

BOLTON INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2024
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

Inland Wetlands Commission Members Present Via Zoom: Chair Ross Lally, Vice Chair James Loersch, Member Diane Denunzio, Member David Lynn (7:10 p.m.), Alternate Member Michael McDonnell(seated). Absent: Andrew Gordon

Staff Present Via Zoom: Cameron Covill

Staff Present Via Zoom: Board Clerk Mary Johnston

Others Present Via Zoom: Mark Reynolds, Roger B., Vaughn Sprague, Austin Harmon

1. Approval of Agenda

D. Denunzio MOVED to approve the agenda. J. Loersch SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

2. Public Comment

2a. None

3. Approval of Minutes

3a. Regular Meeting Minutes – March 26, 2024

D. Denunzio MOVED to approve the Minutes. J. Loersch SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:2 with J. Loersch and D. Lynn abstaining.

4. New Business

4a. #TH-24-1: Austin Harmon – 0 Watrous Rd. – Timber Harvest.

C. Covill displayed a map of the property and explained the proposed timber harvest for 0 Watrous Rd. M. McDonnell thought that some timber would be harvested in the wetlands according to the permit. A. Harmon replied that is correct. A. Harmon added more information to C. Covill's comments regarding the timber harvest. D. Denunzio asked if the two healthy ash trees would be harvested. A. Harmon replied yes. R. Lally added that there is the risk of those trees falling onto the trail. C. Covill asked A. Harmon if they intended to use a skidder or forwarder or a combination of both. A. Harmon replied it will depend on scheduling and weather. R. Lally asked about the skidder trails to which A. Harmon explained the skid trails that could affect the hiking trails. R. Lally stated he wanted to make sure that timber harvest is the only activity happening on this property that would need permitting.

J. Loersch MOVED approve the application #1TH-24-1 as submitted. M. McDonnell SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

4b. #1W-24-3: Mark Reynolds – 26 West St. – Construction of a Fire Pond.

M. Reynolds reviewed the proposed construction of a fire pond at 26 West St. and displayed a map showing the proposed project. M. Reynolds stated this project is to request from the Commission for the ability to disturb an area and excavate a pond to install a dry hydrant. This is to excavate the area and create a low berm on one side of the pond with a silt fence installed. Mr. Reynolds stated this pond could hold 45,000 gallons of water for fire protection at the site. M. McConnell asked what the evaluation of the pond is relative to the wetland. M. Reynolds replied the evaluation is around 85 or 86 and the bottom of the pond is 80. R. Lally about the plans to channel water runoff from the parking lot. M. Reynolds replied there are no plans for the water runoff. D. Denunzio asked if there was direct impact to the wetlands. M. Reynolds replied there is no direct impact to the wetlands proposed. R. Lally pointed out that the tree line will stay where it is. M. McConnell asked that the purpose of the pond is to draw down the pond water if there was a fire at the facility. M. Reynolds clarified that the only intent is for fire protection and that water would be available for town purposes. M. McDonnell asked about the purpose of the berm. M. Reynolds replied that the berm is to separate the pond from the wetlands. M. McConnell clarified that the berm is not to impound water, to which M. Reynolds replied yes. M. McConnell asked about water release during a storm. M. Reynolds replied there would be some runoff that has been incorporated into the project. The Commission asked for copies of the slides presented at the meeting. M. McConnell asked about the material used to line the pond. M. Reynolds replied that it will be dirt and seeded about the water line. C. Covill asked about ending the silt fence. M. Reynolds explained the purpose of silt fence is for the construction of the berm. C. Covill offered to email the three sheets to the Commission. M. McConnell would like to see more details of silt fence installation. This application will be considered at the May meeting as the Commission requested additional information.

4c. #1W-24-4: Vaughn Sprague – 8 Volpi Rd. – Construction of a 44’ X16’ Four-Season Room to the Back Side of the House.

C. Covill discussed this application and displayed a map of the proposed project. C. Covill reported there is a portion of a wetland located on a section of the property. R. Lally asked if there are any wetlands impacted from the proposed project with construction equipment moving through the yard. C. Covill requested that a silt fence with a little bit of wing off the corner of the house will catch any sediment. V. Sprague stated the driveway is paved and any soil dug up will be removed from the property. R. Lally asked about the type of foundation being proposed. V. Sprague replied it will be a full foundation to match the house. R. Lally wondered about the impact of the wetlands and if this requires a permit. J. Loersch MOVED to delegate to C. Covill to issue permit #1W-24-4, Construction of a 44’ x 16’ Four-Season Room to the back side of the house with two conditions: 1) install silt fence and 2) soil trucked offsite. D. Denunzio SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

5. Old Business

5a. #I-24-1: Town of Bolton – Lot Between 33 and 35 Keeney Dr. – Replacing Existing Catch Basin and Discharge Pipe Adjacent to 35 Keeney Dr.

C. Covill reported that he met Shawn Bailey and M. McDonnell at the site. M. McConnell will forward his list of concerns to S. Bailey for clarification. M. McDonnell reported they do not intend to start until July or August. C. Covill reported that it will be a quarter inch per foot pitch on the pipe going into the lake and 2 to 3 feet above the water. C. Covill also reported that a couple of catch basins will be located on Keeney Dr. No action was taken by the Commission. This application will be considered at the May Regular Meeting.

6. Wetlands Agent Report

C. Covill gave an update on 271 Hopp River Road, Gas Station – Permit #2022-5. C. Covill has not been able to inspect the site and asked if the Commission would like to meet at the site. J. Loersch stated he visited the site and that the silt fence looks good but there is trash located outside of the silt fence. C. Covill tentatively scheduled Tuesday afternoon next week to visit the site.

C. Covill reported there have been no changes to 1 Notch Road and he has not been out to inspect the site recently.

C. Covill reported that 9 Limon Road has begun work and that he will inspect the site on Friday.

C. Covill reported he visited 180 Bolton Center Rd. three weeks ago and noted the stockpiles have been spread. C. Covill asked the applicant to make repairs to the damaged silt fences. C. Covill will visit the site in the next week or two.

C. Covill reported the annual plant sales went very well and were a success.

7. Other

R. Lally announced that Andy Gordon must resign from the Commission due to health reasons and to submit a resignation letter. R. Lally will present M. McConnell to the Board of Selectmen next month as a full member of the Commission.

R. Lally asked if there were any updates on the updates to the Wetlands Regulations. R. Lally asked to revisit this item during the May meeting. C. Covill will resend the Wetland Regulations to the Commission and asked the Commission to send him their comments prior to the meeting. J. Loersch asked about the process of approving the regulations. R. Lally explained what the process is for approving the updated Wetlands Regulations. M. McConnell explained he compared South Windsor's regulations with Bolton's current regulations.

8. Adjournment: J. Loersch MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. D. Denunzio SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

Respectfully submitted by Mary J. Johnston

Mary J. Johnston