

**TOWN OF SOMERS**  
**Conservation Commission**  
**600 Main Street**

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025**  
**7:00 PM TOWN HALL**  
**MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Joan Formeister called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The commissioners in attendance were Dan Fraro, Drew Kukucka, Candace Aleks (who arrived at 7:10 p.m.), and Sydney Flowers.

Lise Wood seated for Pat Pio.

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. **SHOW CAUSE HEARING - ORDER TO CEASE VIOLATION (continued). 183 King Road.** Regulated activity within 100 feet of a wetland or watercourse. Nicholas Turnberg.

Joan Formeister reported that nothing had happened as of 4:00 p.m. this afternoon. She was informed by Joanna Shapiro, the Town of Somers Wetland Agent, that she would be following up with Mr. Turnberg and would be pushing him to stabilize the stockpiles as soon as possible. Drew requested that once the owner reports that stockpiles are stabilized, it would be a good idea to have Joanna Shapiro visit the site to ensure it was done correctly, and all commission members present agreed.

2. **Discussion/Possible Decision Application #815:** 127 Egypt Road. Installation of 975 KW AC Solar Farm in the Upland Review Area. VCP Somers LF, LLC.

Joan Formeister reported that this was presented during the last meeting in March, and at that time, the Commission did not express any concerns as long as the site was stabilized and maintained at all times. Joan Formeister asked if anyone had any questions or concerns at this time, and no one did.

Drew Kucucka motioned to approve Application #815: 127 Egypt Road. Installation of 975 KW AC Solar Farm in the Upland Review Area, based on the following:

- The Commission finds that the Applicant has submitted all necessary application materials pursuant to Section 211-7 of the Wetlands Regulations, including but not limited to Section 211-7(E)(5), “Alternatives considered and rejected.”
- The Commission did not find the proposed activities “significant.”
- The Commission finds that the criteria set forth in Section 211-10B have been met by the Applicant.

Dan Fraro seconded. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

None

### IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

### V. STAFF REPORT

1. 122 Watchaug Road, Oakridge Farm: It has been reported that they will now be installing a farm pond with a mixture of manure and water rather than just a manure pond. The plan is to use this mixture to fertilize their crops. The farm pond will be located over 100 feet from the wetlands and outside the upland review area. The pond will be lined with a liner, which does not require a permit. The current plan seems to meet the zoning regulations.
2. 120 Watchaug Road, Owen Jarmoc: On March 11, 2025, Joanna Shapiro issued a notice of violation due to the excessive amount of sediment being washed into the road and the nearby stream, requiring a response by March 20, 2025. Owen Jarmoc responded on March 20, 2025, stating that he would enhance the existing erosion controls. It appeared that the silt fences and haybales had been put back up; however, it was reported that they had fallen over again soon after the rain on March 24, 2025, and the sediment continued to bypass these erosion controls, entering the road and the nearby stream. Owen Jarmoc reported that a significant amount of runoff is coming from the Oakridge Farm property, and they have plans to build a swale to prevent this in the future. Joanna Shapiro informed him that in the meantime, we need an immediate fix to the issue at hand, which is stabilizing the soils that are currently being disturbed and redistributing with each rain or snow event. Joan Formeister visited the site on April 1, 2025, and took pictures, but they were not available during the meeting. She reported seeing a lot of erosion, and the erosion controls were still not installed correctly. On April 1, 2025, Joanna emailed Tim Coon, a Civil Engineer from JR Russo and Associates, and copied Owen Jarmoc, indicating this needed to be resolved now or a cease and correct order would be issued. Tim Coon responded on behalf of Owen Jarmoc to report they were going to enhance the sediment controls by adding additional silt fences and haybales and extending further to where it is needed. They will also be hydroseeding in front of the building to prevent runoff. It was also reported that they are working on the swale plans in collaboration with Oakridge Dairy, and these should be completed by the end of next week. A decision on when the swale will be installed is to be determined. Joan Formestier stated that she would follow up with Joanna on April 3, 2025, if she were back in the office and requested that Joanna go out to check and ensure the work had been completed. If not, we may need to issue a cease and correct order immediately. Joan Formeister was also going to look into the possibility of holding a land bond until this work has been done. The Commission also stated that part of the condition should be that the landowners have to clean up the sediment that has washed into the road.

Lise Wood moved to approve the Staff Report. Candace Aleks seconded. All were in favor.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE AND BILLS

1. Joan Formeister reminded the Commission members to keep in mind any projects in town that we could use our Conservation Commission project money for by the June meeting.

VII. MINUTES APPROVAL: March 5, 2025

Drew Kukucka moved to approve the amended March 05, 2025 minutes with two minor edits. Candace Aleks seconded. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

List Wood moved to adjourn the April 02, 2025 meeting, and Dan Fraro seconded. All were in favor, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Commissioner Sydney Flowers, Secretary  
MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING