



## **PAXTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**January 14, 2016**

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**Location and Time:** John Bauer Senior Center 7:30-9:11pm

**Attendance:** Commissioners: Chris Keenan (Chairman), Michael Voorhis (Vice Chair), Tim Luring, Zach Ferguson (Secretary), Holly Robert (Assoc. Member). Others present: Mia McDonald (Cons. Agent), and Kevin Quinn, Quinn Engineering.

**Minutes:** Minutes of 12/10/15 meeting were read and accepted with three changes. MV motioned and TL seconded to accept the minutes with changes, all in favor.

**Bills:** MM payroll, and the Telegram & Gazette bill for the legal ad (MV motioned and TL seconded), all voted in favor of paying all the bills.

**Correspondence:** DEP Snow Disposal Guidance

#### **Old Business –**

**Lot 2, 134 Davis Hill Road** – Kevin Quinn of Quinn Engineering representing Robert Clark came before the Commission to discuss work occurring on site, including the enlargement of the septic hole; work halted by Health Agent due to lack of Conservation signoff; Mr. Quinn submitted proposed construction sequence; work to begin spring 2016 with replication; duration of approx. 6 to 7 months; EcoTec has been contacted by owner to evaluate replication area and possibility of existing wetland species present. The Commission expressed concern about the safety of the open septic hole, that the erosion controls were installed closer to the resource areas than on the approved plan and the possible removal of trees. Mr. Quinn stated he was planning to request that the owner secure the hole; that he had mistakenly given the contractor a plan with the erosion controls closer than approved and that he had no answer for the possible tree removal. The grading is still not determined; Mr. Quinn requested to be placed on the February agenda to discuss further. The Commission discussed and requested a plan showing a retaining wall similar to Lot 1 that is less than 3' in height, existing trees marked and to remain, and erosion controls installed along the approved line and notification signs similar to Lot 1.

**Lot 1, 134 Davis Hill Road** – Kevin Quinn of Quinn Engineering representing Robert Clark came before the Commission to discuss deviations from the approved work. Mr. Quinn submitted a list of deviations from the approved plan including: grading is less sloped, wall is now a retaining wall, and impervious patio has been installed. Mr. Quinn requested that the Request for Certificate of Compliance is placed on the February agenda and he plans to submit a plan showing existing grading and patio.

**Spaulding Woods** – Kevin Quinn of Quinn Engineering representing Robert Clark came before the Commission to discuss. HR requested a construction sequence. HR requested an environmental report as per the Order of Conditions; specifically, how was the hole dewatered. MM shall contact owner and request.

**Other Business:**

108 Holden Street – MM and JR visited the site and observed wetland resource areas that could be as close as 35' to the edge of disturbance. The Commission discussed and requested that the engineer submit a plan showing the resource areas and evidence that resource areas are beyond the limit requiring a permit application; this shall determine if a permit application shall be necessary.

The Commission discussed City of Worcester Reservoirs within the Town of Paxton and requested that MM contact the City to confirm that notification is sent to the Commission prior to work within the buffer of any resource areas.

Draft Bylaw & Regulations: The Commission discussed the proposed bylaw and decided to hold a public hearing at the February meeting for summary and public comment. The Commission requested confirmation from Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissioners that the creation local wetland bylaws were not be prohibited by state offices. The Commission requested that a summary of the proposed bylaw is provided to the Board of Selectmen and possibly presented to the BOS at an upcoming meeting.

Trails: The Commission discussed hosting a meeting this winter to organize a spring cleanup. The Commission would also like to be included in the Town's Annual Report.

Website: MV offered and changed the meeting location on the website to the White Building.

Finances: The Commission discussed the draft finance worksheet. Current budget line items were discussed; It was requested that MM obtain a spreadsheet from the Town Accountant detailing this year's spending; level funding requested for next year except for an increase in the amount used to pay for MACC fees, which have increased.

MACC Conference is on March 4. The Commissioners decided to register individually and submit for reimbursement.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 PM.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 11, 2016 at the White Building.

Respectfully submitted,



Mia McDonald

Conservation Agent

**Reference Documents:**

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

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