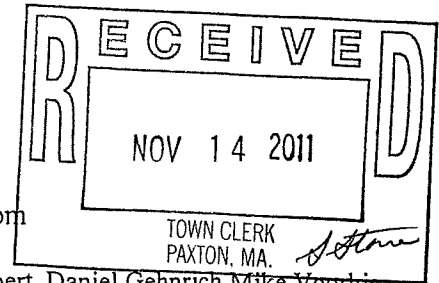




Paxton Conservation Commission

Minutes of the July 14, 2011 Meeting

Location and Time Paxton Town Hall 7:42 – 9:57 pm



Attendance Commissioners: Chris Keenan (chair), Justin Thackeray (vice-chair), Jim Robert, Daniel Gehnrich Mike Voorhis, Commissioner absent: Marisa Ayvazian. Others present: Mark Love, Matthew Atanian, Holly Robert, David Parent, John Wentworth, Lynn Clifford, Kevin Quinn, Michael Turner, Alton Stone.

Minutes Minutes of the June 9, 2011 meeting were approved with minor correction; the submitted minutes include these corrections.

Public Hearings:

Notice of Intent for construction of a driveway at 7½ Pond Street. Alton Stone, Alton Engineering presented the plan. There is an isolated area of wetland near Pond Street, DCR has agreed that this is an isolated vegetative wetland and therefore non-jurisdictional for the commission. A culvert will be placed under the road where it crosses this wetland. A category 1 permit was filed several months ago with the Army Corps of Engineers and no reply has been received, so it is assumed that the plan has been accepted. Keenan asked that disruption to the wetland be minimized, given that this is a federally recognized wetland; PCC also request alternatives analysis, which is required by DEP for all projects in the riverfront area. The commission requests a haybale and silt fence as well as swale alongside the road during construction. An abutter, Matt Atanian, asked whether a replication is required: no, because the area is non-jurisdictional; he also asked about runoff from the road onto his property: this will be reduced because it will be gravel; the owner will be responsible for maintenance of the culvert. A revised plan was requested by the commission. The hearing was continued on a motion by Jim Robert, seconded by Voorhis, to allow time for a site visit at 6pm Wednesday July 20, motion carried unanimously; the hearing will be continued at 8:15pm, August 11, 2011.

Notice of Intent for construction of a new pole yard and septic replacement at the **Town of Paxton Light Department on Pleasant Street**. The plan was prepared by Quinn Engineering; Keenan recused himself, Thackeray chaired the hearing. Scott Morrison from EcoTek presented the plan. The septic system is failing. A new leach field is proposed equidistant between two areas of wetland, using a newly installed pump system. They are also proposing to move their pole yard from its current location on Marshall St to an area adjacent to the Light Department; a similar setup to the old pole yard is proposed. A haybale/silt fence will be placed between the areas of work and the wetland. The hearing was closed and a motion to issue a standard order of conditions was made by Voorhis and seconded by Gehnrich, with the special condition that the storage areas and dumpster shown in the plan shall only be used for storage of new and used poles; motion carried unanimously.

Notice of Intent for construction of a new homes and septic systems at **Lots 1 & 2, Davis Hill Road**. This is a continued hearing from the meeting of May 12, 2011. Quinn Engineering has taken over the project; Keenan was not present during the hearing, Thackeray chaired. Kevin Quinn noted that a new survey is being prepared and they hope to be back before the commission in August with a new design for the work at the site. Hearing was continued to August 11th at 8pm on a motion by Robert, seconded by Voorhis; motion carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous

- A FEMA notice containing new flood maps was received, a previous map change affecting 136 Marshall St was confirmed in these new maps.
- The 7:45 agenda item, discussion of the Ross Associates independent review of the Eggleston Hydrological survey at the **Robert/Love properties on Richards Avenue**, was tabled until the August meeting; Ross Associates have not yet completed their review.
- Keenan will visit **20 Wilde Wood**, where a new pool is being proposed.
- A ZBA hearing will take place on July 28 for a special permit for a new 3-car garage at 135 Marshall St; the commission has no special comments on this matter for the ZBA.
- Bills for MACC dues (\$332), the Holden Landmark (\$33.50), reimbursement for Holly Robert to attend the MACC conference (\$95) and reimbursement for wetlands books bought by Keenan (\$38.99) were all approved.

- Letters from the Roberts, dated June 9th and 13th were received, expressing concerns about the hydrological study conducted by Eggleston, in particular whether or not the field data used to conduct the study still exists, and calling into question the scientific supporting evidence for the study. Both letters have been forwarded to Ross Associates.
- An informal meeting was held (during the July meeting) to discuss a proposed plan for two homes on land owned by Maria Hopkins adjoining, and close to the junction of, South and West Street. Quinn Engineering is working on the plan and is looking for guidance from the commission on the driveway access being either via West St or South St. Voorhis stated for the record that he is an abutter, on the other side of South Street. Keenan recused himself from the discussion, Kevin Quinn presented the draft plan. There is no accurate topographical data for the site yet, but based on the existing USGS data Quinn Engineering believes this is a buildable lot; the wetland delineation shown to the commission is old and will also be redone during the planning work. The wetland filling required for entry from South St is 9,000 ft² compared to 2,900 ft² for the entry from West Street. A motion to send the following memo to the Planning Board and ZBA was made by Voorhis, seconded by Gehnrich: "The commission supports an approach to the property that minimizes the amount of wetland filling required"; motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held on Thursday, August 11 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Thackeray", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Justin Thackeray