



Paxton Conservation Commission

Minutes, December 12, 2013 Meeting

Location and Time Paxton Town Hall 7:37 – 9:23 pm

Attendance Commissioners:, Marisa Ayvazian (vice-chair), James Robert (vice-chair), Holly Robert (associate), Gerald Ryan, Michael Voorhis (secretary), Commissioners Absent: Daniel Gehnrich, Chris Keenan (chair) Others present: Marc Curtis (Paxton Properties Realty Trust), William Clougherty (Mass DOT Highway Division)

The meeting was opened by James Robert (vice-chair) at 7:37pm.

Minutes: Minutes of the November meeting were not yet available.

Bills: Michael Voorhis presented bills for \$132 from the Holden Landmark. There are four advertising bills each for \$33 that need to be paid. Motion by Michael Voorhis, seconded by Gerald Ryan, all in favor.

New Business:

Public Hearings:

Notice of Intent - 131 Suomi Street (Proposed Lot 6) – DEP File No. 257-0282 – Continuation of Public Hearing from November 25, 2013 – A driveway access road is being proposed. James and Holly Robert have recused themselves from this project. The Commission lacks a quorum to continue discussion on this project. Marc Curtis reports that a perc test has been done. An alternative access was used. The hearing will be continued to 8:15pm on January 9, 2014.

Request for Determination of Applicability -Route 122 – Mass DOT Resurfacing Project No. 606559 – William Clougherty from the Mass DOT Highway Division explained the scope of work which consists of resurfacing Route 122 in Paxton from the center of Town (intersection of Routes 31, 56, and 122) north approximately 2.1 miles to the Paxton/Rutland Town line. This will be all buffer zone work and involve milling or scarifying of road surfaces, as well as some related work to catch basins and drop inlets. Some structures will have to be adjusted and reset. Mr. Clougherty had received some comments from Robert Desrosiers of the Paxton Police Department related to concerns of headwalls that were blocked. It is anticipated that work would be done in the summer during July or August. Mr. Clougherty has some questions related to the water lines and the Spaulding Woods development project. The Commission suggested that Mr. Clougherty speak directly with Quinn Engineering who is handling the engineering of that project. Michael Voorhis expressed concern about whether stormwater being jetted out of culverts would be collected. Mr. Clougherty said this should not be a problem. He also explained that compost filter tubes would be used instead of hay bales to protect sensitive areas. The Commission would like to be informed one week prior to the start of activity to have the opportunity to inspect the erosion controls. James Robert called for a motion to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability. A motion to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability on this project was made by Michael Voorhis, and seconded by Marisa Ayvazian, and unanimously approved. The Determination will need to be signed by Commissioners at a later date and include the requirement for the Commission to be notified one week prior to the start of work for inspection of erosion controls.

418 Grove Street – Request for Certificate of Compliance – Request made by Shawn Swain in reference to an Order of Conditions issued to Eldon Pond, **DEP File No. 257-157.** A letter of support dated December 12, 2013 has been received from Quinn Engineering, Inc. who prepared the plans for the project which was a septic system replacement. The work was done long ago and QEI had inspected the property

following installation back in the year 2000. QEI found the system to have been constructed in accordance with the approved design plans and issued an As-Built Plan for the project. QEI completed an additional inspection of the site since the Certificate of Compliance was requested and found the site to be stabilized with vegetation. The septic system components were installed over 80 feet from existing wetlands, with grading approximately 60 feet from wetland areas. A Certificate of Compliance was issued by the Board of Health on July 3, 2001 (No. 00-19). Holly Robert has visited the site and reports the septic system is a raised system and visible to the left of the driveway. The area was snow covered but appears well vegetated with trees and shrubs near the septic system. The BVW line is indicated on the plans to be to the right of the driveway. A Board of Health Variance Decision dated July 12, 2000 indicates the project is 87.8 feet from a public surface water tributary and three feet separation to groundwater. The existing order should be reviewed to see if there were any conditions for use of only low nitrogen, slow release fertilizers, that could be carried over as an Ongoing Condition. The Commission voted to issue a Certificate of Compliance on motion by Michael Voorhis, seconded by Gerald Ryan. Approved unanimously. A check for \$25 payable to DEP will be returned to Shawn Swain and a replacement check payable to the Town of Paxton obtained prior to release of the Certificate of Compliance.

Old Business:

Gerald Ryan has visited Main Avenue in response to alleged observations of possible wetlands infractions noted at last month's meeting. No other Commissioners present have visited the site.

Miscellaneous:

November 20, 2013 correspondence has been received from the Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC) which was sent to all departments. The Commission will need to review the budget and any requests for Capital Improvements must be submitted to Jeffrey Kent of the Capital Improvement Committee by January 31, 2014. Gerald Ryan, who is also a member of the CIPC committee, shared some of the process for obtaining funding based on his experience. Discussion was deferred to the next meeting to allow time for additional investigation.

Discussion of possible re-organization of duties between Commissioners was also deferred to next month when the Chairman will be present.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission will be on Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Holly Robert
Associate Commissioner

Reference Documents:

As noted in the minutes; on file with the Paxton Conservation Commission.

