

Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2022

7:00 PM

140 Main St. – Marlborough City Hall – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor (Memorial Hall)

**Present:** Edward Clancy - Chairman, Allan White, John Skarin, William Dunbar, David Williams, and Dennis Demers and Karin Paquin. Also present was Priscilla Ryder-Conservation officer.

**Absent:** none

The hearing was recorded using Microsoft Teams.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of Oct. 6 & Oct. 20, 2022 were reviewed. On a motion from Mr. White second by the Chair by a vote of 7-0 to approve.

**Public hearings:**

**Request for Determination of Applicability**

56-58 Walker St. – Andrea Ferro

Robert Parente P.E. was present representing the owners. He explained that house #58 has an existing cess pool which they want to tie into sewer. The new sewer-line will fall within the existing pavement of both Walker St. and the driveway. 70' of new sewer line will be installed to make this connection. They will add straw waddle erosion controls on the stream side of the driveway. This work will be done in the spring. #56 is already tied into the sewer but this new line is within the common driveway on #56. Mr. Demers noted that he is aware of ledge in the area so they should be prepared to jack hammer during construction. There being no further discussion and no comments from the public, the hearing was closed. On a motion by Mr. White second by Chair to issue a negative determination with standard conditions. The Commission voted unanimously 7-0 to approve.

**Notice of Intent**

85 Ames St. – John De Vries (Central Steel)

Ron Strohsahl from Oxbow Associates and Bruce Saluk P.E. from Bruce Saluk and Associates were present representing the owner. Mr. Strohsahl explained that this project came before the Commission in 2018 for this addition. The project was put on hold and the permit expired last year. They are refiled for the same project with some small changes on the stormwater infiltration system with a new water quality device. Mr. Saluk explained that the new system is a better system with more capacity, and he has provided the Operation & Maintenance Plan (O & M plan) for it along with new calculations. The snow storage location was noted, and the Commission indicated it must be on pavement and not in the landscape area. Mr. Saluk will update the plans to reflect that. Mr. Clancy asked about the construction sequencing and when this would start. Mr. Saluk indicated they would like to start as soon as all approvals are granted. All work is only outside the 50' buffer zone. There being no further questions from the Commission or the public the hearing was closed. The Commission asked Ms. Ryder to draft conditions for review at the next meeting on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>.



**Notice of Intent (Continued from Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>)**

**Lake Williams boardwalk – City of Marlborough**

Ron Strohsahl from Oxbow Associates and Tom DiPersio City Engineer were present. Mr. Strohsahl explained that the plans have been revised to reflect a boardwalk only over the water, the stone dust area has been eliminated. This change has reduced the Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW) impact considerably to only 1,838 sq. ft. from 4,585 sq. ft. He also reviewed the memo he provided to the Commission dated Oct. 27, 2022, which outlined the changes made since the last meeting and outlined construction design, answered questions about access, trash, security, and examples from other communities who have built such structures. The Commission asked questions about the final pier design, spacing, bracing, platform material, and whether ledge was anticipated. Mr. DiPersio noted that they don't anticipate ledge based on the 2014 topo when the lake was low. They don't have a full design specification yet. They will be providing the minimum requirements for the piles and issue a performance specification. He noted that it would be appropriate for the company hired to come back before the Commission to discuss the actual construction sequencing and materials, as those are not known at this time. What is known is that helical piers will be used as the supports in the water. There was discussion about the lifespan of such a boardwalk (30-50 year) and the average depth of water under the boardwalk (2'). It was Mr. Strohsahl and Mr. DiPersio's understanding that all work will be done from one section to the next and no boats or barges would be in the water. They had both spoken to other communities and engineers about their designs and feel comfortable that this is buildable with minimal impact to the lake. After further discussion Ms. Ryder noted that a DEP # has not yet been issued, so the hearing should remain open. The Commission continued the hearing and asked Ms. Ryder to draft conditions for reviews at the Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Notice of Intent -212-1254**

**846 & 850 Boston Post Rd. East - Exela Movers**

At the applicants' request prior to the meeting, this hearing was continued to Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Extension Permit:**

- DEP 212-1215 Green District – requesting a 2 yr. extension - the Commission reviewed the request for a two-year extension as Phase 1 and Phase 2 are still under construction. On a motion by Mr. Demers second by the Chair to grant a 2-year extension, the Commission voted unanimously 7-0 to approve.

**Discussion/Correspondence:**

- Violations - 96 Crowley Dr. – Contractor has been invited to appear to discuss Mr. Fred Pappa from Cameron General Contractors and two members from Terracon Inc. were present. Mr. Pappa explained that since before the violation notice he and his crew have been working on the site to reduce the silt running off the site. They have loamed and seeded and put straw matting on the area next to the driveway and stone check dams around the edges to slow down runoff. The Commission discussed the 3 violations that have occurred as listed in the violation notice and noted that this drains to our recreational lake and no further silty discharge can occur. If it does the Commission will ask for the site to be shut down until it has been corrected. Mr. Pappa noted that the abutter at 92 Crowley also has runoff running into his site, and he is




working with them too. He noted that the initial paving on 96 Crowley Dr. will be done next week which should correct the problem. After some discussion, the Commission was satisfied with work done, except the drop inlet which needs attention and will be inspected by Mr. Dunbar on Friday. The Commission thanked Mr. Pappa for coming in and hoped that they would not have to see him again under these circumstances.

- DEP 212-1215 - 107 Simarano Dr. - Green District – minor change to plan - review letter. The Commission read a draft letter from Ms. Ryder outlining the approval of the minor change plans reviewed at the last meeting. The Commission also discussed the salt storage that was observed on site which the Commission determined needs to be removed off site. In the future all projects within the Commissions jurisdiction no salt storage will be permitted, this should be added to the standard conditions for conservation projects. The Commission reviewed the letter and voted unanimously to approve the letter as written.
- 30' Wetland Setback No disturbance Policy - clarify fence locations in existing yards. Ms. Ryder noted that she has received several requests regarding adding fencing around existing yards within the 30' wetland buffer zone. She showed examples from these requests. The Commission after some discussion determined that a fence in the 30' buffer zone was considered disturbance in this "no disturb zone" and therefore should not be permitted to be built. Ms. Ryder was asked to amend the policy to add this fence clarification so people going forward know what the rules are. She will provide a draft at the Nov. 17, 2022, meeting.

**Next Conservation Commission meetings:** November 17 and December 1, 2022

**Adjournment** - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Priscilla Ryder  
Conservation/Sustainability officer