

**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes
December 7, 2017 (Thursday)
Marlborough City Hall – 3rd Floor, Memorial Hall
7:00 PM**

Present: Edward Clancy – Chairman, John Skarin, Lawrence Roy, Allan White, David Williams, Karin Paquin and Priscilla Ryder - Conservation Officer.

Absent: Dennis Demers

Acceptance of Minutes: The minutes of November 16, 2017 were reviewed and unanimously accepted as written.

Public Hearing:

Request for Determination of Applicability

82 Paquin Dr. – Scott Ferrecchia

Scott Ferrecchia, the owner, was present. He explained that he had started work without knowing he needed a wetland permit until Ms. Ryder met with him on site. He is filing the RDA for permission to install a retaining wall and new driveway. Work is just outside of 30' from Ft. Meadow Reservoir. The wall is a concrete block wall 3' high which retains the landscaping. He didn't need a building permit for the wall, so did not triggered to file with the Commission. Ms. Ryder noted that the work is almost complete and that it is stable, exposed areas near the water are stabilized with stone. Some seeding will need to be done in the Spring, but overall the work had no impact on the lake. The wall footings and construction were discussed after which the Commission voted unanimously 6-0 to issue a Negative determination with conditions for the area to be stabilized in the Spring and to notify the Conservation Officer.

Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA)

New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid

Matt Kelly from VHB representing New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid was present. He explained that they will be replacing an existing switch structure on the W23W 69kV transmission line in Marlborough in accordance with the utility maintenance provisions of the Mass. Wetlands Protection Act. National Grid is upgrading the overhead utility lines and had previously notified the Commission of the maintenance work. However, they have discovered that one of the wooden poles needs to be removed and replaced with a steel pole which is not considered a "maintenance" item, so they are filing this RDA for this work. The foundation for the pole is up to 20' deep and they need to

install two footings. They will use erosion controls and a dewatering system. The pole is near the open channel, so care must be taken to be sure only clean water enters this water supply area. After some discussion, the Commission voted unanimously 6-0 to issue a negative determination with standard conditions about dewatering and inspections.

Notice of Intent (continuation)

149 Hayes Memorial Dr. - Marlborough/Northborough Land Realty Trust

At the applicants' request, prior to the meeting, this item was continued to the February 15, 2018 agenda.

Emergency Certificate

- Red Spring Road – Water line extension to #s 3,5,7 and 9 Red Spring Rd. - Ms. Ryder noted that work is almost complete on the waterline (discussed at the previous meeting) but, DPW forgot to file for an RDA to be reviewed. However, given the need for this project to get water to the 4 homes before things freeze, the Commission agreed that an emergency certificate could be issued for this work and voted 6-0 to issue an Emergency Certificate for this waterline work as described at the previous meeting.

Certificates of Compliance

- DEP 212-1172 78 Slocumb Ln. - Ms. Ryder noted that all the work on this lot has been completed per the Order of Conditions, except the installation of a fence at the top of the slope. The Commission voted unanimously 6-0 to issue a full Certificate of Compliance for this lot, but asked Ms. Ryder to hold it until the fence has been installed.

Correspondence and other business:

- Violation notice – 103 Cullinane Dr. - Ms. Ryder noted that the owner had come in and suggested they were only doing work inside the house. However, the building inspector found that outside landscaping, preparation for retaining walls and a deck were also being installed without proper permits from Conservation and Building. Ms. Ryder issued a violation notice and asked the applicant to submit a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) for the January 4th meeting. The applicant has indicated that he will.
- Hunting at State Forest near Ghiloni Park - Ms. Ryder got a report of hunters in the State forest near Ghiloni park. After inquiries to the state DCR it was discovered that hunting is permitted in this area. Ms. Ryder will look at the DCR/Recreation Commission agreement for use of this land to see if hunting is restricted in this document or not. She was asked to report back. If hunting is permitted then the Commission may want to post the land to let people know.
- Sudbury-Hudson Transmission Reliability Project; Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Report; EEA# 15703 - Ms. Ryder noted that she, with the help of Commissioner Paquin, drafted comments on the transmission line proposed along a very small corner of the Desert

Natural Area. The Commission reviewed the draft and voted unanimously 6-0 to submit the letter as drafted. Mr. Clancy signed the letter.

- The next meeting on Dec. 21st has been cancelled, next meeting will be January 4, 2018

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41.

Respectfully submitted,


Priscilla Ryder
Conservation Officer.