

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
April 27, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Henry Kozloski
Jill Ward
Keven Brown
Page Fallon

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sheryl Becker
Magda Galiatsos
Frank Meagher

ALSO PRESENT:

Taryn Egerton
Stefanie Kesecker
Pam Kerr

Mr. Kozloski called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

1. 6:00PM REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION-27 Mark Drive-Ruhland

Jeffrey and Kristina Ruhland were present for this agenda item. Mr. Ruhland stated they would like to create a sunroom off the existing deck that would extend 2ft. past the current deck. He stated the current deck is 14 ft. and it will now be 16 ft. with a landing and stairs. He stated it would be on sonotubes. The builder will install them with a machine. The landing will be 7'x4'. Mr. Kozloski stated the house is in the Riverfront. Ms. Ward asked how far in the Riverfront. Ms. Egerton stated the house is approximately 134 ft. from the "river". Ms. Ward stated they are outside the 100 ft.. Ms. Ward asked about the size of the sonotubes. Mr. Ruhland stated he wasn't sure, but he could find this information for the Commission. Mr. Fallon asked if this project would require minimal soil disturbance and no excavation. Mr. Ruhland stated that was correct. Mr. Brown stated the work seems minimal.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Brown to issue a Negative Determination-27 Mark Drive-Ruhland.

VOTE 3-1-0 (Kozloski opposed)

2. Pavement Management Plan-Spring 2023-Agawam DPW

Michael Albro, Assistant Town Engineer was present for this agenda item. He stated the Conservation Commission had recently been sent a list of streets that were part of the pavement

plan and they will be adding Meyers Drive, but it is outside of the wetland area. Ms. Ward asked if any width was increasing. Mr. Albro stated no increase to the impervious area. Mr. Kozloski asked if they would be putting in any drainage systems. Mr. Albro stated not that he was aware of. Mr. Kozloski stated going down Chanel Drive, River Road, Florida Drive are in the floodplain. Mr. Albro stated they are only going to be performing preventative maintenance on them. Mr. Kozloski stated there are wetlands in the vicinity of Bradford Drive, South Westfield Street, Tannery Road. Mr. Albro stated DPW did some work in last few years to improve the drainage in this area and that precautions would be taken as to not affect any wetlands. Mr. Kozloski asked if the culvert would be cleaned when the work was done on Tannery Road. Mr. Albro stated there is a catch basin on the end of the street and they can clean it out. Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Brown to accept the Pavement Management Plan-Spring 2023-Agawam DPW.

VOTE 4-0-0

3. DISCUSSION-Hydrilla along the Connecticut River-Connecticut River Conservancy

This agenda item was continued to May 11, 2023.

4. PUBLIC HEARING CONT.-NOTICE OF INTENT-North Westfield Street over May Hollow Brook-Town of Agawam DPW

The Commission received a request to continue this agenda item until the May 11, 2023 meeting.

Mr. Kozloski stated the Commission would do a site visit.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Brown to continue the PUBLIC HEARING CONT.-NOTICE OF INTENT-North Westfield Street over May Hollow Brook-Town of Agawam DPW, until the May 11, 2023 meeting.

VOTE 4-0-0

5. Request for Certificate of Compliance-Nicole Terrace Subdivision-Lot 7

Mr. Kozloski stated the Commission needed to see if the grass was growing. Mr. Fallon stated he would go onsite and take some pictures.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Fallon to table the Request for Certificate of Compliance-Nicole Terrace Subdivision-Lot 7, until the May 11, 2023 meeting.

VOTE 4-0-0

6. Correspondence and Complaints

Ms. Egerton informed the Commission that they had issued a Negative Determination last year for the lot on North West Street (Lot 1) and they will be starting the work. They are out of any resource areas or buffer zones.

Ms. Egerton stated the Commission issued a Negative Determination from early 2021 for an Eversource project on Springfield Street for the gas main replacement and that project is set to be soon.

Ms. Egerton stated a complaint was received for Meadowbrook Dr. that trees are possibly being cut down in the floodplain. The complainant stated that it appears the cutting is being done on Town property. The tree warden is going to do an onsite and also check to see if this is Town property.

Ms. Egerton stated the Health Department wanted to know if the Commission had any comments on the paintball plan to clean up the tire and debris. Ms. Ward stated it would take a long time to clean this up. Mr. Kozloski stated the letter said it would take about a year.

Ms. Egerton updated the Commission about Corey Street and a problem tree. Mr. Kozloski stated it is not in the Commissions' jurisdiction.

Ms. Egerton also informed the Commission about the beaver dam on Suffield Street and she stated Engineering is not ready for an Emergency Order to be issued as they have to give Tennessee Gas something in writing and the Health Department has to issue their permit first. Mr. Kozloski stated the stream is about 18" wide beyond where the beaver dam is. He stated the water level is about 4 inches lower. He thinks they may need to dredge. Mr. Kozloski stated he had asked if Tennessee Gas was going to give written permission. Mr. Kozloski stated a Tennessee Gas environmentalist was onsite and stated a plan would need to be submitted for the work. Mr. Kozloski stated he is concerned for the downstream water when it is released.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-April 13, 2023

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the April 13, 2023 minutes.

VOTE 4-0-0

8. PUBLIC HEARING CONT.-NOTICE OF INTENT-1014 North St Ext-VIP
Homes & Associates, LLC

The Commission received a request to continue this agenda item to the May 25, 2023 meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Ward to continue the PUBLIC HEARING CONT.-NOTICE OF INTENT-1014 North St Ext-VIP Homes & Associates, LLC, until the May 25, 2023 meeting.

VOTE 4-0-0

9. PUBLIC HEARING CONT.-NOTICE OF INTENT-Main Street-Westfield River Interceptor Sewer Relocation Project-Agawam (continued to June 22, 2023)

This agenda item was previously continued.

10. EMERGENCY ORDER-964 North West Street

Mr. Kozloski stated the owner wants to cut down about 10 to 11 trees and the tree warden stated they needed to be taken down. Mr. Kozloski does not want any stumps removed and all debris removed.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Brown to issue the EMERGENCY ORDER-964 North West Street, to allow 10-11 trees to be cut down-stumps are to remain; all debris is to be removed. Owner shall notify the Commission prior to the work commencing.

VOTE 4-0-0

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

VOTE 4-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.