

**New Hartford Inland Wetlands Commission
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 7:00 PM
New Hartford Town Hall
530 Main Street, New Hartford, Connecticut**

PRESENT: Chairman James Hall, Anne Hall, Nancy Shroeder Perez, Steve Unger and Regina Wexler; Inland Wetlands Officer Ruth Mulcahy.

ABSENT: James Chakulski and Lou Moscaritolo.

Chairman James Hall called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. The meeting was recorded digitally and copies are available through Town Hall.

1. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Robert & Michelle Palmer – Map 06A – Block 112 – Lot 077 - 182 Camp Workcoeman Road – Repair Seawall for a length of 29' and a height of 5'9".

Ms. Mulcahy reported that the applicants are gathering additional information and reviewing other suggested options from the last meeting. Thus, they have granted an additional sixty-five (65) day continuance of the public hearing in this matter, according to Ms. Mulcahy.

MOTION: Ms. Hall, Mr. Unger second, to continue the public hearing in the matter of Robert & Michelle Palmer – Map 06A – Block 112 – Lot 077 - 182 Camp Workcoeman Road – Repair Seawall for a length of 29' and a height of 5'9", to the next regular meeting, scheduled for February 1, 2017; unanimously approved.

MOTION: Ms. Shroeder Perez, Ms. Hall second, to modify the agenda to move Item #7 *Discussion of Carpenter Road Bridge* ahead of *Pending Applications*; unanimously approved.

Discussion of Carpenter Road Bridge.

First Selectman Dan Jerram and Todd Parsons, PE of Lenard Engineering appeared before the Commission for a discussion of the Carpenter Road Bridge. Mr. Jerram explained that this project is turning out to be more difficult than expected. He explained that the contractor sought, through the Town's consulting engineer who is overseeing the project, to modify the way they handle the water flow in the coffer dam to bypass the bridge. He explained that it was an oversight, with the canal on the north side of the bridge.

Mr. Parsons then reviewed a rendering of the original plan submitted with the approved application depicted in black along with the contractor's handling plan, including an open trench going around the north side of the bridge as well as a combination of concrete block and sandbag coffer dams upstream and downstream, depicted in red ink.

Mr. Parsons explained that the contractors have struggled with the coffer dams. Mr. Hall reported that he had visited the site earlier in the day and passed around a camera containing a snapshot of the condition of the upstream coffer dam. Mr. Jerram reported that the contractor has relayed that he has not seen soils like this before and had requested another meeting next week after having consultation with additional experts.

Discussion ensued regarding the conditions of the site and how to proceed. Mr. Parsons reported that the contractors met today with the geotechnical engineer who will be providing them with advice and indicated that there are options that exist. If the decision is made to button up for winter, Mr. Parsons explained that the upstream coffer dam will be removed and placed across the upstream end of the bypass resulting in a basic restoration of the flow of the river.

In response to an inquiry from Mr. Unger, Mr. Parsons reported that the Town is consulting with Geotechnical Engineer Joseph Kidd, who has a lot of experience with coffer dams and is familiar with this project.

Ms. Mulcahy suggested that if alternatives are being considered, it might be a good idea to email them to Commissioners so that they may be kept updated with what is being considered. After additional discussion, the consensus of the Commission was to allow the Town to receive additional recommendations and the Commission could schedule a special meeting if needed.

2. PENDING APPLICATIONS:

A. Robert & Michelle Palmer – Map 06A – Block 112 – Lot 077 - 182 Camp Workcoeman Road – Repair Seawall for a length of 29' and a height of 5'9".

No business was discussed as it was noted that the public hearing had been continued.

B. James & Sharon Creighton/Applicants – James E. & Sharon W. Creighton – Map 04A – Block 112 – Lot 033 – 682 West Hill Road – Replace surface boards only on existing dock.

James Creighton appeared before the Commission regarding this application. He noted the location of the dock would not change and that it would have the same dimensions. Mr. Creighton explained that the work would involve no equipment in the water and would be done by hand.

MOTION: Ms. Hall, Mr. Unger second, to approve the application in the matter of James & Sharon Creighton/Applicants – James E. & Sharon W. Creighton – Map 04A – Block 112 – Lot 033 – 682 West Hill Road – Replace surface boards only on existing dock; unanimously approved.

3. NEW APPLICATIONS:

A. Jensen Mechanical Equipment/Applicant – Prestige Buildings LLC/Owner – Map044 Block 137 Lot 21A – 280 Main Street – New Outdoor A/C Condensing Unit – Three 120-Gallon Propane Tanks in Place of Four.

Scott Jensen appeared before the Commission regarding this application. He reminded the Commission that his company had been before them recently as they prepare to move to the former Prestige Cleaners building. He noted that they had neglected to note that the propane tanks are existing and that there will be a new condensing unit.

MOTION: Ms. Shroeder Perez, Ms. Hall second, to authorize an agent determination in the matter of Jensen Mechanical Equipment/Applicant – Prestige Buildings LLC/Owner – Map044 Block 137 Lot 21A – 280 Main Street – New Outdoor A/C Condensing Unit – Three 120-Gallon Propane Tanks in Place of Four; unanimously approved.

4. SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS:

A. New England Development LLC – 69 Bruning Road & Maple Hollow Road – Cease & Correct.

Attorney Bill Tracy, noting that he represents Collinsville Savings Society an entity attempting to get control of property, appeared before the Commission regarding this matter. He explained that while his client has not gained title yet, if and when Collinsville Savings Society assumes control of the property, they are willing to move the woodchips. Attorney Tracy explained that an engineer has been brought on board for the other remediation project to be undertaken.

Attorney Tracy requested time for his client to remedy the Cease & Correct as they have not yet assumed title to the property.

B. Jason Carrier – 109 Beeney Road – Cease & Correct.

Mr. Hall reminded the Commission that a permit was issued in 2014 to clean out a pond of two to three feet of material, muck that had washed into the pond from the town road, subject to a list of conditions.

Mr. Hall noted that it appears there is some question regarding as to whether the permit has been filed in detail and then relayed the items contained within the most recent Cease & Correct Order.

Richard Calkins, PE, appeared before the Commission, reminding them that he was part of the original permit application. He explained that his client, Mr. Carrier, has assured him that only topsoil has been brought on site but not any fill. Mr. Calkins noted that the permit neither allows nor prohibits the addition of topsoil.

Sedimentation erosion controls were discussed. Ms. Mulcahy reported that with Mr. Calkins' return to the scene, she was very comfortable with allowing the project to continue. She explained that the applicant had been forging ahead without the oversight of their engineer but was confident with Mr. Calkins being part of it now.

5. MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION: Ms. Shroeder Perez, Ms. Hall second, to approve the November 12, 2016 Minutes; unanimously approved.

6. INLAND WETLANDS OFFICER'S ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

No business discussed.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:

A Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions (CACIWC) newsletter was distributed to Commissioners.

8. OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION:

None.

MOTION: Ms. Shroeder Perez, Ms. Hall second, to adjourn at 8:07PM; unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Colombie
Recording Clerk