

**HANSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF JULY 25, 2017
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
Sharon LePorte, Member
Paul Andruk, Vice Chairman
William Woodward, Member

Absent: Brenna Audette, Clerk
Rebecca Nehiley, Administrative Assistant

Also Present: Laurie Muncy, Agent
Michael DeVeuve, Associate Member

Public Hearings

7:00 PM Continued Notice of Intent for the construction of an above-ground regulator station with a driveway including site grading and utilities at Off Whitman Street, Map 106, Lot 11 for Columbia Gas of Massachusetts represented by Merrill Engineers & Land Surveyors, 427 Columbia Rd., Hanover, MA 02339 (DEP #SE175-0684)

Mr. Josh Bows, P.E. approached the Commission with a revised plan (dated 7/19/17) to discuss the construction of an above ground regulator station at Brook Street and Whitman Street. The station is underground and currently under disrepair. It will be repaired and brought up to today's standards. They found this site was the most suitable to meet their needs with frontage along Winter Street and Whitman Street. Mr. Brad Holmes did the delineation and the site is surrounded by town owned property. Because the project is within the 50 foot buffer for some of the work, they submitted a variance request along with mitigation plan designed by Brad Holmes on the plan. A silt sock is proposed along the limit of work. There will be limited activity in the site most of which will be monitored remotely. No septic or potable water proposed. They recognize that the area is significant for the mitigation of stormwater that discharges the area. The applicant proposes to transfer to the town either the fee in the land or a Conservation Easement to protect the area from disturbance.

Mr. Clemons asked about the Stormwater management plan for the site? Mr. Bows answered that because the building, aprons and driveway will all shed water, a drywall system is proposed to handle runoff. The runoff will be captured by a rain garden. Mr. Andruk asked about the vegetation management along the perimeter of the wetland along the fence. Mr. Bows said they will maintain a 5 foot strip of mowed lawn outside of the fence. Ms. LePorte asked about the vegetation being proposed in the rain garden. Mr. Bows answered it is a perennial garden that will cover a 100 year storm event. Mr. Clemons asked Mr. Bows if he had any idea where that line will be drawn for the donation of the remainder of the lot to the town. Mr. Bows said that whatever is necessary to meet zoning. They will not reduce the frontage on Whitman Street so as to keep a buildable lot but will donate the excess land to the town. The abutting land is under the care and custody of conservation.

Motion to approve the Plan subject to an OOC that will be prepared and signed at the next meeting: Sharon LePorte
Second: Paul Andruk
Vote: 4-0-0

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Motion to close the public hearing: Bill Woodward

Second: Sharon LePorte

Vote: 4-0-0

7:15 PM Continued Request for an Amendment to an Order of Conditions to replace the three six-inch pipes with two eighteen-inch pipes at the two culvert crossings within 100 feet of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland at 100 Greenbrier Lane, Map 108, Lot 5-24A for Joseph Memo represented by Webby Engineering, Inc., 180 County Rd., Plympton, MA **(DEP #SE175-0673)**

Mr. Webby and Mr. Memo approached the Board with a revised plan (dated 6/17/17) and revised storm water calculations (dated 6/17/17). Mr. Webby explained that they are increasing the number of and the pipe size to four (4) 18" pipes. Ms. Muncy reported that Mr. Delano had reviewed the new plan (see letter dated 6/19/17) and commented that the westerly pair of pipe culverts have a small watershed area and are less of a concern. He had reviewed the parameters and the runoff and found them understated, yielding a conservative result and he found the capacity is actually more than reported by the applicants engineer. In summary Mr. Delano was of the opinion that the revised plan is approvable. There will be 4 18" pipes and the cross section area increased by 6. Ms. LePorte commented that they are less likely to become clogged and turtles can get through them. According to the cross section of the culvert, there is no part of the road that is lower in elevation. There is no place that will overtop the driveway. Mr. Clemons asked about the cross section of the driveway. "Where does that plan stand"? Mr. Webby answered that the water line has to be 5-feet below the surface of the driveway. The width of the driveway is 12 feet with 2 foot shoulders. There needs to be a foot of cover at the pipes. Mr. Clemons asked for comments from abutters. Those present were:

Amelia Anair 57 Greenbrier Lane Was concerned with the location of the culvert relative to the water table and also if the pipe was going to be angled. Mr. Webby said that the pipe is angled at a 1% slope and the surface of the driveway is designed to drain towards the wetlands. He added that the surface will be hard packed gravel. Ms. Anair asked "If this doesn't work, what recourse do I have." Mr. Clemons answered "We work with the applicant and our consultant to review the plan to make sure it works and provide a solution. The plan shows every indication as to being a good solution." Ms. LePorte added that the previous problem occurred because the road went in before the culverts.

Motion to approve the revised Plan and issue an Amended Order of Conditions: Paul Andruk

Second: Sharon LePorte

Vote: 4-0-0

Mr. Clemons said that the hearing will be closed at the next meeting and the OOC will be endorsed at that time.

7:30 PM Appointment with Mr. Al Hanscom to discuss the filing requirements for paving the Fire Station driveway at Liberty Street

Mr. Hanscom presented the Septic Plan (dated 7/14/16) depicting a wetland delineation from three years ago. He commented that very little has changed over the last few years. Erosion controls will be maintained. The parking lot plan is to mill and overlay over the entire surface. They are concerned about the sub base being disturbed so they are trying to catch it. Mr. Clemons asked if the paved area

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was exactly the same. Mr. Hanscom said that the only difference is to get better control over the drainage by the installation of silt sacks around the catch basins and erosion control at the perimeter. Mr. Hanscom asked if the commission would accept a 3-year old wetland delineation? Mr. Clemons replied that it rises to the level of a new delineation as a maintenance project.

Motion to require a Request for Determination of Applicability with the Agent and Mr. Hanscom confirming the wetland line in the field: Bill Woodward
Second: Paul Andruk
Vote: 4-0-0

7:45 PM Continued Notice of Intent for construction of a 20 x 20 ft. shed/stable and horse corral (adjustable panels) at 122 Indian Head St., Map 47, Lot 1-1 for Keith Boyle, 122 Indian Head St., Hanson, MA (DEP #SE175-0683)

Mr. Boyle approached the Commission with a sketch of a berm as discussed at the previous meeting. Mr. Gary Rice of Land Planning, Inc. will prepare the detail once it is determined. Mr. Boyle sketched a 3 feet wide berm that is approximately 160 feet long and 18-24" high. It is to be constructed 10 feet up slope from the resource area. His idea would include 10-20 low bush blueberry shrubs, about 6-12" tall planted in clumps and a conservation seed mix to cover the remainder of the berm. Mr. Clemons would like to see the description of the species of mix. Mr. Boyle also proposed Black Eyed Susan in between the blueberry shrubs and a few tall bush blueberry bushes. The berm is proposed to flare at the end, making it possible to add rhododendron or arborvitae for privacy. In addition he proposed several bird houses. Ms. LePorte suggested that the movable fences be shown on the plan to depict the extent of the corral within a given area. The Board of Health provided Mr. Boyle with guidelines for handling the horse manure. Mr. Clemons asked for comments from abutters. Those present were:

Christy Griffin 92 Indian Head Street – Had concerns with the manure plan and could it be removed more frequently. Mr. Boyle replied that the BOH requires every six months and he is proposing every 2 weeks. It will be contained in a covered trailer and he will be allowed to compost it at Tri-Town. Fly control spray will be used daily and an additive will be added to the manure to kill the fly larvae.

Melissa Sullivan 86 Indian Head Street – Asked if Mr. Boyle could add more of the additive (parasite) to the manure more if it was needed to which Mr. Boyle replied yes. She also asked where the trailer would be located. Mr. Boyle said it would be in the stable area.

Mr. Clemons reiterated that we have a lot of proposed information and what we need is for Mr. Boyle to return to next meeting with a revised plan prepared by Land Planning, Inc. with details of the berm and vegetation.

Motion to continue the hearing until 8/8/2017 at 7:15 PM pending a revised plan:
Sharon LePorte
Second: Bill Woodward
Vote: 4-0-0

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Discussions

Reorganization

Motion to nominate Phil Clemons as Chairman, Paul Andruk, as Vice Chair and Brenna Audette as Clerk: Sharon LePorte
Second: Paul Andruk
Vote: 4-0-0

Summer Internship

Ms. Emily Murad, the Commission's intern made a PowerPoint presentation hi-lighting her accomplishments over the summer. Ms. Murad will be a senior this fall at the University of New England in Maine with a Major in Environmental Studies with two Minors: Climate Change and Sociology. The goal of the summer internship program was to gain experience in a particular field and to work within an organization to better understand, through training, how it serves the community. Emily undertook three main projects, the first of which was the creation of trail maps for several conservation properties. The second was a turtle study to document wildlife vehicle collisions to hopefully reduce future turtle mortality. Lastly, she monitored the water level and the surrounding ecosystem of Maquan Pond.

With use of the survey taken from the Open Space and Recreation Plan, Emily identified the community's need for accessible walking and hiking trails. Her brochures for Smitty's Bog, the Veterans Memorial Town Forest and The Last Meadows trails at the old Plymouth County Hospital site all depicted easy and understandable trail maps for the Bay Circuit Trail.

The turtle study was based on a local landscapes program put on by a combination of organizations including, MassDOT and Mass Div. of Fisheries and Wildlife to enable volunteers to monitor wildlife in a standardized way. There were two study sites, one on Indian Head Street near the Indian Head River culvert and the other at a low spot on Maquan Street. The results of Emily's studies were: 20 turtle mortalities in June at Indian Head Street and zero at Maquan Street for the same time period. All were Painted Turtles. Emily surmised that less traffic and lack of sidewalks on Maquan Street contributed to the difference.

Emily's third project was monitoring the water level of Maquan Pond where a gauge was installed this year at the Camp Kiwanee shoreline. The expectation was to eliminate confusion surrounding the actual pond water level. According to the USGS topo map, the normal level of the Pond is 74' above sea level. Using a graph to illustrate, Emily determined that the pond level varied between 73.75 and 73.9 during the months of June and July which was in stark contrast to the pond level in December of last year that demonstrated extreme drought conditions. Ms. Murad also took pictures of a damselfly and Lady Slippers (Cypripedioideae) to draw attention to the surrounding ecosystem.

To summarize, Ms. Murad hoped that the trail maps will encourage people to get out and enjoy those properties. The turtle study data will be useful for any future road construction projects before or during the planning stages. She hoped that the pond level monitoring was useful and that we continue to keep tabs on that. She wanted to thank the Commission for hosting her for the summer, especially Phil, Laurie and Becky for all their help. She learned a lot and enjoyed being here. Mr. Clemons thanked Emily for her volunteerism and appreciated her efforts. He asked that her PowerPoint be put on the Town's website.

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Motion to hire The Goatscaping Company for one week (\$650) at the Poor Meadow Brook

Conservation Area: Bill Woodward

Second: Paul Andruk

Vote: 4-0-0

**Motion to purchase materials for Conservation Trail signage: for posts, trail markers, signs,
trail maps and trail map holders:** Bill Woodward

Second: Paul Andruk

Vote: 4-0-0

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of July 11, 2017 as written: Sharon LePorte

Second: Paul Andruk

Vote: 3-0-1 (Bill Woodward abstaining)

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM: Bill Woodward

Second: Paul Andruk

Motion: 4-0-0