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Town of Stafford
Inland Wetlands Commission
Regular Meeting
July 18, 2018
7:00 p.m. – Warren Memorial Town Hall

Members Present: Barry Locke, Chairman
John D. Wilson
Tom Topping
Rick Hartenstein
Dave Belcher
Dave Smith, alternate

Also Present: Dave Perkins, ZEO
Mark Reynolds, representing Kyle Yarde, applicant

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. None.

AGENDA

1. Call to order.
2. Establish a quorum.
3. Review minutes of June 20, 2018 regular meeting.
4. Application of Kyle Yarde – 136 Old Springfield Road – Driveway construction. Stream crossing.
5. Review Forestry Regulations – Schedule a Public Hearing.
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

1. Call to order.

Barry Locke, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Veterans' Meeting Room.

2. Establish a quorum.

Barry Locke established a quorum with regular members Barry Locke, Chair; John Wilson, Tom Topping, Rick Hartenstein, and Dave Belcher, and he seated alternate member Dave Smith for Hickory Lake.

3. Review minutes of June 20, 2018 Regular Meeting.

Dave Belcher made a motion, seconded by Tom Topping to accept the June 20, 2018 Regular meeting minutes. All were in favor.

4. Application of Kyle Yarde – 136 Old Springfield Road – Driveway construction. Stream crossing.

Mark Reynolds of Reynolds Engineering Services, representing the applicant, reviewed the proposed driveway construction. The applicant wishes to construct a single family home with a septic system and driveway, and the site is characterized by steep slopes. After considering multiple options, Mr. Reynolds said they are proposing a gentle path through the property that includes a wetlands crossing, but which matches the grade most of the way. Some cutting would be required near the end, but the proposed route is the best choice as there will be less disturbance, less erosion and sediment control concerns.

Mark Reynolds proposed installing a silt fence along the driveway and septic system during construction. There will be some grading in the buffer area near the house.

Barry Locke said he felt this proposal was the best location for the crossing. He said he cannot even see the wetlands, as it is very dry right now. Dave Smith asked if there will be any leak off at the culvert. He said he expects it will intercept a lot of runoff and that reinforcement may need to be added. Mark Reynolds suggested any approval include that condition. Dave Smith said this proposal sacrifices a little bit of the wetlands, but is still the best choice.

Dave Smith made a motion to accept the application of Kyle Yarde for a driveway construction and stream crossing at 136 Old Springfield Road as proposed, with the condition that rip rap be extended to the edge of the driveway in the vicinity of the culvert. John Wilson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

5. Review Forestry Regulations – Schedule a Public Hearing.

Barry Locke reviewed the June 5, 2018 letter from DEEP, which outlines elements cited in CGS Section 23-65j that are not fully met in the draft forest practice regulations, and their additional comments. Stafford's regulations will need to be updated to include these items. A public hearing for adopting the Forestry Regulations was set for the IWWC's next meeting on August 15, 2018.

Dave Smith said he was not sure why DEEP is requiring that forestry regulations should now fall under the purview of the IWWC. He asked if there are no wetlands on a property, if people will still be required to come to the IWWC for a forestry permit. Barry Locke said they would.

6. Other Business

Barry Locke provided a site plan for the Animal Hospital, which Dr. David Mordasky plans to build on Route 190. He said Dr. Mordasky has a permit for a wetlands crossing but he needs to clean up brush and grade an area where he plans to keep horses. He will not be filling or removing anything. Barry Locke said this activity should not impact the wetlands, but he asked for Commission members to weigh in.

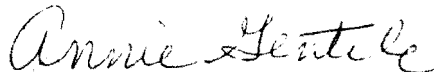
John Wilson said this area will need to be cleaned up as part of the next step before beginning construction. Dave Smith asked how Dr. Mordasky plans to clear the area---by bulldozer or brush hog? It was uncertain. He suggested asking Dave Perkins to monitor the activity and let them know if any concerns arise. Tom Topping suggested Dr. Mordasky put down hay bales in areas requiring protection. There was general agreement to allow Dave Perkins to handle this administratively.

Barry Locke updated Commission members on the activity at 182 West Stafford Road where Alpine Tree Company is doing work. He said Ron Laiho had taken some pictures there and had found dumping and moving of mulch that could get into the brook and wash downstream. He said Dave Perkins has since written a letter to Alpine and hand delivered it. He is keeping an eye on things. Barry Locke said if he sees any more potentially harmful activity, he will shut things down.

7. Adjournment

Tom Topping made a motion, seconded by Dave Smith, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The July 18, 2018 Inland Wetlands Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Annie Gentile
Recording Secretary