

**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Minutes  
February 5, 2015 (Thursday)  
Marlborough City Hall – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Memorial Hall  
7:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Edward Clancy-Chairman, David Williams, Lawrence Roy, and Dennis Demers. Also present was Priscilla Ryder-Conservation Officer.

**Absent:** Allan White, John Skarin, and Karin Paquin.

**Minutes:** The minutes of December 18, 2014 and January 8, 2015 were reviewed and unanimously voted 4-0 to approve.

**Public Hearings:**

Request for Determination of Applicability  
245 Stow Rd. - Markian Stecyk

Dr. Stecyk, the owner, explained that he wanted to install a 2 car carport on a stone pad behind the existing garage. It will be placed outside the 20' buffer zone, but within the 100' buffer zone to the adjacent wetland. Ms. Ryder pulled out an old file showing the wetland flags done several years ago. The new carport location appears to be outside the 20' buffer zone based on that survey and the location proposed. The Commission agreed. Ms. Ryder said that with the snow on the ground, she was not able to verify this in the field, but felt confident based on the past survey. The Commission asked about the carport construction and whether the building department would require a cement slab instead and anchors for the roof. Dr. Stecyk was not sure since the building department asked him to get the wetland permit first. The Commission decided it didn't matter if it was a stone pad or concrete pad, all excess soil would need to be removed from the site. After further discussion, the Commission closed the hearing and voted unanimously 4-0 to issue a negative Determination of Applicability with standard conditions and the requirement to remove any excess soil from the area to protect the wetland.

Request for Determination of Applicability  
Hayes Memorial Drive - The City of Marlborough DPW

Evan Pilachowski, city engineer, was present and explained that the DPW would like to do a full reconstruction of Hayes Memorial Dr. and replace the water main which has had failure problems for some time. The roadway will be designed to have 13' lanes and 5' shoulders. A sidewalk on one side will be added. Drainage will be replaced, a few catch basins added. All work is outside any wetland, a few spots have new guardrail replacement within the 20' buffer zone. All drainage has been inspected and the culverts are in good shape. Mr. Demers noted that the waterline in this area was originally laid on ledge which is one of the causes for the water main breaks- the pipe was installed in the 1960s, before some of the current standards were in place. All the guardrail will be replaced with the new standard steel guardrail. After some discussion, the Commission

closed the hearing and voted unanimously 4-0 to issue a negative Determination of Applicability with standard conditions for roadway work.

Notice of Intent DEP 212-1120 (Continued to Feb. 19, 2015)

358 Berlin Rd. - Marlborough Brazilian SDA Church

Proposes to repair and replace their existing parking lot, reinforce some walls, and clean the accumulated debris from the brook, add some landscaping and install a wooden fence near wetlands.

### **Certificate of Compliance**

- DEP 212-1131 330 Berlin Rd.

### **Draft Order of Conditions**

- DEP 212-1143 9A Lakeshore Dr. The Commission reviewed the draft Order of Conditions and voted unanimously 4-0 to issue the Order as drafted.
- DEP 212-1146 Ft. Meadow Weed Control - The Commission reviewed a set of draft conditions for the Ft. Meadow Weed Control project. The joint hearing held on January 29<sup>th</sup> was closed that evening. The Commission discussed the use of Alum and decided the applicant would need to return to the Commission to discuss the use of Alum before being allowed to use it. They also decided to add Condition #37; to post the lake in the area of booster treatments, should that be necessary. After some discussion, the Commission voted 4-0 unanimously to issue the Order of Conditions as drafted and amended.

**Correspondence:** The Commission reviewed and accepted the following correspondence:

- Letter to John Ghiloni, Commissioner, dated Jan. 14, 2015 RE: Snow and ice operations and the use of only salt.

### **Discussion/Other Business**

- Snow and ice operation – salt use - Summary of meeting with Dept. of Public Works Chairman Clancy explained that he and Ms. Ryder had met with John Ghiloni and Tom Temple of the DPW on 2-3-15 to discuss the road salt issue as outlined in the letter noted above. The conclusion, per Mr. Temple, is that historically prior to 2009 the department was applying salt and sand with salt (sodium chloride) being 1,200 to 1,600 lbs./ lane mile and now they are doing an applications at a rate of 300 lbs./ lane mile with a pretreatment of 500 lbs./ lane mile. Therefore, they are using much less salt than they used to and are in fact doing the “low salt” treatment throughout the city that had been proposed for the Water Supply Protection District originally. Mr. Temple had provided a draft summary of his responses to Mr. Clancy’s letter of January 14, 2015. Mr. Clancy explained that Mr. Temple had discussed the “pretreatment” of the salt with a chemical called Caliber M2000 which is a de-cider that is sprayed onto the salt, before it gets to the ground, so it acts more effectively and is a combination of MgCl<sub>2</sub> which also has some animal protein in it. Mr. Temple will provide the Commission with the MSDS sheet on this product. The advertisement for the product states: *Caliber™ M2000 allows the use of salt for deicing at temperatures not previously possible. This blend of Caliber deicer with 30 percent magnesium chloride enhances performance of salt/sand deicers. Combined with the reduced bounce and scatter of a wetted solid, the increased performance translates into reduced granular material use.*

Mr. Demers explained that he still thinks they are applying lots of salt and some testing should be done. Mr. Clancy agreed and noted that Mr. Ghiloni has agreed to do regular testing of Lake Williams and Millham Reservoir. He suggested that Ft. Meadow and Sudbury Reservoir may also be places to test. Mr. Clancy noted that when he was a biology teacher, they tested the tap water and the salt content during the winter and spring snow melt increased steadily, then declined again during the summer. The Commission continued to be concerned about salt accumulation since it doesn't disappear or bind, once in the water it is dissolved and doesn't come out of solution, no treatment removes salt, so testing of the water and getting a handle on the salt content and contributing salt areas will g be necessary. The corrosiveness of salt was also discussed. Mr. Temple's letter explained that the addition of the additive, "Caliber M2000", reduces the corrosiveness of salt on structures and concrete. The Commission will review the draft information provided and will determine if there are any further questions for the DPW. In the meantime, the Commission will work with the DPW to confirm sampling locations and collect past data for salt in the water and also check the MWRA data as well. Ms. Ryder will get in touch with Michele Higgins at the DPW to determine what the EPA safe levels for salt are. The Commission will discuss this again at the next meeting.

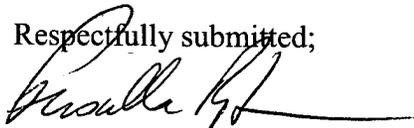
- Snow Dump - Ms. Ryder was informed today that with all the snow this year the snow pile behind the DPW is close to covering the brook. Mr. Calder at the DPW called this afternoon to let her know. Mr. Temple and Mr. Ghiloni had asked Ms. Ryder if they could use the landfill on Bolton/Hudson St. for a snow dump. Ms. Ryder indicated there aren't any wetlands in the area and there is a swale which directs all water to the detention basin at the base of the landfill to be filtered, before discharging into the lake. The Commission concurred with this conclusion and had no objections, but noted that if this becomes the snow dump the haul route should not include Hudson St. neighborhood only Rte. 85.
- VHB- Avalon – DEP 212-1115 - The applicant has requested via e-mail permission to stop winter storm water inspections while there is snow cover until the snow begins to melt and the ground thaws. The Commission agreed that there isn't much use in these inspections when nothing is going to drain. They will resume inspections once weather conditions change and the snow begins to melt. Ms. Ryder will convey this decision.

**Meetings** – Next Conservation meetings – February 19, 2015 and March 5, 2015 (Thursdays)

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted;



Priscilla Ryder  
Conservation Officer