and the Hanson By-Law 3-13, §5 and Rules and Regulations by Phil Clemons, Chairman, in Meeting Room A at the Town Hall.

Present: Phil Clemons, Chairman
Paul Andruk, Vice Chairman
Sharon LePorte, Member
Bill Woodward, Member

Absent: Brenna Audette, Clerk

Also Present: Laurie Muncy, Agent
Rebecca Nehiley, Administrative Assistant

Minutes

Motion to approve the Minutes of September 27, 2016: Sharon LePorte

Second: Paul Andruk

Vote: 4-0-0

The **Minutes of October 25, 2016** were tabled until the next meeting

Public Hearings

7:00 PM Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation to determine the accuracy of a resource area delineation at 91 King Street, Map 107, Lot 11 for West Light Development represented by Land Planning, Inc., 1115 Main St., Hanson, MA (**DEP #SE175-0677**)

Phil Clemons read the Public Hearing Notice and the abutters were verified. Mr. Gary Rice of Land Planning made the presentation by explaining that it's an existing parcel and house with a driveway and septic system. The wetland was delineated in 1/2016 by Environmental & Energy Solutions, Inc.. The purpose of this hearing is to determine the accuracy of the wetland line only. To that end, John Delano, consultant for the Commission reviewed the proposal and submitted a letter dated 11/17/16 with several comments and suggestions for revisions to the plan (dated 10/3/16). Mr. Delano was of the opinion that there is also a large Potential Vernal Pool on the property and there was some historical filling in another area.

Mr. Rice said that he and his crew have located Mr. Delano's changes in the field, but have not had time to assess the PVP yet. Mr. Rice said that he wanted to get together with Mr. Delano to have a look at it. He asked for a continuance. He commented that they are trying to determine how much area they have to do anything and stay out of the 50' buffer zone. Mr. Clemons said the ideal is to avoid impact, minimize impact and if that is unavoidable, to mitigate. He asked for comments from abutters. Those present were:

Ms. Linda Downer, 123 King Street – commented that "it is a vernal pool" as she hears the Peepers in the spring. She's been there for 30 years. Also, she doesn't believe it's a septic system and that it must be a cesspool.

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Motion to continue the hearing until 12/13/16 at 7 PM pending a site inspection by members of Commission, Mr. Delano and Mr. Rice date to be determined: Bill

Woodward

Second: Paul Andruk

Vote: 4-0-0

Appointments

7:15 PM Appointment with Chip Muncey, Water Superintendant to discuss water exploration at the Webster-Billings property off of East Washington Street and State Street

Mr. Clemons began by asking for an update about the activity that has already commenced. The Commission has heard from a couple of the neighbors and Phil himself has already been out there to have a look. Mr. Muncey was accompanied to the meeting by his consultant, Douglas Martin of CDM Smith. Mr. Martin said that the main access into the property is off of Old Pine Drive. The Water Department was clearing trees in a cross hatch pattern so that they can conduct resistivity testing by sending signals and measuring resistance. Once they have data back, they'll dig one or two test wells. Subsequently, they will do a survey and prepare a Notice of Intent for an access road, drilling and pump tests for water quality.

Mr. Clemons commented that he had been to the site and was of the opinion that there was more disturbance than he anticipated. He said that it appeared there were several areas of disturbance: the largest area being about 10' x 300' for a total estimation of 7,000 to 8,000 sq. ft. of impact. Mr. Martin explained that there had been miscommunication with the contractor about the use of heavy equipment. "Regardless," Mr. Clemons said, "to the Conservation Department, it's a Resource Area that we're obliged to protect." Mr. Clemons requested that the Water Department file an After-the-Fact Notice of Intent and going forward, there should be some mitigation for the damage that was incurred. Mr. Clemons asked if the water department would be amenable, if time allowed, to assist with the restoration project at Smitty's Bog to balance the damage that was done at Webster-Billings. Mr. Muncey said "Absolutely."

Mr. Clemons said that because it's a conservation property, there may be some legal process to create an easement for the water department and ideally, looking ahead, he would like part of the property to remain available for public recreation. Also, there are two certified Vernal Pools that should be protected. Mr. Martin said that he would add them to the plan. Ms. Muncy asked if there will be prohibited access to the property to which Mr. Martin replied, no, there would not be. Ms. Nehiley was asked to schedule an informal meeting on 1/24/17 at 7 PM.

7:30 PM Appointment with Dave Hanlon, Highway Dept. regarding tree removal on Conservation property adjacent to 683 Winter Street

Mr. Hanlon, Highway Supervisor, approached the Commission to say that a homeowner had contacted him about three trees that were blocking his line of sight and making it tough for him to get out of his driveway. Mr. Hanlon said that although the trees were within Conservation jurisdiction, they were in the road layout so he felt it was in the best interest of

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public safety that the trees come down. He added that they would cut them to ground level and remove and chip them. Mr. Clemons suggested (not required) that the homeowner set a bound at his property line on that corner to establish a boundary.

Motion to issue a Blanket Permit to cut the trees down: Sharon LePorte

Second: Paul Andruk

Vote: 4-0-0

Discussion

Request for an Extension to an Order of Conditions for 775 Whitman Street (Lot 2), Map 109, Lot 4 for Eric Harrington and Allysa Vanderpot (**DEP #SE175-0617**)

Motion to approve a one year Extension to an Order of Conditions for 775 Whitman Street to expire on 12/12/17: Sharon LePorte

Second: Bill Woodward

Vote: 3-0-1 (Phil Clemons recused himself)

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM: Bill Woodward

Second: Paul Andruk

Vote: 4-0-0