



Roxann Wedegartner
Mayor

City of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

City Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1548 ext 3 • Fax 413-772-1309
mitchell.vye@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

Travis Drury, Chair. Jun, 2024
Fletcher Harrington, Dec, 2024
Erika LaForme. Dec, 2025
Christin McDonough. Dec, 2025

Agent: Mitchell Vye

GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, April 11, 2023
Greenfield Department of Planning and Development
Online via Zoom
Greenfield MA 01301

The meeting was called to order by Travis Drury at 6:32 p.m. with the following members:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Travis Drury (Chair)
Christin McDonough
Erika LaForme

MEMBERS ABSENT: Fletcher Harrington

ALSO PRESENT: Mitchell Vye (Agent)
Cody Wilson
Rebecca Budd
Danielle Beaulieu
Mathew Horelick
Barbara Polowy
Nick Granata
Aaron Simms
Devin Herrick
Rob Bukowski
Steve Harris
Richard Roth

Should any technical interruption to the meeting occur and the meeting is suddenly ended, it will not be resumed and all items will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting date. Contact the Conservation Agent for more information

Administrative Matters

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 3/28/2023

Motion by Erika to approve the minutes from March 28, 2023
Motion seconded by Christin
No further discussion

Erika AYE



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Christin AYE
Travis AYE
Motion passes 3-0-0

Schedule of Public Meetings & Hearings

- **Public Meeting: Request for Determination of Applicability: Gravel road and vegetation clearing off of Colrain Street; (Map: R26, Lot: 4) Continued from 3/28/2023**

Cody requested a continuance to the next meeting while he secures funding for an environmental consultant and waits to have a meeting with the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Motion by Christin to continue the discussion on the project off of Colrain Street to April 25th, 2023
Seconded by Erika
No further discussion

Erika AYE
Christin AYE
Travis AYE
Motion passes 3-0-0

- **Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability/Local Notice of Intent: Development of a single axis tracking solar PV array and associated equipment at 1245 Bernardston Road; (Map: R11, Lot: 97)**

The proposed development includes the installation of a solar array and associated battery energy storage systems. A gravel access road will be constructed and will be multi-use, improving the existing gravel access road and providing the owner access to the centrally located buildings. The gravel access road will also allow access to the electrical equipment and battery storage pad areas for maintenance. The arrays will tilt to follow the sun during the day.

The project is entirely outside of the 25-foot No Disturb Zone. There will be no wetlands crossing or wetlands disturbance. Under the Wetlands Protection Act, the project is within buffer zones only. It is considered within Riverfront Area only under the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance as the streams are all intermittent. During construction, erosion controls like silt fences, slope breaks, and straw wattles would be used. Swales would be used in the basin and later cleaned out of any sediment. Seeding would be done for permanent stabilization using grass seed. Construction would begin next year depending on how the permitting goes. Christian recommended a mix that is suitable for the time of the year that the seeding is done. The applicant was agreeable to this.

Fletcher joined the meeting at around 6:45.



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There is an Operations and Maintenance Plan in the Stormwater Report which includes scheduled inspections. The only grading is associated with the swales and is minimal. The limit of work for the solar arrays is about 9.5 acres.

Travis opened time for public comments. Richard Roth questioned if the solar arrays would be visible from his property and if there would be any noise pollution. Aaron Simms of BlueWave responded that about 1,000 feet of forested land would be left untouched between the work area and the houses on Log Plain Road. The motors would make noise, although similar project included noise tests that concluded that noise would be minimal at 100 feet away. The vernal pool is on the property but is over 100 feet from the limit of work. Steve Harris requested a recording of the meeting.

Motion by Fletcher to close the hearing for the project at 1245 Bernardston Road
Seconded by Erika
No further discussion

Erika AYE
Christin AYE
Fletcher AYE
Travis AYE
Motion passes 4-0-0

Motion by Christin to issue a Determination of Applicability Type 3 with conditions under the Wetlands Protection Act for the project at 1245 Bernardston Road
Seconded by Erika
Copies of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan inspection reports shall be sent to the Commission during construction
Maintenance logs shall be made available to the Commission upon request

Christin AYE
Erika AYE
Fletcher AYE
Travis AYE
Motion passes 4-0-0

Motion by Fletcher to issue an Order of Conditions under the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance for the project at 1245 Bernardston Road
Seconded by Christin
One of the proposed plants for seeding (birdsfoot trefoil) is listed as invasive in Massachusetts. The plants were chosen as ones that sheep can graze on.
The proposed seed mix with scientific names shall be submitted to and approved by the Commission or its agent prior to construction



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Copies of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan inspection reports shall be sent to the Commission during construction. Maintenance logs shall be made available to the Commission upon request.

Christin AYE
Erika AYE
Fletcher AYE
Travis AYE
Motion passes 4-0-0

Other Business & Enforcement Updates

- Connecticut River Conservancy – Green River Restoration Outreach Project

Rebecca Budd is the Restoration Project Manager for the Connecticut River Conservancy. A grant was obtained from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to do outreach to landowners in Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire for work on river restoration projects. Rebecca requested an introduction to any of the landowners who live along rivers they are trying to reach about the project.

- Any topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the posting of this agenda

Rachel Lindsay resigned from the Conservation Commission due her relocating to another town.

Fletcher nominated himself as vice chair.

Erika AYE
Christin AYE
Fletcher AYE
Travis AYE
Vote passes 4-0-0

Travis announced he will be absent from Conservation Commission meetings until he returns from vacation on May 12th.

Project Monitoring, Correspondence & Site Visit Scheduling

No updates.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:41 PM

Motion by Christin to adjourn the meeting
Motion seconded by Erika



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No further discussion
4-0-0 – Motion Carries

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitchell Vye,

Conservation Agent

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Travis Drury,

Chair