

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
February 22, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Magda Galiatsos
Frank Meagher

ALSO PRESENT:

Amanda Boissonneault

Mr. Kozloski called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

1. PUBLIC HEARING – Notice of Intent – 311 Shoemaker Lane – TJA Solar

Rich Tabaczynski, P.E. with Atlantic Design Engineers, Inc. was in attendance to present the Notice of Intent for 311 Shoemaker Lane. The plan shows a 4.9 megawatt ground mounted solar energy system, which will be fenced in, on approximately 16.4 acres of the 60.6 acre parcel. There is a northern and southern array that is divided by a gas easement. The site contains an intermittent stream running north to south along the eastern side of the arrays, along with bordering vegetative wetlands along the western side. A gravel access road from Shoemaker Lane, following an old farm road, will cross over a wetland area on the northern side of the site. The site is relatively flat which will allow for minimal grading with no anticipation of fill being brought in. Mr. Tabaczynski said the project has been designed to minimize impacts on the wetland areas, with the majority of the impacts occurring in the buffer zone. Of the 4.8 acres of buffer that will be impacted, 3.6 acres will be for storm water management. Mr. Tabaczynski stated they have received Site Plan approval from the Planning Board and the Engineering Department has given their approval for proposed stormwater management. Comments from DEP were received on February 22, 2018, and will need time to be properly addressed. Michael Mocko of Michael Mocko Environmental gave an overview of the wetland delineation that was started in September 2017 and completed December 2017. Mr. Mocko stated this site was subject to agriculture for more than 200 years. The site gently slopes to toward the stream and wetlands, with the stream following the native woodlands. Mr. Kozloski asked about a wetland area at the northern property line near the proposed access road. Mr. Mocko said he could reevaluate, but did not see any indicators there. Mr. Kozloski stated a wetland delineation on the adjacent property showed wetlands to the property line. Mr. Mocko indicated a finger wetland approximately three quarters of the way down the access road that will need to be crossed. The Commission members discussed if the proposed landscaping within the buffer would be native plants. Mr. Tabaczynski said they are all native, and can provide a list if needed. Ms. Messick asked if there was a maintenance plan, Mr. Tabaczynski answered it is part of the storm water report, and erosion controls can be adjusted if necessary. Ms. Messick asked if there would be

road sweeping on Shoemaker Lane during construction; Mr. Tabacynski stated they would use tracking pads at the entrance to limit soil being brought out of the site.

Mr. Kozloski opened the hearing to the public.

Greg Lindenmuth, part owner of Crestview Country Club at 281 Shoemaker Lane, expressed concern about his property being negatively affected by the solar arrays redirecting water away from his property. Mr. Lindenmuth stated the historical use of the property has been agricultural, and believes and industrial use will have a negative impact, especially on wildlife.

No one else spoke for or against.

The Commission members discussed concerns about the wetland mapping, stating this is a very complex system that works in conjunction with the adjacent properties.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to require a Third Party Review of the Notice of Intent for TJA Solar at Parcel 2 of 311 Shoemaker Lane.

VOTE 4-0

2. OFF SITE MITIGATION – 916 Suffield Street – Mikel Coffee

Mr. Antonios Risos, part owner of Kaptain Jimmy's, and Ed Brousseau are in attendance. Mr. Kozloski explained the history of the property, stating off site mitigation was required with Notice of Intent 87-504, but was never completed by the former owner. Originally an amount of \$2000.00 was to be provided for improvements at Pynchon Point, which has since been completed by a different applicant. The Commission members and Mr. Risos agree on Mr. Risos providing \$1000.00 to the Town of Agawam to be used to remove invasive species along the Connecticut River Walk and Bike Path.

Motion was made by Mr. Fallon and seconded by Ms. Becker to approve off site mitigation for 916 Suffield Street in the amount of \$1000.00 to be used to remove invasive species along the Connecticut River Walk and Bike Path.

VOTE 4-0

3. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – Lot 27 Barry Street – Shibley

The plan that was submitted on February 8, 2018 was reviewed by professional staff, and comments were received from Engineering in a memo dated February 22, 2018. The Commission members discussed that plantings may be needed along the wetland boundary, but the lot needs to be cleared and marked to assess what will fit. The 4th comment from the Engineering Department's memo, dated February 22, 2018, to be added as a condition.

There was no public input. The Commission closed the public hearing.

The Order of Conditions was then written. A copy can be obtained from the Commission's office or the Town Clerk's office.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to issue the Order of Conditions for Lot 27 Barry Street as written.

VOTE 4-0

4. ENFORCEMENT ORDER UPDATES

Tannery Road – Bruno – Nothing new to report.

Main Street – Cirillo – Nothing new to report.

775 North West Street – Kudlic – Nothing new to report.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 8, 2018

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to approve the minutes of February 8, 2018.

VOTE 4-0

6. CORRESPONDENCE & COMPLAINTS - None

7. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. (Continued to 5/30/18)– NOI – Spfld. Water & Sewer Commission – M Street and Connecticut River

The meeting adjourned at 7:15PM.