

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
May 23, 2019

Members Present:

Henry A. Kozloski, Chair
Sheryl Becker
S. Page Fallon
Magda Galiatsos
Frank Meagher
Jill Messick

Also Present:

Pam Kerr
Amanda Boissonneault

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

A. Public Hearing Cont. – Notice of Intent – Paul Revere Drive – Town of Agawam

Town Engineer Michelle Chase was in attendance, and provided an updated survey of the stream profile and cross sections along with pictures of the current site conditions. The goal is to reestablish the original stream by removing as much material from the stream channel as possible. A cofferdam will be installed upstream, and any materials removed will be brought to Tuckahoe, away from any resource areas, to dewater. Ms. Chase explained that a new small footprint excavator will be used to remove the majority of the material, with the rest that is closer to the stream bed being removed by hand. Mr. Kozloski asked what type of seeding would be used; Ms. Chase said they would choose from an approved list. Ms. Galiatsos asked when the project would begin. Ms. Chase answered they would like to start as soon as possible, but first the ground needs to dry out to be able to support the equipment needed. The work is anticipated to be completed in 1-2 days. Mr. Kozloski would like 24-hour notice prior to the beginning of the project so that a Commission Member can be onsite to inspect the progress. Mr. Fallon asked about an area approximately 170 feet downstream from the pipe inlet that appears to be restricted by a large piece of debris. Mr. Kozloski and Ms. Chase discussed the potential removal of this item once work begins. Ms. Chase explained the catch basins in the area are on the top of the list to be inspected and cleaned.

Mr. Kozloski opened the meeting to the public; no one spoke for or against.

Mr. Kozloski closed the public hearing.

The Order of Conditions for Paul Revere Drive will be written at the conclusion of the meeting.

B. Public Hearing Cont. – Notice of Intent – Springfield Water & Sewer Commission – M Street & Connecticut River

Steve Frederick from the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission and Jason Lavoie, Project Manager with Kleinfelder were in attendance. The entire project includes a new pumping station to be constructed next to the existing Springfield York Street pumping station, three new pipes to be installed across the Connecticut River, and a new influent structure to be built on the Agawam side at Bondi's Island that will receive the new pipes. This NOI is for the new cast in place concrete structure that will be built on the four existing active pipes. The four existing pipes will need to be diverted around the location of construction to allow for open excavation for the installation of the new structure. Erosion controls will be used around the site, and the contractor will be submitting a dewatering plan. There is a one-year construction time period for the proposed work. Once the structure is built and ready to receive the flows, the pipes will be temporarily diverted again to allow for an open cut for the installation of new pipes. The open cut will not be for the entire length of the project, and is currently estimated to occur from January 2020 to May 2020. There will be steel sheeting installed to delineate the limits of the approximately 25-foot trench. There is a privately owned levy that runs along the embankment that will also be open cut and restored. Mr. Frederick explained this NOI is only for the work above the high water line, with the top of bank being estimated at the top of the levy. The river crossing will be a separate filing with the Commission. Mr. Kozloski asked if there is a clay lining of the levy, Mr. Lavoie said borings in the area and construction records did not show a clay liner. Mr. Kozloski asked if straw wattles instead of hay bales could be used for erosion controls, Mr. Frederick said that language is in error and that straw wattles are intended and shown on the plan. Mr. Kozloski advised DEP had not been able to issue a file number or comments prior to the opening of this hearing. Ms. Messick asked if the applicant has filed with NHESP. Mr. Lavoie explained they do not believe there are endangered species in this area, but had checked off endangered species on the application in error. Ms. Kerr said an email was received this afternoon from NHESP stating they will be doing a formal review. The applicants will be submitting an electronic filing to DEP by the end of the week. The Commission members discussed scheduling an onsite visit prior to the next meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to continue the public hearing for the NOI for 250 M Street Ext. to the Conservation Commission's June 13, 2019 meeting.

VOTE 6-0

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to amend the order of the agenda.

VOTE 6-0

D. Public Hearing Cont. – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation – 0 & 683 S. Westfield St. – DePalma

The applicant has requested to continue the public hearing to the Commission's next meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to continue the public hearing for the ANRAD for 0 & 683 S. Westfield Street to the Conservation Commission's June 13, 2019 meeting.

VOTE 6-0

E. Public Hearing Cont. – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation - 255 & 267 S. Westfield St. – DePalma

The applicant is working on revised plans, and has requested to continue the public hearing to the Commission’s next meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the public hearing for the ANRAD for 255 & 267 S. Westfield Street to the Conservation Commission’s June 13, 2019 meeting.

VOTE 6-0

F. Public Hearing (Cont. to 5/23/19) – Notice of Intent – Shoemaker Ln., Silver St. & Suffield St. – 261 Upgrade Projects – Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company

The applicant has requested to continue the public hearing to the Commission’s next meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the NOI for the 261 Upgrade Projects for Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company to the Conservation Commission’s June 13, 2019 meeting.

VOTE 6-0

G. Certificate of Compliance

1. 265 Main Street - Ms. Kerr explained the property owner had asked for a form to request a certificate of compliance, but has yet to submit any paperwork to the Commission.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to remove the request for a Certificate of Compliance for 265 Main Street from the agenda until the appropriate paperwork has been received.

VOTE 6-0

H. Enforcement Order Updates

1. Federal Street – No Update

2. Bondi’s Island - (cont. to 6/12/19)

3. 944 Springfield Street – Ms. Kerr explained a letter has been sent to the property owner to contact the office to schedule a site visit, and to remind them the restoration work needs to be completed by June 13, 2019.

I. Approval of Minutes – May 9, 2019

The minutes for May 9, 2019 were not prepared in time for the meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to table the May 9, 2019 minutes to the Commission's next meeting.

VOTE 6-0

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to put the agenda in order.

VOTE 6-0

C. Public Hearing Cont. – Notice of Intent – 466 South Westfield Street – Shibley/Sweeney

Terry Reynolds, Dan Niche, Kathleen Sweeney, Victor Shibley and peer reviewer Emily Stockman were in attendance. A plan set with revised plans shown on pages 5, 6, & 7 was submitted on May 20, 2019. Mr. Reynolds explained he utilized DEP's guidelines in order to expand on the alternatives analysis to create the revised plans. One building was removed from the southwestern corner in order to pull the rain garden out of the buffer zone. Mr. Reynolds stated the infiltration basin cannot come out of the buffer zone because it is the only viable place to infiltrate water for the site. Mr. Reynolds explained there are no other suitable areas on the site. One unit was reduced in size and another was rotated out along the northwestern side of the development to remove more work out of the buffer zone. A complete revised stormwater report has been submitted for review. Mr. Niche explained the applicants focused on low impact development procedures and where they could be implemented in the design. Mr. Kozloski asked if there was an outlet in the rain garden. Mr. Reynolds stated there is an emergency overflow in the rain garden and an outlet structure in the infiltration basin. Mr. Reynolds introduced a three sequence phasing plan that shows the road being installed in three different stages. The rain garden will be used as a temporary sediment basin during construction with water naturally flowing down gradient towards the rain garden. Diversion measures will also be used if needed. The infiltration basin will be constructed during phase two. The applicants and Commission members discussed storm water management during construction, especially diversion and the use of temporary erosion controls during each phase. Mr. Kozloski questioned if the entire road needs to be installed prior to construction to allow for emergency access to the site. Mr. Reynolds said they are waiting for the Engineering Department's review before any further changes are made. Ms. Messick asked what happens if the rain garden fills with silt during construction. Mr. Reynolds answered there will be weekly inspections of the rain garden and erosion controls. Mr. Niche said at the completion of construction, the rain garden will be cleaned out and final grade will be established. Everything up gradient will need to be fully established before this occurs. Mr. Meagher would like to see tree removal occurring directly prior to construction of that area, and replanted as soon as possible. Ms. Stockman suggested notification and photo documentation in between phases to be included as a special condition to ensure vegetation is established. Ms. Stockman suggested creating a draft of any special conditions that can be reviewed with the applicants while the public hearing is still open. The Commission members agreed to keep the public hearing open until comments from Engineering are received.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to continue the public hearing for the Notice of Intent for 466 S. Westfield Street to the Commission's June 13, 2019 meeting.

VOTE 6-0

J. Correspondences and Complaints

1298 Suffield Street – The Commission received a complaint for clear cutting on this property. An enforcement order was issued and the filing of a Notice of Intent was requested. Mr. Kozloski explained mitigation may also need to be requested if it is determined there was tree cutting in the wetland.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to ratify the Enforcement Order for 1298 Suffield Street.

VOTE 6-0

Harvey Johnson Drive – Ms. Kerr explained a couple different complaints have been received for water backing up in between the homes and one of the Heritage Hall buildings. Springfield Water and Sewer Commission was contacted to look into the grading that took place during the water line replacement, and Engineering was contacted to look into culverts in the area. There was a Notice of Intent for work to be done on the Heritage Hall property, but that project was never started.

Regency Park Drive – A complaint about dumping to the west of the rear of Regency was received. It appears the dumping is taking place on property owned by Mr. Calabrese, and a message has been left with him.

Hemlock Ridge – A complaint for work being done near a wetland was received. This could also correspond with a complaint that was left with the Engineering Department for tree cutting taking place behind 159 Forest Hill Road. A site visit will be needed to determine if there was any work being done near the wetland.

Colemore Street – A complaint was received over the winter for debris and fill being dumped near a wetland. A site visit is needed.

Hendom Drive – The owner of the tree farm has requested a Certificate of Compliance for the work that has been completed. A site visit is required in order to determine if a Certificate of Compliance can be issued.

Ms. Kerr will coordinate any necessary site visits with the Commission members for the above correspondences and complaints.

The Order of Conditions was written for the Notice of Intent for Paul Revere Drive

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to issue the Order of Conditions for Paul Revere Drive.

VOTE 6-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM