

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
January 9, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Sheryl Becker
S. Page Fallon
Jill Messick

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Magda Galiatsos
Frank Meagher

ALSO PRESENT:

Pamela Kerr

Mr. Kozloski called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

1. REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY – South West Street –
Consolidated Edison (CES Agawam Tuckahoe Solar, LLC)

Mike Gagnon from Milone & MacBroom discussed updates from previous plans. The stream on the property within the southcentral wetland area was revised from an intermittent to a perennial stream as they could not provide the evidenced needed to overcome the perennial status at this time. In response to the peer review done by Stockman Associates, some slight changes will be made to avoid the river front area. He noted that stormwater basin #2 will be shifted further to the northwest. Limit of work will be added to the layout sheets to include sediment controls. He went on to explain that a landscaped berm has been added per the Planning board and it is out of riverfront area as well. During site visits done on November 13 and December 16, 2019, photos were taken showing the water course of the stream on South Westfield Street. The South Central stream has been a point of interest. The photos also show the condition of the stream. It is believed that parts of the stream have been filled in over the years as there is no clear river channel. Downstream wetland vegetation is present. The very northerly tip shows a distinct stream channel. He reiterated that they are showing all work to be out of jurisdictional areas. Mr. Kozloski stated that the outfall of the detention pond is very close to the riverfront area and suggested that the erosion controls be set by survey. Mr. Gagnon agreed with that recommendation.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability for “the work” at South West Street – CES Agawam Tuckahoe Solar, LLC.

VOTE 4 - 0

2. REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY– Line 1858 Structure Replacement - Eversource

Melissa Coady from Tighe & Bond and David Askew from Eversource were present. Ms. Coady explained that Eversource will be making improvements to the access roads that will be used to replace the structures (poles) on this line. The access road north of Shoemaker Lane by Crowley's is within the 100 foot buffer zone. The proposed work will be permanent improvements within the right of way. The access road is less than 90 linear feet in length in this location. A stone aggregate surface is to be applied. The second access road which is approximately 70 feet long is accessible through the west rear corner of the parking lot at Six Flags. The right of way to this access road is within the 100 foot buffer zone. The third access road is a 240 linear foot stretch off the corner of the Six Flags parking lot. Larger equipment to replace the structures needs to be brought in using these access roads which the current access roads cannot accommodate. The changes to these access roads will be permanent. A site walk was held with Ms. Coady, Mr. Askew, Mr. Kozloski, Ms. Galiatsos and Ms. Kerr last week to view the work areas.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by M. Becker to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability for the Eversource Line 1858 Structure Replacement project.

VOTE 4 – 0

3. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – 255 & 267 South Westfield Street – DePalma

Ryan Nelson of R. Levesque Associates submitted revised plans for 255 & 267 South Westfield Street. The Plan now shows a proposed 7,440 sq.ft. general office or professional space building at 267 South Westfield Street and a proposed 9,100 sq.ft. "Dollar General" at 255 South Westfield Street. Mr. Nelson explained that it would require large amounts of fill to level the site. There will be a grass slope at the back of the site. Storm water will be handled through subsurface basins in the parking lot. The work on both buildings and part of the parking lot is within the 100 foot buffer zone. Mr. Kozloski asked if any mitigation is being proposed because they are filling within the buffer zone. Mr. Nelson said not at this time. However, he asked to take into consideration the large size of the project being undertaken by the applicant including the large amount of fill that was removed from the wetland at the rear of the property. Ms. Kerr explained that the Planning Board will be reviewing this plan at their next meeting and a Team Meeting will be held next week and that either of these may require changes. Mr. Nelson requested that the public hearing be continued to the next Conservation Commission meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to continue the public hearing for the Notice of Intent for 255 & 267 South Westfield Street to the next meeting as requested.

VOTE 4-0

4. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – Main/Reed Street – Town of Agawam

Melissa Coady of Tighe and Bond submitted a letter requesting that this public hearing be continued once again as they continue to address DEP comments.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to continue the public hearing for the Main and Reed Street NOI to the next meeting as requested.

VOTE 4-0

5. ENFORCEMENT ORDER UPDATES

1298 Suffield Street – Ryan Nelson of R. Levesque Associates was present. He said the stream on the property is mapped as perennial but it was noted at visits to the site that it appears intermittent. He requested that the owner be allowed to work to clean up the piles on the sight. Mr. Kozloski said that a restoration plan including dates when the work is to be done will be required before any work takes place at this location. Ryan said he will have the restoration plan ready for the next Conservation Commission meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to extend the enforcement order for 1298 Suffield Street to the next meeting as requested.

VOTE 4 – 0

End of St. Jacques Avenue - Ryan of R. Levesque Associates provided an existing conditions plan this evening. He explained that John Johnson of W & I Construction who has been a tenant renting this property purchased it last week. An area at the edge of the property has been filled in to form a gravel parking lot and is within an endangered species area. Mr. Nelson explained that Mr. Johnson would like to shift the location of the parking lot to the north. As part of the enforcement order an ANRAD plan is required and also a restoration plan. The members were in agreement that a Notice of Intent would be required for any work other than the restoration plan. Also, any work on this property requires a filing with Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program as it contains priority habitat.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to extend the Enforcement Order for the end of St. Jacques Avenue to the first meeting in February.

VOTE 4-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 12, 2019

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to approve the minutes of December 12, 2019 as written.

VOTE 4 – 0

7. EMERGENCY ORDER – North Street – Deep Gutter

Notice was received today from the DPW Superintendent, Chris Golba that the serious erosion (washout) on both sides of North Street at Deep Gutter must be fixed as it could put the roadway, sewer, water and gas lines in jeopardy. It has not been determined when the contractor will begin the work but it is believed that it will take 2 to 3 days to do the repair. Mr. Golba will notify the Conservation Commission office when a date has been determined for this road work. At that time the members agreed that an emergency order can be issued.

8. Correspondence and Complaints

None

9. CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – 519 Cooper Street

Mr. Kozloski made this inspection. This house is the original house on the subdivision property. No work was proposed on this lot as part of the Order of Conditions. Mr. Kozloski made an inspection and recommended that a Certificate be issued at this time.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to approve the certificate of compliance for 519 Cooper Street.

VOTE 4 - 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.