

TOWN OF SOMERS
Conservation Commission
600 Main Street
P. O. Box 308
Somers, CT 06071

REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, January 6, 2016
7:00 p.m. Town Hall

MINUTES

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Joan Formeister called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Joan Formeister; Candace Aleks; Karl Walton; Greg Genlot; Henry Broer; and Wetlands Agent Joanna Shapiro. Todd Whitford and Dan Fraro were absent. George VanTasel and Janice Steinmetz were present, representing the Four Town Fair property.

II. Old Business:

1. Discussion/Possible Decision #690: 56 Egypt Road (Four Town Fair). Two truck pull pads within an upland review area and widen access road into a wetland area. Janice Steinmetz and George VanTasel of the Union Agricultural Society.

Joanna presented a written request from the Union Agricultural Society that the fee for this wetland application be waived, as the nonprofit organization is addressing a public safety issue. Joanna and the commission discussed that the commission is not able to waive the state fee, and that the organization is still responsible for the portion of the application fee that goes to the State of CT.

Karl Walton made a motion to waive the town's portion of the fee for this wetland application. Candace Aleks seconded this motion which was unanimously approved by the Commission

Joanna Shapiro and Dan Fraro visited the site on December 10, and Joanna took photos that showed the area that would be filled in order to allow the trucks to make the turn and exit the property safely. The Commission reviewed the photos to see what exactly is being proposed.

George VanTasel explained the changes to the plans that had been requested at the last meeting; primarily that silt fence has been added to the plan. The wetlands have been staked out on the site according to the original delineation, and the proposed activity has been staked out as well. Thirty feet is the maximum width that would have to be filled, but will be kept to a minimum, ensuring that the width is sufficient for trucks to make the turn. Joanna explained other additions to the plan's narrative, including an explanation that debris removed from the wetlands will be taken off-site, and any stockpiles of materials will be placed within the upland, and surrounded by silt fence.

Joan Formeister said there are no major concerns with this project as long as Joanna Shapiro monitors.

Greg Genlot made a motion to approve this wetland application to add two truck pull pads within an upland review area and widen the access road into a wetland area in order for trucks to be able to make the turn into the area, with the condition that a silt fence be constructed, the wetland line marked, and that the wetland agent be notified and be in approval of the silt fence location before the project is started. Candace Aleks seconded the motion that was unanimously approved by the Commission.

III. New Business: There was none.

IV. Audience Participation: There was none.

V. Staff Report:

Joanna reviewed her Staff Report with the Commission. She discussed lawn bonds. The Commission supports the practice of ensuring that the lawn is established before the CO is issued.

56 Durkee Road – this property is in the flood plain but is currently for sale. A person is contemplating buying the property for an agricultural use. Joanna and the town sanitarian have told him that there is very little usage that would be allowed in a flood plain property.

Henry Broer made a motion to accept the Wetland Agent's report, seconded by Candace Aleks and unanimously approved by the Commission.

VI. Correspondence and Bills:

There was one bill from the Journal Inquirer.

Karl Walton made a motion to approve payment of this bill; seconded by Greg Genlot and unanimously approved by the Commission.

VII. Minutes Approval: December 2, 2015

Henry Broer made a motion to approve the 12/2/15 minutes, as written. Seconded by Candace Aleks and unanimously approved by the Commission.

VIII. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Karl Walton; seconded by Greg Genlot and unanimously approved by the Commission. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Candace Aleks, Secretary

Connie Carenzo, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.