

**HANSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF JUNE 15, 2022
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, HANSON TOWN HALL
542 LIBERTY STREET, HANSON, MA 02341**

Called to Order at 7:00 pm under M.G.L. c131, §40 and the Hanson By-Law 3-13, §5 and Rules and Regulations by Phil Clemons, Chairman, Selectmen's Meeting Room, Hanson Town Hall, Hanson, MA. This meeting of the Hanson Conservation Commission is audio-recorded.

Present: Phil Clemons, Chairman
Sharon LePorte Vice Chairman
David Mansfield, Clerk
Thomas Roffey, Jr., Member
Edwin Heal, Member
Frank Schellenger, Agent
Lan Woodward, Administrative Assistant

Also Present: Anthony and Kathleen Pires, Lexington Street
Chris Heffman, Woodman Terrace
Susan Porazzo, Adams Circle
Terry McGovern, Zenith Consulting Engineers, LLC

Minutes

June 1, 2022

Motion to approve June 1, 2022 Minutes by: David Mansfield

Second: Edwin Heal

Vote: 5-0-0

Public Hearings

7:00 PM Request for Determination of Applicability for installation of a natural stone patio with natural stone border to prevent erosion within 100' of bordering vegetated wetlands at 24 Lexington Street, Map 107, Lot 5-15, for Anthony J. Pires. **(New Hearing)**

Mr. Mansfield read the Public Hearing Notice and green cards were verified.

Mr. Pires presented plans of installation of a natural stone patio with natural stone border to prevent erosion within 100' of bordering vegetated wetlands to the Commission. The shed was there when house was purchased.

Agent Schellenger visited site, the property sits next to a drainage pond (infiltration detention pond) for Lexington Street that has not been maintained. There is a ditch that is man-made that runs from stream, stream runs across East Washington Street. The wetland has grown over time since Lexington Street was put in, it backs up to Mr. Pires' shed. The stone patio is to prevent the back yard to fall into wetland and wooded area and it is within 50' buffer zone.

Chair Clemons asked if there were any questions, comments.

Motion to issue variance for work within 50' buffer zone by: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Second: David Mansfield

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion to issue a Negative 3 Determination and approve project presented and to close hearing by: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Second: David Mansfield

Vote: 5-0-0

7:15 PM Request for Determination for removal of four trees located on property within 100' of bordering vegetated wetlands located at 250 Adams Circle, Map 120, Lot 120, for Susan Porazzo. **(New Hearing)**

Mr. Mansfield read the Public Hearing Notice and green cards were verified.

Ms. Porazzo was present to request removal of four trees on property which is surrounded by wetlands. One particular grouping of trees that have exposed roots. There is a large tree that leans into the yard and house that she would like to be taken down.

Agent Schellenger visited site. He agrees the trees pose danger to the house. There is a tree that is actually in the wetland, best efforts should be made to top the single tree in the wetland.

Chair Clemons asked if there were any questions, comments.

Motion to issue variance for work within 50' buffer zone by: Sharon LePorte

Second: David Mansfield

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion to close hearing and issue a Negative 3 Determination and approve project presented by: David Mansfield

Second: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Vote: 5-0-0

7:30 PM Notice of Intent for the construction of a new single family dwelling, razing of existing dwelling, including associated grading, utilities, tree removal, landscaping, septic system, and decommission of existing septic system components within 100' of bordering vegetated wetlands at 64 Woodman Terrace, Map 70, Lot 56, for Robin Strauss represented by Zenith Consulting Engineers, LLC, 3 Main Street, Lakeville, MA 02347. **(DEP# SE175-0744) (New Hearing)**

Mr. Mansfield read the Public Hearing Notice and green cards were verified.

Terry McGovern, Zenith Consulting Engineers, LLC presented plans to Commission.

Agent Schellenger visited site. He spoke with Jamie Bissonette, the Engineer on record, and the 50' buffer zone runs through the existing house, it is intended to run through the new house. This is an opportunity to move out of the buffer zone, because of the extent of change in footprint, aside from avoiding taking down a number of trees, and the front of house goes steeply down pond. All the trees hold the bank. Where the tanks are requested to be would require a lot of pine tree removals.

Chair Clemons stated that in terms of our statutory obligations and other properties around Maquan Pond, our goal is to be more respectful of the buffer zones. Every piece of vegetation is important. The pond is the best resource in town. Along with tree removal, we like to hear about re-vegetation of other trees, shrubs, that sort of resource discussion we are open to. We care about the whole environment surrounding the pond. If the house can be moved 10-15', the proposal may avoid the loss of a lot of trees. The ground is rather sandy, and for any structure, it is important to keep the steep bank from eroding.

Mr. McGovern stated that if the Commission feels strongly about it, he can bring information back to the Applicant.

Chair Clemons asked if there were any questions, comments.

Motion to continue hearing until July 6th, 2022 at 7:00 PM by: Sharon LePorte

Second: David Mansfield

Vote: 5-0-0

7:45 PM Notice of Intent for authorization of a utility maintenance project to replace the existing Structure 85 along electric transmission Line 191 within 100' of bordering vegetated wetlands located at Utility Right-of-Way (ROW) Whitman Street, Map 101, Lot 2, for Matthew Devlin, NSTAR Electric Company, represented by Tighe & Bond, Inc., 4 Barlows Landing Way, Unit 15, Pocasset, MA 02559. **(DEP# SE175-0745) (New Hearing)**

Mr. Mansfield read the Public Hearing Notice.

Agent Schellenger stated the Applicant will be providing a revised Notice of Intent and had requested hearing to be continued.

Motion to continue hearing to July 6, 2022 at 7:15 PM by: Sharon LePorte

Second: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Vote: 5-0-0

Appointments - (None)

Discussions

Request for a Certificate of Compliance for 825 Pleasant Street, Map 3, Lot 48-2, for Michelle Skidmore (DEP SE#175-0128) – requires votes and signatures

Agent Schellenger stated that this is an older Order of Conditions that was never closed out. The wetlands had been dumped on by previous owner and a Certificate of Compliance could not be issued until area was cleared. The new owner has cleaned up the area and Agent Schellenger has verified the wetland is cleared.

Motion to approve and issue a Certificate of Compliance by: David Mansfield

Second: Sharon LePorte

Vote: 5-0-0

Blanket Notice of Intent Self-Compliance

Commission discussed establishing a log for projects such as Scout projects, which was under the Blanket Notice of Intent for transparency. Staff to research through previous minutes to see what work was completed under the Blanket Notice of Intent and track/format.

Strategic Plan Questionnaire

Ann Donner, Strategic Plan Consultant, is scheduling interviews to understand various perspectives and solicit input regarding the critical issues that need to be addressed. Agent Schellenger asked Commission if they have any input, he would like to put together so that it represents the Commission as a whole. It is due June 30th.

Chair Clemons stated the information already does exist, we just need to re-submit for review.

Property Management Update

-Bay Circuit Trail Bids

Mr. Mansfield reviewed the bid submissions for compliance and bid specifications and for consistency. The lowest bid was a bid of \$92,800.00 from North-Eastern Tree, but it included a substitution under the section "Flags 1-12" of a "Western Red Cedar Post and Rail Fence after the parking area with a 5' pedestrian opening." The bid work detail calls for "install gate after the parking area." The substitution of a red cedar fence for the gate represents a significant change to the specifications and does not meet the specification and reflects decreased cost of a split rail fence vs a trail head gate at the 10' path after the parking area. He determined that the change disqualifies the bid.

Dandel Construction, Inc. had the second lowest bid of \$94,785.00. The scope of work was provided on break out sheet and references were submitted. The proposed gate plan submitted was in compliance with section "Flags 1-12."

Motion to award the project to Dandel Construction, Inc., issue letters of denial, and have contract executed by: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Second: Sharon LePorte

Vote: 5-0-0

Contract Agreement reviewed by Commission. Draft was in reference to a previous IFB contract.

Motion to approve contract document and incorporate any changes to draft and submit with memo to Town Administrator for review and approval with request to process and sign by June 30, 2022 by:

Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Second: David Mansfield

Vote: 5-0-0

Property Management Update

Bay Circuit Trail Relocation; Agent Schellenger and Mr. Mansfield are trying to locate boundaries on Pierce Avenue for curb cut. Agent Schellenger will contact Land Planning to find and mark boundaries.

Motion to approve staff to contact Land Planning. Inv. to achieve one or both boundaries on Pierce Avenue for the Bay Circuit Trail Relocation Project by: Sharon LePorte

Second: David Mansfield

Vote: 5-0-0

Smitty's Bog; Boards removed from WCS 12, 14, 15. Benchmarks established for USDA project with Trimble-VRS-RTX. Itemized breakdown needed with expenses no more than \$3,000.00 and invoice created so that a payment request can be submitted to USDA.

Motion to authorize David Mansfield to obtain estimates, recruit work for project, and gather information as a special project for Helen Castles, USDA by: Edwin Heal

Second: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Vote: 5-0-0

Rocky Run; Water crossing was deconstructed, Mr. Mansfield repaired to original condition.

Open Space Acquisition

Sleeper Property; The Selectboard voted and approved Order of Taking to be issued at their June 14, 2022 meeting.

Old Business/New Business

Invoice for Stepping Stones (Dandel Construction, Inc.) Rocky Run – signed

Invoice for Public Hearing Notice (Hanson Express) 24 Lexington Street, Map 107, Lot 5-15, Request Det Applicability – signed

Invoice for Public Hearing Notice (Hanson Express) 250 Adams Circle, Map 120 Lot 120, Request Det Applicability – signed

Invoice for Public Hearing Notice (Hanson Express) for 64 Woodman Terrace, Map 70 Lot 56, Notice of Intent – signed

Invoice for Public Hearing Notice (Hanson Express) for Whitman Street, Map 101, Lot 2, Notice of Intent – signed

Invoice for Reimbursement (Rental Cancellation) Thomas Mill – signed

Invoice for Wetland Delineation Verification (Ivas Environmental) for 591 and 595 High Street, Map 64 and 73, Lot 8A and Lot 18A (MA DEP# SE175-0743) – signed

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:22 PM by: Sharon LePorte

Second: Thomas Roffey Jr.

Vote: 5-0-0