

**New Hartford Inland Wetlands Commission
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 7:00 PM
New Hartford Town Hall
530 Main Street, New Hartford, Connecticut**

PRESENT: Chairman James Hall, Anne Hall, Karl Hermonat, Gerald Tabaka, and Steve Unger;
Inland Wetlands Officer Mike Lucas and Consultant Rista Malanca.

ABSENT: Lou Moscaritolo and Nancy Scroeder Perez.

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:

None.

2. PENDING APPLICATIONS:

None.

3. NEW APPLICATIONS:

A. Gresczyk Farms/Applicant – Town of New Hartford/Owner – Map 045 – Block 137 – Lot 29A – 41 Black Bridge Road – Declaratory Ruling – Right of Use Per Section 4.1a of the Connecticut Inland-Wetlands Regulations - Conduit for Irrigation for Farming Activities.

Bruce Gresczyk, Jr. of Gresczyk Farms appeared before the Commission regarding this application. Mr. Gresczyk noted that the farm is seeking to hide their suction hoses as they currently draw water from the Farmington River to irrigate crops. He noted that the use of the conduit is to conceal the hoses and pumps.

Mr. Hall questioned how close to the river Mr. Gresczyk would be digging. First Selectman Dan Jerram, confirming what Mr. Gresczyk had also relayed, reported that the Town would be partnering with the farm on this project. Mr. Jerram noted that the goal was to stay three or four feet away from the river's edge. Mr. Jerram referenced the surveys that have been provided indicating the location of the piping.

Ms. Hall questioned the depth of the installation and what type of backfill would be used. Mr. Jerram confirmed the native ground would go back over the trench. He reported twelve-inch pipes would be utilized so they would most likely be digging no deeper than twenty-four inches.

Ms. Hall questioned what type of erosion control would be utilized during construction. Mr. Gresczyk indicated that he was leaning on the Town's engineer as the Town is performing the work. Mr. Jerram noted that hay bales and silt fence are the typical combination used to protect the river.

MOTION: Mr. Unger, Ms. Hall second, to find that the application of Gresczyk Farms/Applicant – Town of New Hartford/Owner – Map 045 – Block 137 – Lot 29A – 41 Black Bridge Road – Declaratory Ruling – Right of Use Per Section 4.1a of the Connecticut Inland-Wetlands Regulations - Conduit for Irrigation for Farming Activities represents a permitted use as of right under Section 4.1A of the Town of New Hartford Inland Wetlands Regulations; unanimously approved.

B. Bryan & Janis Burke – Map 09A – Block 105 – Lot 045 – 53 Aquatic Road – Remove Building (Boathouse) That Slid off Piers Into Lake.

Bryan Burke appeared before the Commission regarding this application. He noted that his contractor is planning on taking down the building, beginning with the roof. He noted that a one-hundred (100') foot

debris boom will be installed which will function to catch anything that might come loose. He noted the building will need to be walked up the driveway. Mr. Hall questioned whether the existing piers will be left in their current location. Mr. Burke noted that he would like to wait to see until the building is moved.

Ms. Hall questioned whether Mr. Burke planned to replace the building. He indicated that he did not. He also confirmed that he would not be utilizing any machinery.

Ms. Hall questioned how deep the piers were anchored. Mr. Burke indicated that he was unsure but that there was only six to seven inches of water in that location.

Mr. Hall noted that the Commission may consider the work as maintenance and repair under Section 4.1.d. of the Inland Wetland Commission Regulations. Ms. Hall questioned whether that included the removal of the piers. Mr. Hall noted that it did not.

Mr. Burke noted that some of the piers may very well be sitting on rocks as the structure has been there sixty years. Ms. Malanca questioned whether there would be any digging with the piers that may be in the water deeper. Mr. Burke confirmed that he would not be digging down into the lakebed.

MOTION: Mr. Unger, Ms. Hall second, to find that the proposed activity, as presented, as an as-of-right use, to remove the building and any loose piers, as per Section 4.1.d. of the Regulations; unanimously approved.

Prior to the vote on the aforementioned motion, the applicant was advised that if there are any piers that are buried that he wishes to remove, he must first return to this Commission for a permit for that type of work. Mr. Hall also had requested that if the applicant finds that one or more of the remaining piers constitutes a hazard, he should install a flag next to it.

C. Connecticut Rivers Council BSA – Map 011 – Block 040 – Lot 3_4 – 169 Camp Workcoeman Road – Construction of a Waterfront Activities Pavilion with Associated Drainage and Landscape Improvements.

Professional Engineer David Sacco of TPA Design Group appeared before the Commission regarding this application. He described the 1430 square foot proposed building to be located up the hill from their swimming enclosure. Mr. Sacco noted the existing watch tower the camp has already that is utilized to visually supervise the activities. He noted the intention is to provide a base for waterfront activities and to provide changing rooms for activities. Mr. Sacco explained it will not have any water or facilities so it will not be a washroom, showers or sanitation.

The proposal for stormwater management is to have the roof sloped back towards the hill to form an infiltration basin along the back of the building with some vegetation. He noted it will overflow through the existing drainage channel. He noted that the closest location of any activity is fifty feet from the lake front to the building.

Five existing trees will be removed, according to Mr. Sacco. He reviewed the existing stone-lined swale along the back of the building as he went over the grading plan. Mr. Sacco includes erosion control fencing around the site in order to contain any potential sediment generation from the project. He noted that the intention was to do as little excavation as possible, with the floor of the building at an elevation where there would not be excavation and removal of soil. The plans allow for the existing rock so that blasting is not likely, according to Mr. Sacco.

The planting plan included a swamp-white oak tree and a couple of dogwood trees as well as shrubs that are of a non-invasive, non-noxious species.

Ms. Hall questioned the foundation. Mr. Sacco noted that it will be a concrete foundation wall set below frost grade. She questioned whether it will have excavation for a frost wall. Mr. Sacco confirmed. She questioned whether there were any details on this included in the plans. He noted that a detail on the typical section of the backwall were included. Ms. Hall noted that she would like to see additional details on the topography of the site where the building is going. She noted that while the existing topography was included, the Commission would like to see a grading plan. He noted that the only grading being proposed is for behind the building and the topography on the sides and front of the building will not change as it will just fall away on the building.

Mr. Tabaka questioned whether the swale should be able to handle 2" of water. Mr. Sacco noted that a stormwater model had been presented to the Town Engineer. He noted that it will overflow in significant storms but a 2" capacity would handle most year to year storms. Ms. Malanca reported that professional fees have been collected to cover the cost of the Town engineer to review and provide a report for next month.

Ms. Hall noted that the application includes a relatively sizeable building within fifty (50') feet of the water and would therefore like to see more detail on the construction of the building.

MOTION: Ms. Hall, Mr. Hermonat second, to accept the application and in the public interest, schedule a public hearing for the July 3, 2019 regular meeting; unanimously approved.

4. OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

5. MEETING MINUTES – May 1, 2019:

The May 1, 2019 Minutes ought to be amended to reflect that Lou Moscaritolo was present.

MOTION: Ms. Hall, Mr. Hermonat second, to approve the May 1, 2019 Minutes as amended; unanimously approved.

6. INLAND WETLANDS OFFICER'S ENFORCEMENT REPORT

MOTION: Ms. Hall, Mr. Tabaka second, to modify the agenda to add accepting the application of the Town's Bruning Road Drainage Project; unanimously approved.

Mr. Jerram explained that the road will be shut down as part of the improvement project. He noted that there are two 36" pipes that are collapsing. Mr. Jerram noted that a private contractor will be undertaking the work as the pipes are fairly deep, at ten to fifteen feet in the ground. He noted that the area is just west of Gray Road which is slightly west of Route 219.

Mr. Jerram noted that there are old stone retaining walls that are also collapsing. He noted that the proposal includes a new concrete retaining wall on the north side.

MOTION: Ms. Hall, Mr. Tabaka second, to schedule a public hearing on the Bruning Road Bridge for the July 3, 2019 regular meeting; unanimously approved.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

MOTION: Ms. Hall, Mr. Tabaka second, to adjourn at 7:41PM; unanimously approved.

**Respectfully submitted,
Pamela A. Colombie
Recording Clerk**