



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](mailto:mitchell.vye@greenfield-ma.gov) • [www.greenfield-ma.gov](http://www.greenfield-ma.gov)

Travis Drury, Chair. Jun, 2024  
Fletcher Harrington, Vice-Chair. Dec,  
2024

Erika LaForme. Dec, 2025  
Christin McDonough. Dec, 2025

Agent: Mitchell Vye

**GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, September 26, 2023**  
**Greenfield Department of Planning and Development**  
**Online via Zoom**  
**Greenfield MA 01301**

The meeting was called to order by Travis Drury at 6:33 p.m. with the following members:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Travis Drury (Chair)  
Fletcher Harrington (Vice Chair)  
Christin McDonough  
Erika LaForme

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mitchell Vye (Agent)  
Lucas Acaba  
Billie Li  
Zach Howard  
Matt Sniffen  
Colleen DeBenedetto  
Jeff Murphy  
Yichao Xu  
Caroline Booth

*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 9/12/2023**

**Motion by Fletcher to approve the meeting minutes from 9/12/2023**

**Seconded by Erika**

**No further discussion**

**Erika AYE**

**Christin AYE**

**Fletcher AYE**

**Travis AYE**

**Motion passes 4-0-0**



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**Schedule of Public Meetings & Hearings**

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➤ **Public Hearing: Notice of Intent: Bank stabilization at the Green River Swimming Area (Map R27, Lot 18) DEP # 168-0356 Continued from 9/12/2023**

Alan Twarog of the Department of Public Works made another request to continue the hearing to the next meeting. The response to the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program is still in progress.

**Motion by Erika to continue the hearing for the bank stabilization project at the Green River Swimming Area (DEP #168-0356) to the meeting on 10/10/2023**

**Seconded by Fletcher**  
**No further discussion**

**Erika AYE**  
**Fletcher AYE**  
**Christin ABSTAIN**  
**Travis AYE**  
**Motion passes 3-0-1**

➤ **Public Meeting: Request for Determination of Applicability: Resurfacing of Cheapside Street & Montague City Road**

The project proposes resurfacing and related work on Cheapside Street and Montague city road. Billie Li of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) mentioned several exemptions under the Wetlands Protection Act, including resurfacing within the existing Right of Way. Travis stated that exemptions may not apply due to work being done on drainage systems, which is required under MassDOT's standards. Geotextile fabrics would be used for areas of possible erosion and would follow MassDOT's standards for sedimentation/erosion controls. A small portion of the work area is Land Subject to Flooding. Elevation would be maintained here. The project is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2025 and will take about a year. No trees will be cut, although there will be limited trimming done. Sidewalk length and width will be increased. The project is within priority habitat and is still awaiting a determination from the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program. Christin has issues with riprap. Portions of the work associated with this project may fall under redevelopment in a Riverfront Area, although this does not mean that these activities are exempt. Travis argued that the project is an alteration to the resource areas due to the change in drainage characteristics.

**Motion by Travis to issue a Positive Determination Type 1 under the Wetlands Protection Act**

**Seconded by Christin**  
**No further discussion**

**Fletcher AYE**  
**Erika AYE**



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**Christin AYE**  
**Travis AYE**  
**Motion passes 4-0-0**

➤ **Public Hearing: Notice of Intent: Solar project at 340 Leyden Road (Map R29, Lot 4)**

The proposed solar project is located on a 54 acre parcel located within the limits of cleared agricultural field used for haying. Existing driveway to the single family home will be widened and rerouted. An Order of Resource Area Delineation had confirmed the boundaries of the Bordering Vegetated Wetlands on site, but not the Riverfront Area. An infiltration basin and a portion of the solar panels are proposed for the area within the 200-foot Riverfront Area of the intermittent stream. Work is outside of the first 100 feet and is within the 100-foot buffer zone to the Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Work is outside of the 25-foot No Disturb Zone of the wetland. The work within Riverfront Area is about 2% of total Riverfront Area on the lot. Christin stated that the stormwater basin is very close to the resource area. More in depth information on alternatives should be provided to explain why they weren't viable. It was stated that the basin location was chosen to minimize grading. A member of the public stated their concern for the wetlands and the stream and the project's impacts on them. There were no more public comments. A continuance was requested by the applicant as the Department of Environmental Protection still needs to provide comments and a file number. A determination from the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program is still required as well.

**Motion by Fletcher to continue the hearing for the solar project at 340 Leyden Road to October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Seconded by Christin**  
**No further discussion**

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

**Other Business & Enforcement Updates**

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➤ **Right of first refusal – Portion of 454 Leyden Road (Parcel R29-12)**

A portion of 454 Leyden Road, which is under Chapter 61, is being sold to be added to 462 Leyden Road. This is necessary for the installation of a septic system. The remainder of the property, which contains forested land and wetlands, will remain under Chapter 61.

**Motion made by Fletcher to forward a positive recommendation to the Department of Planning and Development on the release of Right of First Refusal for a portion of 454 Leyden Road**



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**Seconded by Erika**  
**No further discussion**

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

➤ Outreach to fill Conservation Commission seat vacancy

Joan Adler may be interested in filling the vacant Conservation Commission seat and will sit in on next meeting. Travis reached out to Recreation Commission for anyone that may be interested as well. Mark Stinson of DEP will be reached out to as well to see if he has any connections in Greenfield who may be interested.

**Project Monitoring, Correspondence, & Site Visit Scheduling**

➤ 1417 Bernardston Road (DEP #: 168-0329, Exp. 10/21/2023) – Solar array installation.

A request for an extension has been made as the Order of Conditions is set to expire soon. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:22 PM**

**Motion by Christin to adjourn the meeting**  
**Motion seconded by Fletcher**  
**No further discussion**  
**4-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Mitchell Vye,**  
  
**Conservation Agent**

**Travis Drury,**  
  
**Chair**