



Town of Watertown Connecticut

Planning and Zoning, Zoning Board of Appeals,
Conservation Commission/Inland Wetland Agency
Watertown Municipal Center

61 Echo Lake Road
Watertown, CT 06795

Telephone: (860) 945-5266

Fax: (860) 945-4706

Website: www.watertownct.org

MINUTES CONSERVATION COMMISSION/ INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT

REGULAR MEETING

Time: 7:15 P.M. (7:21 P.M.)
Date: October 13, 2011
Place: Watertown High School Lecture Hall
324 French Street
Watertown Connecticut

1. Call Hearing to Order

Chairman Ed Undercuffler called the public hearing to order at 7:21 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Carol Allen, Administrative Assistant executed the roll call.

Members Present: Ed Undercuffler, Chairman
Michael Genovese
Joe Polletta
Martha Sturgis

Members Absent: Don Orsini, Vice Chairman
Tom Murphy, Secretary
Richard Sarandrea
Todd Robinson
Dorita Habib

Others Present: Moosa Rafey, Wetlands Enforcement Officer
Chuck Berger, Town Engineer
Carol Allen, Administrative Assistant

3. Public Participation

Mr. Alex

Mr. Robert Alex spoke regarding the proposed cell tower on 655 Bassett Road, Watertown, CT, we would like the Conservation Commission/ Inland Wetland Agency carefully review the AT&T North Atlantic's cell tower application. We hope with the town's intervener status that your pre hearing questions of the applicant help accrue compliance with your regulations. We are concerned that the proposed site is not in the best interest of the community with reference to preserving our town's royal landscape and land values. I am concerned with the health and safety of human, plant and animal species living in close proximity of the site. A wetland's report states that the soil along the proposed access road and proposed tower area are not considered hydroid. There is a pond with 800' of the proposed site. The topography of the proposed site will carry sheet water drainage east and west. What was not included on the report is the fact that the proposed tower sheet water flowing west will impact a possible vernal pool and wetlands within 400'. The entire area drains into my irrigation pond next to Basset Road. The sheet water to the east will flow toward Fenn Brook about 400' from the tower location. Fenn Brook flows directly into the Wigman Reservoir. Our wetlands concerns involve the access road, steep slopes and associated highly erodible soils that can impact Fenn Brook. My concerns involve the land clearing proposed.

Mr. Berger

Town Engineer Chuck Berger requested to add as agenda 6-a App #802 Maintenance of Turkey Brook near the Senior Center to remove accumulated sediments.

Text of motion: Add as agenda 6-a App #802 Maintenance of Turkey Brook near the Senior Center to remove accumulated sediments.

Motion made by: J. Polletta

Second by: M. Sturgis

All in Favor

Mr. Rafey

Moosa Rafey requested to add as agenda 11-a an agent determination for App. #801 – installation of a bocce court for the Senior Citizen Center on Falls Avenue.

Text of motion: Add as agenda 11-a an agent determination for App. #801 – installation of a bocce court for the Senior Citizen Center on Falls Avenue.

Motion made by: J. Polletta
Second by: M. Genovese
All in Favor

4. Action on Minutes

- A. Regular Meeting April 14, 2011
- B. Special Meeting May 2, 2011
- C. Site Walk May 7, 2011
- D. Regular Meeting May 12, 2011
- E. Regular Meeting June 9, 2011
- F. Site Walk June 24, 2011
- G. Special Meeting June 24, 2011
- H. Public Hearing July 14, 2011 App. #763 Brass City Hyundai, LLC
- I. Regular Meeting July 14, 2011
- J. Site Walk July 30, 2011
- K. Continuation of the Public Hearing August 11, 2011 App. #763 Brass City Hyundai, LLC
- L. Public Hearing August 11, 2011 App. #791 Joseph Leonard
- M. Regular Meeting August 11, 2011
- N. Continuation of the Public Hearing September 15, 2011 App. #763 Brass City Hyundai, LLC
- O. Continuation of the Public Hearing September 15, 2011 App. #791 Joseph Leonard
- P. Regular Meeting September 15, 2011
- Q. Site Walk October 1, 2011

Text of Motion: Approve minute items 4A-4M and 4Q.
Table action on meeting minutes items 4N, 4O, 4P to the next regularly scheduled meeting on November 17, 2011.

Motion made by: J. Polletta
Second by: M. Sturgis
All in Favor

5. Pending Applications

- A. **Application #791 of Joseph Leonard for construction of a single family dwelling within upland review area on Lot 10 Shannon Avenue, Watertown, CT.**

- Mr. Undercuffler Chuck Berger, do you feel comfortable approving with this application?
- Mr. Berger Yes. Items number 1 & 2 could be a conditional of approval if you wish to make a descion tonight.
- Mr. Polletta I want to make sure there is a fence at the edge of the wetlands.
- Mr. Rafey The applicant has agreed to put a conservation easement over the area that includes all the wetlands and the upper part of the lot across the brook on the north side in the upland review regulated area.

Text of Motion: Approve application #791 of Joseph Leonard for construction of a single family dwelling within upland review area on Lot 10 Shannon Avenue, Watertown, CT with the following conditions:

- (1) A pressure treated fence be installed at the edge of the wetlands in the back of the house.
- (2) The location drainage pipe that is within the 10 Ft. wide drainage easement along the westerly side of the property should be shown on the plans.
- (3) A curbing replacement detail should be provided at the cul-de-sac in the area of the existing catch basin and the proposed driveway. Provisions shall be incorporated for the storage of snow subject to the review and approval of the Director of Public Works and should be noted that the revised plans depict a basement for the proposed dwelling.
- (4) The applicant will put a conservation easement over the area that includes the wetlands and the north side of the brook including the remaining land.
- (5) Standard conditions.

Motion made by: J. Polletta

Second by: M. Genovese

All in Favor

B. Application #795 of John Pond Jr. for construction of a 2-Lot subdivision at 25 Woodruff Avenue, Watertown, CT.

- Mr. Rafey The applicant is not present. I told them because of the mistake in the legal notice they did not need to come.

Text of Motion: Table Application #795 of John Pond Jr. for construction of a 2-Lot subdivision at 25 Woodruff Avenue, Watertown, CT to the next regularly scheduled meeting on November 17, 2011.

Motion made by: M. Sturgis

Second by: M. Genovese

All in Favor

C. Application #800 of the Town of Watertown Department of Public Works for removal of accumulated sediment from Steele Brook near the intersection of Riverside Street and Main Street, Oakville, CT.

Mr. Berger

Chuck Berger the Town Engineer was present on behalf of the applicant and explained Application #800 of the Town of Watertown Department of Public Works for removal of accumulated sediment from Steele Brook near the intersection of Riverside Street and Main Street, Oakville, CT to the Commission. There was a site walk on 10/01/11. The application indicated we would be impacting an area 500' x 75'. That was a conservative estimate on the impact. We will be disturbing 50' upstream from Riverside to 50' downstream of Main Street. We have refined our estimates; we have done some limited survey work. We will not be disturbing that much of the footprint. We will be removing 2,000 cu. yd. sediment. This is a maintenance project. We are returning the stream channel in this area to the design. There will be in additional fill or impact to the wetlands other than what was previously permitted. The Army Corp of Engineers have indicated that as long as there is no fill or access roads a permit from them is not required. The DEEP has indicated that we can do this work as maintenance project.

Mr. Polletta

Are you going to dredge it?

Mr. Berger

We are looking at using drag lines. We are also looking into using a crane. We want to put small equipment into the stream channel without constructing an access road. The area upstream flooded significantly with Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. This is part of the solution.

Mr. Genovese

Are you just bringing this back to its original design?

Mr. Berger

Yes. It will look like when it was done in 1992 and 1993. There is a rip rap lined channel under all the sediment. It will be restored back to that. We will lower some small equipment down into the stream to do the work.

Mr. Undercuffler

This appears to not be a significant activity so we would not need a hearing.

Mr. Polletta

I do not think it is. I believe it is more like maintenance. It needs to be cleaned.

should be no machinery in the brook. The intent is to bring the area back to the original design. This was constructed in 2003-2004. There will be no additional impact than what was originally permitted.

Mr. Undercuffler What is causing these stream to accumulate this sediment?

Mr. Berger We planned for some sediment accumulation in this situation. In this section of the brook we installed a few scour holes. These holes were designed to collect the sediment. The holes have filled in.

Mr. Undercuffler Are you just cleaning out the scour holes?

Mr. Berger Yes. The holes and more, we could take a site walk if the Commission wishes. This will need to be maintained.

Mr. Undercuffler Is this the first time this has been cleaned since the construction?

Mr. Berger Yes.

Mr. Rafey What about the shape of the channel in this location? There is a 90 degree angle.

Mr. Berger That contributed to the sediment settling. We do not plan to change this area at this time. The flood plain is built up in this area. There is no opportunity to change the location of this channel.

Ms. Sturgis I am concerned with how much it has over grown. Is there plans to address this.

Mr. Berger I agree there are many maintenance issues that needs to be addressed. There are trees and brush and other plants that need to be maintained.

Text of Motion: Table Application #802 from Town of Watertown, Department of Public Work for removal of sediment from Turkey Brook at Falls Avenue in the area of the Senior Center.

Motion made by: J. Polletta

Second by: M. Genovese

All in Favor

Attest:

Tom Murphy, Secretary
Conservation Commission
Inland/Wetland Agency