

PAXTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION



MEETING MINUTES

April 10, 2018

Location and Time: John Bauer Senior Center 7:01pm-9:20pm

7:01 PM Meeting opened

Attendance:

Commissioners: Lenny Anderson, Chairman; Mike Voorhis, Vice Chairman; Jim Robert, Commissioner; Tim Luring, Commissioner; Bob Ferguson, Commissioner; Holly Robert, Assoc. Member; Donmarie Desrosiers, Commissioner (DD joined at 7:13pm)

Absent: Chris Keenan, Commissioner.

Others present: Mia McDonald, Cons. Agent, Dominic Meringolo, Solitude, Associate of Solitude, Kevin Quinn, Quinn Engineering, Marc Curtis, resident.

Minutes: Minutes of two March meetings were reviewed. TL motioned and MV seconded to approve the minutes with minor changes.

Bills: MM Agent \$630 payroll bill. TL motioned and JR seconded; all voted in favor of paying the bill.

Correspondence:

Monthly Accounts Statement from Town Accountant
Forest Cutting Plan for land on Rockland Street from DCR

Public Hearings

(Continued) Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation on a lot on Pleasant Street (Map 27 Lot 166) by David Fontaine. DEP File No. 257-0311. Continuance requested via email by Glenn Krevosky. MV motioned, TL seconded and all voted in favor of continuing the hearing to the May 10 meeting.

Notice of Intent: Turkey Hill Pond by the Turkey Hill Pond Association c/o Judy Savage. Domenic Meringolo and unnamed associated of Solitude, representatives, presented the project: fanwort and variable milfoil densely cover approximately 90% of the pond; proposing aquatic herbicide treatment with EPA and MassDEP regulated chemicals, as noted in the application documents. Mr. Meringolo stated that this year would be multiple granular and liquid treatments with Sonar starting in early May and requested an *Order of Conditions* for 5 years. BF asked if alternatives had been considered. LA added to the question to ask if suction harvesting or hand pulling would be possible. Mr. Meringolo stated that a full alternatives analysis had been submitted, and due to the large quantity of vegetation to be removed, suction harvesting and hand pulling would not be possible at this time, but possibly in the future. LA asked how native plants would be affected. Mr. Meringolo stated that native species of plants are more resistant to the low dose levels of treatment but would still be affected. HR asked about the herbicides travelling downstream and the affect the chemicals may have on wells. Mr. Meringolo stated that the chemicals will be dosed at 10 parts per billion in the pond and the concentration will be less downstream. He also stated that all chemicals proposed in the application are rated safe for wells and they do not travel in the groundwater. He also stated that they will post signs and urge residents to abide by irrigation restrictions.

The Commission discussed and JR made a motion to close the hearing, MV seconded.

The Commission required the following special conditions in addition to relative standard conditions:

1. The applicant must obtain an aquatic permit from MassDEP.
2. All boats used for treatment must be cleaned prior to arrival at the pond to avoid the migration of invasive species.
3. Posters notifying residents of treatment and water use restrictions shall be posted at least 48 hours prior to treatment.
4. The applicant or their representative shall notify the Commission of the treatment at least 48 hours prior to commencing.
5. The applicant or their representative shall provide an annual year-end report that details the treatments that were completed, any vegetative survey results for the year, and the plan for the following year treatment.

JR made a motion and TL seconded to issue an Order of Conditions for 5 years with the above-mentioned special conditions.

Informal Discussion:

- Kevin Quinn of Quinn Engineering with Marc Curtis presented a parcel with frontage on West Street and South Street and possible development options. Both options require wetland crossings. Mr. Curtis would prefer to build two single family homes on a shared driveway. The Commission requested additional information from Mrs. McDonald on the ability to subdivide a parcel with limited projects and wetland fill and relative time limits.
- Discussion on possible opening remarks for the Chairman. A draft was given to LA, who will make edits and present at the May meeting.
- HR suggested bringing a stack of the Wetland Informational brochure to the May meeting.
- The July and August meeting dates were discussed and to maintain quorum and staff the following dates were chosen: July 19 and August 16.
- The Commission inquired after fellow Commission Chris Keenan and requested MM to contact CK to see if he would be willing to remain on the Commission as an associate member to allow the Commission to achieve quorum more easily.
- Due to TL's plan to leave the Commission in August, the Commission proposed placing an ad in the Holden Landmark in July to try to solicit additional members.
- HR and LA asked MM to locate the Muir Meadows conservation restriction documents. MV offered to assist in looking in older emails.

Other Business:

- Town Meeting on May 7

Upcoming meeting dates:

May 10 and June 14

JR motioned and MV seconded to close the hearing. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mia McDonald,

Agent for the Conservation Commission

Reference Documents:

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