

**HANSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF AUGUST 17, 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  
Thomas Roffey, Jr., Vice Chairman  
David Mansfield, Clerk  
Sharon LePorte, Member  
Edwin Heal, Member  
Frank Schellenger, Agent  
Lan Woodward, Administrative Assistant

**Also Present:** Alan Dias, Halifax, MA  
Mark and Lorna Lincoln, Maquan Street, Hanson, MA

**Minutes**

August 3, 2022

**Motion to approve August 3, 2022 Minutes by:** Sharon LePorte

**Second:** David Mansfield

**Vote:** 5-0-0

**Public Hearings - (None)**

**Discussions**

**Emergency Certification** for water line leak repair for Richard Pierce, work to be performed for Brockton Water Department at Charles Drive, Map 2, Lot 38 – **requires ratification**

Alan Dias, who is representing the Applicant, Richard Pierce, presented plans to the Commission. He stated he was in process of filing a Request for Determination and would like to know if the Commission would like him to file an after-the-fact Request for Determination.

There was a major water service line break about a year ago, Brockton Water Department shut off about a month ago. The plan includes work 20' from bordering vegetated wetlands, installation of silt socks. All materials will be on trucks, and when work is completed, photos will be provided. Work is almost complete, excluding the pavement of Charles Drive.

Agent Schellenger visited the site. Since Brockton Water Department put pressure on issue of getting work done, there was no need to pursue a Request for Determination.

**Motion to approve and ratify Emergency Certification by:** Sharon LePorte

**Second:** David Mansfield

**Vote:** 5-0-0

**Town Meeting Article(s): Due Date August 23, 2022**

**Proposed Articles for the October 2022 Town Meeting:**

1. An article for the annual replenishment of the Conservation Fund.
2. An article for six properties to be placed into the care and custody of the Conservation Commission.
3. An article to restore the position of the Conservation Agent to full time status at 35 hours per week.

**ARTICLE:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash or raise and appropriate \$40,000.00 to replenish the Conservation Fund.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

**Explanation:** The Conservation Fund supports the Commission's efforts to carry out its care and custody responsibilities for open space and recreation areas. These efforts include trail building and maintenance; provision of signage, notices, and other information; property enhancements, such as mowing, invasive vegetation removal, and site clean-up; wildlife habitat and stream improvements; removal of encroachments; establishment of bounds and survey recordings; and equipment rental as necessary to support these activities.

**ARTICLE:** To see if the Town will vote to place the properties identified as Assessors Map 106, Lots 7 and 10-1, and Assessors Map 98, Lots 10, 11, 12, and 15 into the care and custody of the Conservation Commission for open space protection under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

**Explanation:** The Little Cedar Swamp is an important wetland resource that provides stormwater storage, treatment, and aquifer recharge, as well as wildlife habitat. It is one of the headwaters of Indian Head Brook and River, and as such is part of a cold water fishery, one of the few in Southeastern Massachusetts. The parcels identified in the article are currently Town-owned and not developable. Together with adjacent parcels already under the care and custody of the Conservation Commission, they make up about 75 percent of the Little Cedar Swamp. Article 97 protection will ensure this resource is protected for the foreseeable future.

**ARTICLE:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$26,488.80 to add 16 hours per week to fund full-time status, 35 hours per week, for the Conservation Agent.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

**Explanation:** The Conservation Agent is currently authorized for 19 hours per week and is the only Department Head with part-time status. The Agent's workload warrants full-time.

**Motion to sponsor the three Conservation Articles for October 2022 Town Meeting by:** Thomas Roffey, Jr.

**Second:** David Mansfield

**Vote:** 5-0-0

**Property Management Update;** Trash removal completed where needed.

**-Bay Circuit Trail;** The engineers have staked the property line, and work to start soon. Notification letters to be sent to abutters regarding work in the area.

### **Open Space Acquisition**

**Eversource;** Request to Town Administrator to accept gift of land in care and custody of Conservation.

**-Sleeper Conservation Area;** Mark and Lorna Lincoln were present to discuss Sleeper Conservation Area. Mark Lincoln has concerns; it has been a private driveway and would like to keep private as possible for safety reasons. It can affect many aspects of regular maintenance and mitigating factors being in the area that we reside. We express interest in purchasing the easement.

Lorna Lincoln stated that another reason they are concerned is the house value; if it is turned over to Conservation it would diminish the value and being that he would assume it would do the same to property value.

Lorna and Mark Lincoln will provide a summary and forward to the office regarding concerns, questions, issues.

Chair Clemons stated that the property does belong to the Town. Due to the unique situation, issues are there. The best way to address the issues to tabulate concerns and seek input from Town Counsel. He will also seek input regarding the easement.

### **Town Planner Town Owned Properties Report**

Discussion by Commission regarding report prepared by Town Planner.

**Motion to endorse Agent Schellenger to prepare evaluation and conclusion to Town Planner for next scheduled meeting by:** Thomas Roffey, Jr.

**Second:** David Mansfield

**Vote:** 5-0-0

### **Old Business/New Business**

**Invoice for Public Hearing Notice** (Hanson Express) for 1630 Main Street, Map 45, Lot 12A, Notice Intent – **signed**

**Invoice for Survey** (Webby Engineering Assoc., Inc.) Locate Property Lines & Corners 0 Maquan Street, Lot 60-0-2 – Sleeper Conservation Area - **signed**

**Motion to adjourn at 9:26 PM by:** Thomas Roffey, Jr.

**Second:** David Mansfield

**Vote:** 5-0-0