

**New Hartford Inland Wetlands Commission  
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 - 7:00 PM  
Sessions Conference Room**

**PRESENT:** Vice Chairman Ira Kline, Charles Blow, Gerald Tabaka, Wayne Ryznar, Steve Unger and Wetlands Agent Mike Lucas, First Selectman Dan Jerram

**ABSENT:** Anne Hall

Vice Chairman Ira Kline called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**1. NEW APPLICATIONS:**

**A. Town of New Hartford /Applicant - New Hartford Town Hall Parking Lot Rear/ Owner – Map 36B – Block 119– Lot 003 / 6 Bridge Street plus multiple parcels. Parking Lot improvements and Fire Department River Access.** Todd Parsons of Haley Ward Engineering speaks to the details of the project, noting the areas that the expansion covers as well as the location for the EV charger conduits for future EV chargers. He also notes where the handicap spaces will be as well as where sidewalk and curbing will be replaced as most is in decent shape, but some has been damage by snowplows over the years. There is also a paver grid system proposed to support fire trucks getting to the river for additional water supply, and new plantings for the parking lot islands. There is erosion control plans in place for when the work is being done so the river is not effected with silt fences and silt sacks in the catch basins as temporary measures. Mr. Kline questions if the number of parking spaces changes, Mr. Parsons responded that perhaps by a space as they are adjusting the lot to make the handicap spaces more compliant. Mr. Jerram elaborates on the fire access to the river and why it's necessary citing the New Hartford House fire incident. Alternatives to the proposed river access were discussed and covered why they would not work.

**MOTION:** Made by Mr. Ryznar to refer this to the Inlands/Wetlands Officer for an agent determination, second by Mr. Blow, all approve.

**2. PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**3. OTHER BUSINESS:** Codify election of officers & setting of 2024 meeting schedule

Mr. Tabaka makes the nomination for Ira Kline to be Chairman, second by Mr. Ryznar, all approve.

Mr. Tabaka makes the nomination for Wayne Ryznar to be Vice-Chairman, second by Mr. Blow, all approve.

Proposed schedule discussed, with any potential adjustments to the regular schedule.

**MOTION:** Made to approve the schedule made by Mr. Tabaka, second by Mr. Blow, all approve.

**4. MEETING MINUTES:** December 6, 2023

**MOTION:** Made to accept by Mr. Blow, second by Mr. Tabaka, all approve.

**5. INLAND WETLANDS OFFICER'S ENFORCEMENT REPORT:** No agent determinations since last meeting.

There has been a bit of an ongoing situation that goes back a year or so that a homeowner who lives at 33 West Rd. called concerned that some work their neighbor at 10 Blueberry Lane had done near the wetlands area was

causing her property to become oversaturated and create flooding after heavy rains. The area was reviewed after the first call with the owner of 10 Blueberry at the time, and then re-reviewed days later with Jamie Hall (former chairman of this commission) and it was determined that there was no evidence of a wetlands violation on the property. Mr. Lucas explained ...with not knowing exactly when the work was done on the neighboring property, it is difficult to determine whether it caused direct harm to Ms. Chambers' property. He noted that New Hartford has received record rainfall this year. There is case after case (all around town) that people are having flooding problems that they never have had in the past. With GIS mapping, it can be determined the work was done between 2016 and 2019, but no way to pin-point exactly what took place and when it occurred. With the heavy rains we've had this summer, the area was very saturated and some areas underwater. At this time, Mr. Lucas advised the homeowner to consult an engineer to come up with a plan to divert water from her home and that can be proposed to the commission for approval. The homeowner, Ann Chambers, was present at the meeting and voiced her confusion over how a remediation plan proposed by her would change anything on 10 Blueberry Lane as it is not her property. It was clarified that a plan can be put together with an engineer for remediation on her own property at 33 West Rd, who can then present the application to the commission and seek approval to move forward with the proposed plan.

**7. COORESPONDENCE:** None

**MOTION:** Made by Mr. Ryznar to adjourn, second by Mr. Unger, all approve. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Rhoades