

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
August 27, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Henry Kozloski
Sheryl Becker
Keven Brown
S. Page Fallon
Magda Galiatsos
Frank Meagher
Jill Messick Ward

ALSO PRESENT:

Pamela Kerr

VIA Zoom Webinar

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

1. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – Springfield Water and Sewer – Connecticut River Crossing

Betsy Frederick of Kleinfelder requested that this public hearing be continued to the next meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to continue the Public Hearing for the Connecticut River Crossing project to the next meeting as requested by the applicant's representative.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7 – 0

2. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – 173 Southwick Street – Hillside Development Corp.

Filipe Cravo of R. Levesque Associates was present to update the members on the progress of this subdivision. He stated that Lot 12 is now included as part of the NOI and a revised narrative as well as a revised WPA Form 3 has been submitted. He reiterated that the plan now shows an drainage swale along the backs of lots 1-8 with an easement. He stated that approximately 100' of sidewalk has been removed from lot 8 in front of the drainage easement; the retaining wall has been eliminated and a crosswalk has been added. There is a slight decrease in in riverfront disturbance in this area (4,825 SF). He explained that along the western property line they are showing buffer plantings on the rear of lots 9, 10 and 11 and that the riverfront will remaining undisturbed on these lots. Concrete bounds will be placed along the buffer. He stated that a

email from the Town Engineering today with the following comments: increase the height of the berm to allow for a 1 foot of freeboard in the detention pond....; correct a misspelling; and revise the grading to allow for the sidewalk to be installed from Station 10+50 LT to the western end of the project at approximately 10+75 LT without having to install a retaining wall..... Mr. Kozloski asked they are proposing any plantings on Lot 12. Mr. Cravo indicated no. Mr. Kozloski then asked for any public input. There was none this evening. He asked Mr. Cravo if he would be requesting a continuance again to allow for further Planning Board discussion. Mr. Cravo stated yes, please continue the hearing.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to continue the public hearing for 173 Southwick Street to September 24, 2020.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7 – 0

1. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – 0 Poplar Street – Lucia

Tom Lucia presented a marked up plan for the proposed single family home on this existing lot which shows proposed locations for boundary markers. Mr. Kozloski stated that there is no berm on Poplar Street in front of this lot and asked that the downspouts be placed to drain to the side of the house (not forward). He asked for plantings along the edge of lawn (locations to be determined on-site) and plantings along the edge of lawn as well. Mr. Lucia asked if he could remove the tree that recently fell over the brook. Mr. Kozloski stated that could be added to the Order of Conditions.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to close the Public Hearing for 0 Poplar Street.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7-0

The Order of Conditions was then written which includes that the bridge and stairs are to be removed and the banking is to be re-established. Also added were: A plan shall be submitted to the Commission, for their approval, which shows a row of wetland plantings along the “existing edge of grass” and also along the riverfront area that must be re-established with a New England wetland seed mix.; Monuments (6” x 6” x 2’ with 6” above the ground) are to be placed to clearly mark the boundary of lawn area that can be maintained/mowed. The exact location of these monuments shall be determined by the Commission on-site and monuments must be installed before construction of the house begins. A sign shall also be installed in this area indicating this is riverfront area and cannot be disturbed; and The tree that has recently fallen over the stream is to be removed as it is impeding the flow of the water.

Motion was made by Mr. Meagher and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to issue the Order of Conditions for Poplar Street – Lucia, as written.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7-0

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – 358 Corey Street – 87-600

R. Levesque Associates requested a Certificate of Compliance for the original Order of Conditions that was issued to Thomas Russo, Jr. for 358 Corey Street. The work never commenced and the Order has expired and is no longer valid.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to issue a Certificate of Compliance for file number 87-600 (Order of Conditions issued to Thomas Russo, Jr.) for work that never commenced at 358 Corey Street.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7-0

2. PUBLIC HEARING – Notice of Intent – 358 Corey Street – General Construction & Env.

R. Levesque Associates requested a continuance of this public hearing.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the public hearing for 358 Corey Street to the next meeting (September 24, 2020) as requested by the applicant's representative.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7-0

3. Tennessee Gas Pipeline – condition #21 (wetland scientist) and changes to tables 3-2 & 3-3 & Ratify IR Plan

4.

Debi McCartney of Kinder Morgan was present. She had submitted a resume for Jeremy Lessard who they propose to replace Mr. Fellion who is changing employment. Mr. Lessard will function as both Wetland Scientist and Compliance Monitor for the Tennessee Gas Pipeline project. The members had received Mr. Lessard's resume earlier and had no concerns with him.

Motion was made by Ms. Becker and seconded by Mr. Brown to accept Jeremy Lessard as an additional compliance monitor and wetland scientist for the Tennessee Gas Pipeline project.

VOTE 7-0

Ms. McCartney also updated the members on changes made to table 3-3 regarding the reduction of in-situ RFA restoration plantings to allow for no plantings to be placed in the Town of Agawam sewer line easement.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick Ward and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to approve the changes made to table 3-3 as presented this evening by Deb McCartney of Kinder Morgan.

ROLL CALL VOTE – 7-0

Mr. Kozloski had approved the IR plan that was submitted as a result of the September 1st inadvertent return. The IR plan approval needs to be ratified by the members. DEP has also approved this IR plan.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to ratify the IR Plan submitted by Tennessee Gas Pipeline and approved by DEP for the September 1st inadvertent return.

ROLL CALL VOTE – 7-0

Ms. McCartney indicated that the clean up was completed today and that Phase II of the IR plan was not needed. She then went on to explain that pursuant to the Order of Conditions for the 261 Upgrade Projects, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (Tennessee) submits a modification to the wetland seed mix (New England Wetland Plant's (NEWP's) New England Wetmix) previously approved by the Commission in March 2020. Tennessee's pipeline contractor, US Pipeline (USPL) ordered the approved New England Wetmix from NEWP. On review of the seed tag, the Compliance Monitor identified that two additional species, Creeping Spikerush (*Eleocharis palustris*) and Purplestem Aster (*Aster puniceus*), were included in the seed mix when comparing to the composition of the Wetmix listed by NEWP in February 2020. She submitted a Revised Wetmix showing the new species added to the bottom and shaded. USPL requested and received a statement from NEWP that states that all species are indigenous to Hampden County, Massachusetts and of ecotype morphology and habitat characteristics comparable to those from Hampden County.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick Ward and seconded by Ms. Becker to approve the revised wetland seed mix as presented for the Tennessee Gas 261 Upgrade Projects as presented this evening.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7-0

5. Correspondence and Complaints

The Commission received a request from Kyle Macdonald, compliance monitor for the 311 Shoemaker Lane solar project that they be allowed to place additional erosion controls (wattles) as a limit of where the machinery will need to access to plant the large trees along the eastern side of the south array. The company that will be doing the tree planting discovered that they need to use machinery outside of where the silt fence is currently located. Any potential rutting will be smoothed out and seeded upon completion of the planting. The members were in agreement with this request.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to allow for an additional row of erosion controls (wattles) to be installed at the limit of where machinery will need to access to plant the large trees along the eastern side of the array, and to require to be notified when this work has been completed.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7-0

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 27, 2020

Motion was made by Ms. Messick Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to approve the minutes of August 27, 2020 as written.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7-0

9. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – Main & Reed Streets – Town of Agawam

Melissa Coady of Tighe and Bond explained that the Notice of Intent for this work (to address damage by failed outfall to River) was filed last Fall. The new outfall was constructed under a previous Order of Conditions. This filing addresses remediation of the original outfall. She explained that per DEO comments the original proposal would not be permitted under Chapter 91. They have made substantial changes to the proposal which include an updated design with bioengineering techniques including fabric-wrapped soil lifts; willow fascines; root wads and footer logs with ballast boulders; foundation stone for the toe wood (root wads); encapsulated soil lifts; and coconut jute fabric. Also proposed (and was in the original design) is the installation of native woody plant species (trees, shrubs) as well as the application of native herbaceous seed mixes. The plantings include up to 45 eastern cottonwood, silver maple, red maple and sugar maple saplings placing approximately 8' on center. A vegetated earthen berm will be installed at the top of the slope next to edge of road. She went on to say that access to the area will be from the southeast side. DEP was sent a copy of this revised submittal today. Ms. Messick Ward asked about the fabric wrapped soil lifts. Ms. Coady explained that this is essentially an erosion control blanket (staked) with 1 foot lifts (coconut coir fiber). Ms. Messick Ward asked what the stakes will be made of. Ms. Coady stated that they would be wooden stakes. Mr. Kozloski asked if the work will be done during low flow. Ms. Coady stated ideally, yes and they may need to use a coffer dam. Mr. Meagher asked how long the logs would last for. Ms. Coady stated that the root wad ends will break off over time. Mr. Fallon pointed out that it looks like a significant amount of excavation will be required and asked where the soil will go when working? Ms. Coady stated that there will be an area for staging and stockpiling at the top of the slope and if necessary the contractor may have to find an offsite location. She end this evening by requesting a continuance of the public hearing to the next meeting and she stated that once DEP approves of these revisions they will file a Chapter 91 application.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick Ward and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the public hearing for Main Street and Reed Street to the next meeting (September 24th).

ROLL CALL VOTE 7-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM.