



Town of Westminster

11 SOUTH STREET
MASSACHUSETTS 01473

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Phone: (978) 874-7413 * Fax: (978) 874-7411

MINUTES OF MEETING

August 20, 2020

DUE TO COVID19 TOWN HALL IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC, BUT FOR THOSE THAT ARE INTERESTED IN THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING, THE MEETING WILL BE HELD REMOTELY. YOU MAY JOIN THE ZOOM MEETING AT <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7370885635> Meeting ID: 737 088 5635 or One tap mobile +19292056099,7370885635# US

To: Selectmen
Board of Health
Building Commissioner
Town Clerk

Present: Chairman Dan Bartkus, Vice Chair Gary Smith, Members: Carrie Monty, Robert Gendron, Agent Matt Marro, and Secretary Susan Kalagher

Absent: Tim Sheehan

Guests: Erik Atkins, Paul Grazewicz, Vincent Tafuri, Jill Normandin, John Deline Daniell Spicer

Documents, Plans and other Exhibits

1. Plan – Lot A Frog Hollow Road
2. Plan – Lot B Frog Hollow Road
3. Plan – Route 140 Worcester Road Improvement
4. Email from John Deline (Fitchburg Water Department)

Dan Bartkus called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The meeting was recorded by Matt Marro and Robert Gendron.

2 NOIs

Lot A & Lot B Frog Hollow Road Ketola/Edgewater Construction

7:05 pm. The public hearing requested by Elijah Ketola for Lot A and Lot B Frog Hollow Road was opened. The request was for the completion of a partially installed stream crossing for a residential driveway located on Frog Hollow Road. Paul Gransewicz of Graz Engineering gave the overview of the project. Two NOIs had been previously filed and work was not completed. Mr. Gransewicz represented the new owner, Edgewater Construction. The NOIs previously approved by the Commission have expired and the applicant is seeking approval for 2 new and separate NOIs. The plan was shared on Zoom for everyone to view. There will be no connection to the sewer line; septic systems are proposed for both lots. Septic Tests are current. Matt Marro

inspected the site and noted that they were currently under a Cease & Desist Order and will need Planning Board approval before the Conservation Commission can approve. Paul Grasewicz noted that the water table is high and that the lots have not been approved by the Planning Board. The placement of the septic system was discussed and the applicant is hoping to be able to move the house on Lot A farther back on the lot. Dan Bartkus would like to see a finalized plan before Conservation approves and Matt Marro requested a plan showing the location of both houses. The replication work has not been started and the Commission would like to see it in place prior to approval. Dan Bartkus suggested that the applicant wait until the soil testing and replication area is complete and the definitive location of the structures before the Commission approve. John Deline of the Fitchburg Water Department commented that the area is destabilized and clean up is needed to stabilize and restore the stream culvert. The Cease & Desist Order will be amended to reflect this. Rob Gendron requested Matt to read into record the email from Mr. Deline sent on August 20, 2020 to Matt Marro regarding an intent to appeal if two lots are approved. Gary Smith suggested that the Commission make a site visit to determine the extent of the clean-up needed on this site. The request for the NOI for Lot A and Lot B Frog Hollow Road was continued to September 10, 2020.

**NOI
Route 140 / Worcester Road Reconstruction
Westminster DPW**

7:34 pm. The public hearing for the Reconstruction of a portion of Route 140 (Worcester Road) was opened. Danielle Spicer and Erik Atkins of Green International Affiliates, Inc. gave the overview of the project. The plan was shared for all to view. The purpose of the reconstruction is to address drainage and safety improvements from Patricia Road to the Princeton Town Line. The roadway rehabilitation will include box widening, full-depth reconstruction of deteriorated roadway pavement, drainage improvements, culvert replacement, grading modifications to minimize flooding of pavement and safety improvements. The Town of Westminster DPW is working with MA DOT. Replication is proposed in one area as opposed to several small replication areas and it exceeds the requirement of the Town by laws. The roadway work will be in areas of Bordering Vegetated Wetland, Land Under Water, 100 ft. Buffer Zone, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, Bank and within the Riverfront Area. Storm Water will be increased due the increase of impervious area and additional catch basins will be added to help with winter conditions. Additional permit requirements were discussed. Matt Marro stated that the Commission cannot issue an Order of Conditions until DEP issues a number. Erik Atkins answered questions from the Commissions and the audience and explained that MA DOT will be overseeing the project. Cofferdams, trench dewatering, and a turbidity curtain will be used and a NPDES permit will be required. A motion was made to continue to September 10, 2020 with all in favor at 8:18 pm.

Minutes of July 30, 2020

The Minutes of July 30, 2020 were approved.

10 Hy Road clarification

Matt Marro noted that the sketch of the retaining wall and patio submitted by Vincent Tafuri is substantially different than the Request for Determination. The retaining wall is over 4 ft. high and plantings as agreed to at the last meeting were not shown on the sketch. Matt Marro and the Building Inspector will look at the site and take measurements to determine if a Notice of Intent will be required.

Relocation of the Mid State Trail

Dan Bartkus discussed the relocation of the Mid State Trail. Steve Wallace met with Town Counsel, the Westminster Business Park, Mark Hawk, North County Land Trust, and Marie Auger from the Mid-State Trail Association to discuss the relocation running through the Business Park. Elisha Erb, counsel for the Business Park, is putting together a legal document that will require signatures from the Commission and the Selectmen.

18 & 22 Stone Hill Road – field changes

Matt Marro discussed field changes for these projects including a gravel access to the Mid State Trail and drainage improvements to the plan.

Rob Gendron asked about a Cease & Desist issued to Burt Gendron and about the Harrington property on Kent Road. Matt Marro stated that this was not on the agenda and could not be discussed.

Rob Gendron also noted that when going by the property by boat, he did not see the 14 White Pine trees the Commission requested that Gene LeBlanc plant along the lake. He asked if Matt could take pictures and bring them to the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Bartkus
Chairman
(prepared by Susan Kalagher)