

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WINDSOR INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION
TUESDAY APRIL 5TH, 2022 7:00PM

Online webinar, to join via computer please go to the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85435818689>

Chairman Morando called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman L. Morando, Vice Chairman Schibley, Secretary M. Towers (virtual), Commissioners; K. Elder, R. Williams, and S. Fraysier.

Also present was Wetland Agent, Chloe Thompson.

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (3-minute limit on items other than Public Hearings)

No public communications

III. BUSINESS MEETING

a. MINUTES:

Commissioner Schibley stated that the April 5th minutes were approved at the previous special meeting prior to adjournment due to a lack of quorum.

b. OLD BUSINESS

- **Application 22-103: 123 Great Pond Drive, VCP EPC, LLC. (Emhart Glass) – Solar and Battery Storage System**

Brad Parsons addressed the Commission as the P.E. from Verogy representing this application. Chris Gagnon from BL Companies was also present. B. Parsons provided the updates to the Commission as requested in a previous meeting's discussion.

B. Parsons explained that there is an existing dirt bike track on an adjacent property that is encroaching on the subject parcel and causing erosion into the wetland areas. They intent to stabilize the areas disturbed by their project, but wanted to note the existing erosion issues from this abutting property.

B. Parsons stated that they intent to implement additional E&C controls in the eastern boundary and along the trench for the utilities as discussed previously, suggesting the Commission put a condition for this on the approval.

Vice Chairman Schibley asked B. Parsons to clarify the clearing limits of the project. B. Parsons indicated that most of the clearing will take place on the large forested area to the east, and limits as well as the ground cover underneath the solar panels was influenced and regulated by the State Fire Marshall's requirements and standards.

Vice Chairman Schibley asked B. Parsons to explain the reasoning again for why solar panels cannot exist in areas already cleared which are further away from regulated areas. B. Parsons explained that this area is optimal for sun exposure and site functionality.

Commissioner Schibley made a **motion to approve with standard conditions and a special condition for additional S&E controls, application 22-103: 123 Great Pond Drive, VCP EPC, LLC. (Emhart Glass) – Solar and Battery Storage System.** Commissioner Towers seconded the motion. **Vote 4-0-1***

*** Commissioner Fraysier abstained.**

- **Application 22-105: 311-315, 321 Rainbow Road, Hamilton Sundstrand Corp. – Storm Drainage Updates**

Alisa Morrison, P.E. from Loureiro Engineering Assoc., Senior Project Engineer addressed the Commission representing this application. A. Morrison provided the Commission with a review and update to minor details of the application. A. Morrison explained that the plan presented is one of many alternatives considered, and this plan as presented is the most feasible and prudent to the drainage issues this application is attempting to remediate. A. Morrison also explained the S&E controls to be implemented on site.

Commissioner Fraysier asked if the pipes were corrugated interiors. A. Morrison confirmed this.

Vice Chairman Schibley asked if other department staff has had a chance to review this proposed work. Wetland Agent Thompson confirmed this has been reviewed by the Engineering Department. A. Morrison added that they plan on working with the Town's Public Works Department when starting work within the right-of-way and other infrastructure.

Commissioner Fraysier made a **motion to approve with standard conditions, application 22-105: 311-315, 321 Rainbow Road, Hamilton Sundstrand Corp. – Storm Drainage Updates.** Vice Chairman Schibley seconded the motion. **Vote 5-0-0**

- **Application 22-107: 500 Groton Road, Northpoint Development - Construction of Drainage Headwall and grading improvements**

Val Ferro introduced herself to the Commission as the President of GEA. Also present was Scott Egan, Professional Soil Scientist from AECOM and Jim Petropulos, P.E. from Hayner Swanson, Inc.

S. Egan explained the details of his site observations and wetland functions and values with specific focus on the two upland review area impacts. J. Petropulos explained the general logistics of the project, site functionality and stormwater management systems. J. Petropulos provided more specific detail on the outfall leading to Perkins Brook and Goodwin Pond Dam. J. Petropulos added that the northern portion of the lot is to become dedicated Town open space as part of another, future phase of this effort. This will have walking paths that are to connect to existing, town-owned paths.

Commissioner Fraysier asked if all wetlands, watercourses, vernal pools etc. were assessed during the “Master Plan” phase of the Great Pond Improvement area. V. Ferro stated that this site has been surveyed for these regulated areas for many years, as the entire district was heavily remediated for several years. Commissioner Fraysier asked if there were any vernal pools near or within the project limits. S. Egan stated that there are no vernal pools near this area, and he only knows of a singular vernal pool in a very distant location within the development area. Commissioner Fraysier asked if any of the work within this application was within 750ft of this vernal pool. J. Petropulos said this pool is more than 750ft from the project limits proposed in this application.

Commissioner Fraysier asked about the proposed path leading to the Goodwin Dam and Perkins Brook. J. Petropulos explained the plans for connecting trail networks, and how additional efforts will be proposed in a separate future application to the IWWC.

Commissioner Fraysier asked if Groton Road would become a town owned road. J. Petropulos confirmed this would eventually become a public town owned road with public utilities and associated drainage easements.

Commissioner Fraysier asked for additional information on work being done near Goodwin Pond Dam. J. Petropulos explained that this effort was part of the remediation of Perkins Brook and Goodwin Pond Dam conducted by ABB roughly in the 2007-2010 time period. Wetland Agent Thompson added that there are plans to conduct maintenance activity on this dam under an existing DEEP Dam Safety General Permit, and has received detail recently of this from SLR Consulting. V. Ferro added that this is managed entirely by ABB, and is separate from this application.

Commissioner Fraysier asked for detail on NDDDB listed species on site. S. Egan stated that there are three species; box turtles, hognose snakes and leopard frogs. S. Egan added that a protection and monitoring plan was proposed and approved by NDDDB during previous phases and will be implemented during this project as well.

Vice Chairman Schibley asked why the trail was being proposed now rather than in the phase where the rest of the trails will be proposed; how will this path be used until that time without connectivity. J. Petropulos stated that they are looking to pave this path now as it is a steep and highly erodible slope they are looking to stabilize. This area may also need periodic maintenance, and this path would aide in access to this area. Initially, employees of the facility are expected to be the main users, but as the rest of the area develops this public path is expected to gain a more general patronage.

Vice Chairman Schibley asked if there were any temporary impacts expected to occur on the leopard frog population on-site. S. Egan said that there are no impacts at all expected, no areas are considered breeding habitat or this species and individuals have not been physically noted in this area during on-site investigations.

Commissioner Towers made a **motion to approve with standard conditions and a special condition for implementation of BPM for NDDDB species, application 22-107: 500 Groton Road, Northpoint Development - Construction of Drainage Headwall and grading improvements.** Commissioner Fraysier seconded the motion. **Vote 4-0-1***

*** Commissioner Towers abstained.**

IV. AGENT ACTIONS

Wetland Agent Thompson listed the following applications that were permitted as Agent Approvals:

- Application AA22-106: 167 Alcott Dr, Andrew Johnson – Shed w/gravel base
- Application AA22-108: 23 Alden Rd, Andrew Lombard – 18’ x 25’ Pavilion
- Application AA22-110: 121 Hayden Station Rd, Tiberius Halai – 18’ x 9’ Above Ground Pool

V. PETITIONS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Towers expressed concern with the Commission’s need for members as they have had trouble meeting quorum in the past few meetings. Wetland Agent Thompson said she would speak with our Public Relations Department to advertise for this need. Wetland Agent Thompson also said that she is in the process of determining what the options are for reducing the quorum as well.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Towers made a motion to adjourn at 9:12pm. Commissioner Elder seconded the motion. Vote 5-0-0

I certify that these minutes were approved on

Marlene Towers, Secretary
Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission