



**PAXTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

May 13, 2021

**Approved
6/10/21**

Location and Time: Remote ZOOM Meeting 7:00pm-8:03pm

7:00 PM Meeting opened

Attendance:

Commissioners:, Lenny Anderson, Chairman, Mike Voorhis, Vice Chairman; Bob Ferguson, Commissioner; Donmarie Desrosiers, Commissioner; Jim Robert, Commissioner.

Others present: Mia McDonald, Cons. Agent

Absent: Holly Robert, Assoc. Member

Others present: Arthur Allen, EcoTec, Inc, and James Lacasse, Water & Wetland.

Chairman Anderson read aloud the remote meeting guidelines.

Minutes of the April meeting were reviewed. DD motioned, MV seconded and by roll call BF, MV, DD & LA voted in favor of accepting the minutes with changes, JR abstained as he was absent.

Bills:

Payroll \$648.90 for April for a total of \$648.90 for Mia McDonald

LA motioned, DD seconded and by roll call JR, BF, MV, DD & LA voted in favor of paying the bill.

Public Hearings:

Request for Determination of Applicability: 9 Knollwood Road, Map 26, Parcel 91, by Andre Gaudet for grading associated with a septic system replacement. Arthur Allen of EcoTec, Inc. presented for the project: replacement of septic system in the northwest corner of the house with some site grading only within the 100-foot buffer of the nearby intermittent stream in the northeast corner. The system has been located as far as possible from the resource areas. The closest limit of work is 90 feet from the delineated wetland. MM visited the site and confirmed the wetland delineation. Public comment was sought and no comment given.

JR made a motion and MV seconded to issue a negative determination of applicability to conduct the work as shown on the plans and notify the Commission prior to the start of work. By roll call JR, BF, MV, DD & LA voted in favor of issuing the negative determination with conditions.

Request for Extension for Order of Conditions DEP File #257-0314 for Turkey Hill Pond Treatment James Lacasse of Water & Wetland presented. Turkey Hill Pond is over 92 acres with about half of it within Rutland. The previous treatments have targeted fanwort and variable milfoil with success. The applicant is seeking an extension of the existing order of conditions with no changes proposed. They plan to use contact herbicides this year for maintenance. As before, notifications shall be posted along the shoreline and the Commission shall be notified.

prior the start of work. MM recommended a 3 year extension. Public comment was sought and no comment given.

MV made a motion and DD seconded to close the hearing. By roll call JR, BF, MV, DD & LA voted in favor of closing the hearing. MV made a motion and JR seconded to extend the current Order of Conditions #257-0314 for 3 years. By roll call JR, BF, MV, DD & LA voted in favor of extending the Order for 3 years.

Requests for Certificate of Compliance: None

Board of Health plans received: 23 Wildewood Drive and 5 Walnut Street. No wetland resource areas present on either.

Building Permit applications: 23 Lawrence Street and 239 Pleasant Street. No wetland resource areas present on either.

326 Richards Ave: Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation notified the Commission of site work within the 300-foot buffer to wetland resource areas within their Watershed Protection Area. MM scheduled a site visit with landowners Jim Robert and Larry Cournoyer. The owners share ownership of a man-made irrigation pond used on the Cournoyer Farm with beaver damage. Both have been working to maintain flow and prevent erosion. The beavers have removed all the trees and have repeatedly blocked the outflow of the pond. They plan to install more beaver deceivers and possibly hire a trapper. MM asked for them to notify the Commission regarding future maintenance on the pond.

313 Richards Ave: Mark Love reported to the Commission by phone that he plans to remove invasive species within the wetland and buffer. No site work or ground disturbance proposed. MM stated that removal of invasive species without site work does not require a permit from the Conservation Commission.

Sites Visited:

326 Richards Ave: Beaver maintenance.

9 Knollwood Drive – BOH plan received, NOI forthcoming.

518 Pleasant Street – From right-of-way: the pile of vegetation has been burned.

16 Eagle Lane – drive by inspection only. No activity observed.

118 West Street – Site inspection. The erosion control barrier has been repaired and maintained.

Reminder of Upcoming Meeting Dates (confirm quorum): Thursday, June 10 and July 8.

MV motioned and JR seconded and JR, LA, DD, BF and MV voted by roll call to close the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mia McDonald,
Agent for the Conservation Commission

Reference Documents:

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

