

BRIDGEWATER
CONSERVATION AND INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
Approved Minutes - Regular Meeting
February 6, 2024, 7:30 pm
Bridgewater Town Hall, 44 Main Street South, Bridgewater, CT 06752

Call to Order: Chairperson Eric Vikstrom called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call and Designation of Alternates:

Present: Eric Vikstrom, Jeff Jones, Steve Berger, Rich Miller, Rudy Simari, Joe Wilcox, Shaun McVerry (alt) **Absent:** Paul Hines, Ted Alt (alt) **Moved up to voting status:** Shaun McVerry

Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting held January 2, 2024:

J. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 2, 2024. R. Miller seconded. Unanimous approval.

Comments from the Public, Correspondence: none

Any Other Business Added by 2/3 Vote of the Commission: none

Old Business:

1. #W 24-1-1 – Higher Ground LLC, 323 New Milford Road East, new single family dwelling with detached accessory dwelling, detached garage, and barn. J. Wilcox and J. Jones were case officers. J. Jones reported no issues with the site. J. Jones made a motion to approve the application (#W 24-1-1 dated 1/2/23 as shown on the “Overall Site Development and Erosion and Sediment Control Plan” dated 12/1/23 prepared by R.J. Gallagher Jr. & Associates for R. Williams). J. Wilcox seconded. Unanimous approval.
2. #W 24-1-2 – Dembowski, 250 Northrop Street, pond maintenance. T. Alt and S. McVerry were case officers. S. McVerry reported applicant intends on cutting brush along pond without removing any stumps and sees no issue with project. S. McVerry made a motion to approve the application (#W 24-1-2 dated 11/29/23). R. Simari seconded. Unanimous approval.

New Business:

1. #W 24-2-1 – Alferi, 2 Barn Road, stream bank remediation, pond maintenance. Alex Alferi presented the application to shore up stream banks and dredge out pond using existing accessways, and stockpiles will be off site. E. Vikstrom and J. Jones were case officers on previous projects and visited the site prior to this meeting. J. Jones made a motion to approve the application (#W 24-2-1 dated 1/22/24 as shown on the “Proposed Site Development Plan” and “Details” both dated 2/2/21 and revised 1/19/24 prepared by DiVesta Civil Engineering LLC) for maintenance of the existing pond and shoring up some of the streams that lead into it as shown on the drawing. E. Vikstrom seconded. Unanimous approval.
2. #W 24-2-2 – Sunny Meadow Farm LLC, 199 Curtis Road, create farm pond. Doug DiVesta from DiVesta Civil Engineering LLC presented the application. J. Wilcox and R. Miller will be case officers.
3. #W 24-2-3 – Schmidt, 5 Keeler Road, replace existing garage with larger garage. Tom Seeger from Vision Contracting LLC presented the application. Proposed garage would be further from the wetlands than the existing garage. J. Jones and S. Berger will be case officers.

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4. NOV – Romano, 232 Clapboard Road, crossing reconstruction. Michael Romano was present. E. Vikstrom reported that after the heavy rains work was done on Mr. Romano's washed out driveway. E. Vikstrom and J. Jones visited the site on 1/10/24. Driveway bank was being fortified with boulders and process in the driveway. Discussed work done to keep driveway safe and possible long term solutions. Mr. Romano has retained an engineer and has also spoken with the State regarding runoff issues from the state road as detailed in correspondence on file. Mr. Romano will present an application to the Commission in the near future.
5. NOV & #W 24-2-4 – Lund/Hacer, 329 Old Turnpike Road East, stream bank reconstruction. Gerardo Hacer presented the application. Work was done along the stream bank after heavy rains in part to ensure no further damage to the bridge or driveway. E. Vikstrom and J. Jones visited the site 1/11/24 and saw the bridge was being undermined. The Commission requested the property owner withdraw application #W 24-2-4 and provide an engineer's report regarding bridge site conditions.

Reports of Officers & Committees:

1. WEO Report. There was no WEO report this month.

Procedural Matters & Bills: none

Other Business:

1. Email from Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy. E. Vikstrom spoke with Zach Adams at the Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy regarding an email to the Commission concerning work done at 120 Old Town Highway. Mr. Adams was concerned the driveway was encroaching on their property. E. Vikstrom stated that when the case officers visited the site the driveway was already in place and wetlands were well away from the proposed construction site. As there are no wetlands involved, this is not an issue for the Commission.
2. Reports – LQH Sisters LLC, 110 Lake Lillinonah Road North. Discussed project status reports dated 1/5/24 and 1/31/24 from Paul Szymanski, Arthur H. Howland & Associates.
3. Farrow Pond, CT DEEP Permit Application for Use of Pesticides in State Waters. This is to notify the Commission of the use of aquatic pesticides in the Farrow Pond. No action needs to be taken.

Discussion (audience participation): none

Adjournment: S. Berger made a motion to adjourn. J. Wilcox seconded. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Khare

Meg Khare
Land Use Coordinator