

**HANSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF DECEMBER 15th, 2015
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 John Kemmett, Chairman, in Meeting Room A at the Town Hall.

Present: John Kemmett, Chairman
Frank Schellenger, Vice Chairman
Brenna Audette, Member (arrived at 7:05 PM)
Phil Clemons, Member

Absent: Brad Kirlin, Member

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

Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of December 1, 2015: Phil Clemons

Second: Frank Schellenger

Vote: 4-0-0

Appointment

7:00 PM Informal Meeting with the Water Department to discuss well drilling on Conservation property

Mr. Chip Muncey, Water Superintendent, introduced Ian W. Mead, PE, BCEE and Doug Martin, PE, who are the engineers representing the company of CDM Smith. Mr. Martin began by saying that they are present at the meeting tonight to understand the requirements of the Conservation Commission pertaining to the investigation of two potential well site locations for drinking water. Through previous studies, they have narrowed their interest to two locations, which CDM Smith has labeled as Area 1 and Area 5. Area 1 is the Rocky Run Conservation Area off of State Street and is co-owned by Plymouth County and the Town of Hanson under the care and custody of the Conservation Commission. To explore this site, the Water Department would need to construct an access road. Area 5, which is the Webster-Billings Conservation Area off of State Street and Old Pine Drive is also owned by the town and is heavily wooded with a trail system. Mr. Martin added that to conduct a VLF survey, an access road would follow an existing path to a test drill site. They would need to widen the paths and grade them to an area that has a 400' radius around the center to create a buffer from nearby development.

Mr. Mead clarified that the next step for the Water Department would be to conduct site surveys to determine existing grades and to try and keep modifications to the potential site to a minimum while searching for viable water supply sources. He asked for comments. Mr. Schellenger asked if these were both upland sites. Mr. Mead answered that Area 1 is, but he is uncertain about Area 5. Mr. Clemons differed in opinion and clarified that Rocky Run (Area 1) has two perennial streams and would be subject not only to the State Wetlands Protection Act,

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but also the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act. He added that there is a substantial wetland off of State Street (Area 5).

That being said, Mr. Clemons commented that most likely other Water Departments in other Massachusetts communities in the past have been interested in Conservation land. Therefore, in those communities there may be procedural precedent that can be followed. He observed that although the town gets its water from the Taunton River Watershed, much of the Town's population resides within the area of the North River Watershed. Because there is a high interest for this type of exploration, the process would potentially concern the change of Conservation land to a different status; such changes would entail several levels of approval including, a Conservation Commission vote, a Town Meeting vote and a special act of Legislation under Chapter 97. (Ms. Audette arrived at 7:05 PM) Mr. Clemons was of the opinion that even if the exploration didn't "make the grade", the access roads would still have value to the town. Mr. Don Howard representing the Water Department commented that this past summer, the water supply got extremely low and their duty is to maintain water for the town.

Mr. Schellenger summarized the meeting by stating that CDM Smith could commence to move forward by flagging the wetlands and the riverfront areas and to check the Natural Heritage Maps for Endangered Species habitat. He added that before they submit a Notice of Intent, conservation jurisdiction must be established under both the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (MGL Chapter 131, §40) and the Town of Hanson Wetlands Protection By-Law 3-13 §5. The process for removing conservation status from the property must be studied as well.

Public Hearing

7:15 PM Notice of Intent for the installation of a septic system upgrade within 100 feet of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland at 75 Andrew Lane, Map 80, Lot 151 for Edward Angeli represented by McGlone Enterprises, Inc., 211 Pembroke St., Kingston, MA (DEP #SE175-0667) (New Hearing)

Mr. Schellenger read the public hearing notice and the abutters were verified. Mr. Shayne McGlone, R.S. made the presentation for a proposal to upgrade an existing septic system. Mr. Angeli, who was present, just recently purchased the property with a failed Title 5. Only a portion of a 2" line connecting the tanks and the leaching field are within the 50' buffer zone. Mr. McGlone added that the resource area depicted on the Plan is an isolated wetland protectable under the Hanson Wetlands Protection By-Law. Mr. Kemmett asked if Ms. Muncy if the filing was complete and was she satisfied with the paperwork. She replied yes. No abutters were present.

Motion to approve a variance to the 50' no build setback: Frank Schellenger

Second: Phil Clemons

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion to approve and issue a standard Order of Conditions: Frank Schellenger

Second: Phil Clemons

Vote: 4-0-0

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Appointment

7:30 PM Appointment with Lauren Underwood of Environmental Partners representative for the Water Department to update the Commission on water main replacement in various locations in the town

At a previous meeting with members of the Water Department on 6/9/2015, the Conservation Commission requested they come back to a future meeting to submit plans and explain their proposal in more detail. To that end, Ms. Lauren Underwood and Mr. Steven Olson from Environmental Partners were in attendance to update the Commission. They submitted detailed plans dated 12/15/2015.

Ms. Underwood reiterated that the Water Department is planning a water main replacement project in the following locations: Monponsett Street, Crooker Place, Sandy Lane, Sandy Terrace, and Ocean Avenue. The project consists of replacing the existing 2", 6" and 8" diameter water mains that currently serve those portions of town. New hydrants, valves, services, and temporary and permanent trench pavement will also be installed. The majority of the water main excavation will take place within the paved surface of the road. There will be no permanent changes in pervious area or grades.

She also commented that based on MassGIS, the limits of work on Monponsett Street, Crooker Place, and Ocean Avenue fall within the 100 foot Wetland Buffer Zone. In addition, Monponsett Street, Sandy Lane, Sandy Terrace, and Ocean Avenue fall within the Outstanding Resource Water. Mr. Kemmett asked where water is discharged to when they drain the hydrants. Ms. Underwood said that filter socks will be placed just off of the edge of the road within environmentally protected areas. Environmental Partners will oversee the construction of the work and will take steps to ensure that Best Management Practices (BMPs) are installed correctly and regularly inspected and cleaned to protect sensitive areas.

Mr. Clemons asked about the anticipated schedule? Mr. Muncy answered that he was not opposed to starting earlier than 4/15/16 weather permitting and ending at the end of October. Mr. Schellenger asked if all the work was outside of the 50' BZ. Ms. Underwood answered yes. Mr. Kemmett commented that if there were to be any type of breach, they would have to come back to the Commission.

Discussions

Smitty's Bog dike removal

Ms. Muncy reported that the dike was breached last week. She presented some pictures that she had taken of the work. Mr. Clemons added that Dandel did quality work and came in under budget. He was of the opinion that they could have used more erosion control, but in the future, we will have to be more specific. Mr. Kemmett suggested to Ms. Muncy to create a Rubik of what has been accomplished at the site thus far and where we are in the project. Ms. Muncy commented that she had finished the RFP's for the rest of the project but they had been stalled downstairs in Administration for over a year. Mr. Kemmett said he would be willing to talk to them and apply pressure to get that done.

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The Warrant opens on 1/5/16 for Special & Annual Town Meeting on May 2, 2016

Mr. Clemons suggested that the article for the Plymouth County Hospital site be put back on the warrant and if the property needed to be surveyed the Division of Conservation Services has a grant program that provides reimbursement funding for surveys of Conservation open space.

Consider possible appointment of newest Trails Committee member, Will Foshey as an Associate Member' of the Commission, in order to enhance his understanding of important principles that guide trail creation & management (our Blanket Notice of Intent, WPA, etc.) - **Phil Clemons asked that this matter be tabled until he's had a chance to talk with Mr. Foshey.**

Old Business/New Business

Request for a Certificate of Compliance for 18 Ferris Street, Map 7, Lot 17 for Amanda Monti (DEP #SE175-0653)

Ms. Muncy had inspected and the site is stabilized. The grass has grown in well and the erosion control is secure. Mr. Kemmett requested that Mr. Dias, the developer of the site, should be given some information on limiting the use of fertilizers near resource areas.

Motion to approve and issue a Certificate of Compliance: Phil Clemons

Second: Frank Schellenger

Vote: 4-0-0

Determination of Applicability for the installation/replacement of a chain link fence at 35 Ocean Ave., Map 2, Lot 948 for Denise and Richard Moskos - **signed**

Dandel Construction, Inc./Invoice – **signed**

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:05 PM: Frank Schellenger

Second: Brenna Audette

Vote: 4-0-0