



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
October 22, 2020

THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION WILL MEET 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, Members: Carrie Monty, Tim Sheehan, Agent Matt Marro, and Secretary Susan Kalagher

Absent: Gary Smith, Robert Gendron

Guests: Scott Morrison, Erik Atkins, Danielle Spicer, Mark Popik, Steffen Griepke,

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. Plan – 17 Edgewood Road
5. Plan – 84 Fitchburg Road
6. Plan – 55 Ashburnham State Road
7. Plan – 61 Old Oak Avenue
8. Plan – Ellis Road

Dan Bartkus called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was recorded by Matt Marro.

Minutes:

The Amended Minutes from September 10, 2020 were unanimously approved.

The Minutes from October 1, 2020 were unanimously approved.

Certificate of Compliance:

The following Certificate of Compliance was unanimously approved:

338 Knower Road / Reynolds Law Office / #336-0175

**NOI
55 Ashburnham State Road
Gearin**

7:05 pm. The public hearing requested by Timothy Gearin for a septic repair and installation of a replacement well for a single family home at 55 Ashburnham State Road was opened. Mark Popham gave the overview of the project. Matt Marro shared the plan for everyone to view. A substandard septic system will be replaced. The Board of Health hearing is scheduled for November 4th. After review of the plan a motion to approve was made with all in favor. The public hearing closed at 7:09 pm.

**RFD
84 Fitchburg Road / Solar
Snow Hill Development**

7:10 pm. The public meeting requested by Snow Hill Development solar project was opened. Chuck Caron from Chuck Caron Environmental Consulting gave the overview of the project. Matt Marro shared the screen for everyone to view the plan. A wet area was created when a road was roughly graded to bedrock and has no stream leaving it. The isolated wetland area does not appear to be jurisdictional under the Wetlands Protection Act. The Commission voted unanimously to approve as a negative determination. The public meeting was closed at 7:12 pm.

**RFD
17 Edgewood Road
Nielson**

7:15 pm. The public meeting requested by Steffen Griepke Nielson for the construction of an 8 x 8 ft. concrete slab and an 8 x 8 ft. wooden deck at 17 Edgewood Road was opened. Steffen Nielson explained the project including the 100 year flood plain. The area was grass and there is no other vegetation involved. Matt Marro shared the plan, complimented Mr. Nielson on it, and recommended a negative determination. The canopy will be maintained and only approximately one wheelbarrow of top soil will be removed. Tim Sheehan made a motion to approve as a negative determination with all in favor. The public meeting was closed at 7:25 pm.

**RFD
Route 140
DPW**

7:25 pm. The public meeting requested by the Town of Westminster Public Works Department for resurfacing the existing two-land road to improve pavement conditions throughout 1.4 mile length of Route 140 between Narrows and Patricia Road was opened.. Danielle Spicer of Green International Affiliates represented the Town. A Request for Determination had been submitted in 2017 and expires in November. Matt Marro shared the screen and recommended a negative determination for a simple resurfacing. The plan was unanimously approved upon motion by Carrie Monty and second by Tim Sheehan. The public meeting closed at 7:25 pm.

**2 NOIs / CONTINUATIONS
Lot A & Lot B Frog Hollow Road
Ketola/Edgewater Construction**

7:25 pm. Elijah Ketola requested a fourth continuation for Lot A and Lot B Frog Hollow Road. The Public Hearing was first opened on August 20th, continued to September 10th, then to October 1st, then to October 22nd.. The Commission unanimously voted to continue to November 12, 2020.

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

7:35 pm. The Continuation of the Public Hearing for the reconstruction of a portion of Route 140 (Worcester Road) was opened. Danielle Spicer of Green Int. Affiliates gave the overview of the project. The screen was shared for everyone to view. Comments from DEP were addressed including the three culvert replacements. Culvert #1 and #2 connect large water bodies and improve wildlife crossing. Culvert #3 is a stream crossing and complies with stream crossing standards. Storm water management, grass swales, storm water ways, and compensation for flood storage were discussed. Also addressed were: a dredging water quality certificate for DEP, trees and snags may remain in place, and a wetland scientist will work with the contractor. Matt Marro will add a monitoring requirement to the conditions and all State and Federal requirements will be in place before work begins. Without further questions from the Commission or the audience, the project was unanimously approved upon motion by Carrie Monty and second by Tim Sheehan. The public hearing was closed at 7:42 pm.

**NOI / CONTINUATION
61 Old Oak Avenue
Morrison**

7:43 pm. The continuation of the Public Hearing requested by Sean Morrison for the installation of a tight tank septic system with grading and associated site work at 61 Old Oak Avenue was opened. Scott Morrison from EcoTec, Inc. gave the overview of the project and reported that Board of Health has approved it. DEP did not comment on this project. After review, the plan was unanimously approved upon motion by Tim Sheehan and second by Carry Monty. The public hearing was closed at 7: 46 pm.

**NOI / CONTINUATION
Ellis Road
Wheeler**

7:46 pm. The continuation of the public hearing requested by Michael Wheeler for the construction of a driveway serving a single-family dwelling, within the wetland resource area and buffer zone on Ellis Road, Map #127, Parcel 23M was opened. Neil Gorman of David E. Ross Associates gave the overview of the project consisting of 5.8 acres with frontage on Ellis Road running parallel along Partridge Hill Road. The driveway plan was shared to all to view. Matt Marro was satisfied with the way the questions from DEP had been resolved. Without further questions from the Commission or the audience, the plan was unanimously approved on a motion by Carrie Monty and second by Tim Sheehan. The public hearing was closed at 7:50 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Bartkus
Chairman
(prepared by Susan Kalagher)