

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
December 9, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Keven Brown

ALSO PRESENT:

Taryn Egerton

VIA Zoom Webinar

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

1. REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – Notice of Intent – Samuel Street – Calabrese

An email was received from Engineering. They inspected the detention pond at Samuel Street Subdivision and had comments on several issues. For this reason Mr. Kozloski feels the Commission has no choice but to deny.

Motion was made by Mr. Meagher and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to deny the request for the Certificate of Compliance for Samuel Street – Calabrese until such time as the deficiencies with the detention pond are taken care of.

ROLL CALL VOTE 5 - 0

2. REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – 50 H.P. Almgren Drive – Sound Seal, Inc.

Sound Seal, Inc. has withdrawn their request.

3. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – 0 South West Street & 0 Pine Street – Town of Agawam

Rich Niles was present to give an update on the NOI for Tuckahoe Farm from a permitting perspective. He said he would like to talk about the wetland delineation boundary at the dam and the discrepancy between SWCA's line and the administrative process to address that. He would also like feedback on the riverfront restoration from the Commission. Andrea Kendall of LEC was also present. She said that she met virtually with Mark Stinson of the DEP, TGP and the town as to how to move forward and what would be acceptable to close out portions of the TGP project which would then release and closeout the wetland line which was their objective. TGP is in the process of preparing a request for a partial C of C which would ask the Commission to close out certain special conditions as it relates to the restoration work that occurred and would be monitored as needed. She went on to say that Stockman Associates is satisfied with LEC's delineation. Mr. Niles said he reviewed the language in the partial C of C request and he feels it is satisfactory for their needs and still requires TGP to complete the remainder of their project and separates the 2 projects. He went on to say that they need the water quality certification from DEP and permitting with the Army Corps of Engineers. MEPA certification was received with no significant comments. Ms. Egerton noted that DEP recommends keeping the hearing open until all permits are done and the water quality certification is received. Mr. Niles said that when they submitted the NOI they didn't have a clear approach for the riverfront restoration. He said that Ms. Stockman of Stockman Associates concurred on the site visit with Mr. Niles and Ms. Kendall that it seemed reasonable to find the best site for the riverfront restoration that could also encompass the impacts associated with the dam. Ms. Kendall said that in late October LEC did a site visit. They walked the length of the riverfront area extending from the existing farm road south to the property line about 50' to 75' beyond the tree line to observe the vegetated cover. She shared a map on the screen showing the area for restoration divided into 5 areas. She then described the vegetation in each of the areas. She said there is definitely enough area to dedicate toward riverfront restoration. Mr. Niles said that the area shown by Ms. Kendall is the most lacking in riverfront habitat so it presents a nice area for riverfront restoration. There is an area alongside that may be managed as open meadow. He said there are 40,000 SF of restoration area. Mr. Fallon asked what determines the area outlined in red on the map. Ms. Kendall said this was their first attempt to designate the proposed riverfront restoration area. Their goal was to offset it from the proposed limit of work. She said the area has feasible access and canopy cover could be achieved in the future that may shade out some of the invasive species that flourish in sunshine. Mr. Niles said that the thought behind this was to start at the existing tree line and extend out to be 40,000 SF of restoration area. They want to establish a habitat to improve function. Mr. Fallon asked if it will be self-maintaining. Ms. Kendall said that, that is the goal but it will take several years to see the benefit. Mr. Kozloski opened the hearing to the public for comments dealing with the wetland issues. There were no comments. Mr. Kozloski said that the project has a lot of work to be done and recommends using money out of the Con Comm fund to continue to have Ms. Stockman do peer review. He said \$3000 would need to be appropriated.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Fallon to appropriate \$3000 to continue Stockman Associates peer review support.

ROLL CALL VOTE 6 – 0

Ms. Ward entered at 6:22pm.

Mr. Niles requested to continue the Public Hearing – Notice of Intent – Tuckahoe to the next meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to continue the Public Hearing – Notice of Intent – 0 South West Street & 0 Pine Street – Town of Agawam to the January 13, 2022 Conservation Commission meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE 6 – 0

4. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – Aspenwood Associates LLC – 0 Silver Street & 0 Doane Avenue

The Commission received a request from Mr. MacNaughton to continue the Public Hearing for Aspenwood Associates LLC.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to continue the Public Hearing – Notice of Intent - Aspenwood Associates LLC – 0 Silver Street and 0 Doane Avenue to January 13, 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE 6 – 0

5. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – Main Street – Westfield River Interceptor Sewer Relocation Project – Agawam DPW (Continued to May 26, 2022)

Previously continued to May 26, 2022.

6. Correspondence and Complaints

- A. 299 Main Street – a request for Cof C was requested. Engineering was satisfied after detention basin issues were brought up to Engineering standards.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 299 Main Street – Vanguard Renewables.

ROLL CALL VOTE 6 – 0

- B. Silver Lake Dam update – an inspection report will be sent as soon as it arrives.
- C. 261 Upgrade – report was received for condition# 27
- D. Enforcement Order – Bondi’s Island – City of Springfield – received annual monitoring report for restoration plan
- E. South West Street – forest cutting plan has been completed
- F. Mawaga Sporting Club requested a site visit with the Commission and Engineering – Mr. Kozloski said a site visit will be scheduled for next week.

- G. Complaint – South West Street behind 586 and off of Gina Drive – bulldozers and excavators are on-site. A site visit will be scheduled for next week. The Building Inspector was notified.
- H. 24 Moore Street – a French drain was installed due to water in the basement. The Solicitor is working on this to possibly issue an Emergency Order.

Mr. Kozloski noted that some members of the Commission did a site visit to Bubbles Car Wash at Shoemaker Lane & South Westfield Street. He said that the erosion controls are in place and the project will be moving forward.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 10, & November 12, 2021

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to approve the minutes of November 10, 2021 as written.

ROLL CALL VOTE 5 – 0 – 1 (Galiatsos)

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to approve the minutes of November 12, 2021 as written.

ROLL CALL VOTE 5 – 0 – 1 (Meagher)

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE 6 – 0

Meeting was adjourned at 6:35.

Hpg