

**TOWN OF GOSHEN  
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2016 – 7:15PM**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Tom Stansfield, Lorraine Lucas, Ray Turri, and Rick Wadhams; Martin Connor, AICP, Town Planner/Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer.

**EXCUSED:** Allen Kinsella.

**ABSENT:** Carey Budnick.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Tom Stansfield called the meeting to order at 7:15PM. The proceedings were recorded digitally, and copies are available in the Land Use Office in Town Hall.

**2. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

No business was discussed.

**3. READING OF THE MINUTES:**

**A. January 7, 2016 regular meeting.**

**MOTION** Mr. Turri, second Mr. Wadhams, to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2016 regular meeting as written; unanimously approved.

**4. OLD BUSINESS:**

No business was discussed.

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Town of Goshen, applicant; Luan Marika and Daniel Pappalardo, owners; 44 and 50 Shelbourne Drive – Drainage Channel Restoration in the Regulated Area.**

Garret Harlow, Public Works Supervisor, addressed the Commission regarding this matter. Mr. Harlow explained that the Town wished to reconstruct a drainage channel that is situated on two adjoining properties on Shelbourne Drive. A 14.3-acre watershed currently drains through a 24" pipe under Shelbourne Drive into this drainage channel toward additional drainage on Canterbury Drive and from there to the Marshepaug River and ultimately Woodridge Lake. Mr. Harlow explained that the channel currently was very steep, with a 20% gradient, and the silty clay soil was eroding significantly. Mr. Harlow and some commission members observed that several trees were falling or in danger of falling in the area.

Mr. Harlow submitted engineering reports prepared by Lenard Engineering on behalf of the Town, and the Commission reviewed the plans submitted. Mr. Harlow explained that the proposed repair follows the line of the current channel. The goal would be to stabilize the channel with a series of large stone weirs down the channel. In order to perform this work, a temporary construction accessway would be necessary. Mr. Harlow explained that vegetation would be removed within the detailed clearing limits; once the project was completed, white spruce and pine would be planted. Mr. Connor informed the Commission that Mr. Harlow was a licensed landscape architect.

Mr. Stansfield observed that this was a great deal of water and resultant erosion from the 24" pipe. Mr. Connor noted that there was also the issue of a steep slope with 20% grade with really bad soil. Mr. Wadhams concurred, stating that there was a lot of flow through that pipe. Mr. Harlow explained that there would be a settling basin at the bottom of the channel; this would be used for dewatering during construction. Mr. Turri questioned whether this would require periodic maintenance once the project was complete. Mr. Harlow responded affirmatively, noting that over time the basin would fill in with sediment; however, the Town has a 5-foot easement on each property (10-foot easement total) in order to allow for periodic maintenance. Mr. Connor stated that he had spoken with one of the property owners, Luan Marika, who had expressed approval for the project and the resolution of a significant erosion problem.

Mr. Harlow explained that Dave Battista, PE, of Lenard Engineering had designed the channel and his plan called for specific sizes of stone to be used in three layers. The first layer would be concrete sand, the second would be larger gravel, and the top layer would be larger stones. A total of 4600 square feet of wetlands and 5200 square feet of upland soils would be disturbed as a part of this project.

Ms. Lucas observed that a large portion of the repair would be occurring on private property outside of the 5-foot easement area; she questioned how the Town would ensure the channel would be maintained as required on private property. Mr. Connor reiterated that the adjoining owners were very amenable to this repair, and he stated it would be in their best interest to ensure the continued functionality of this drainage channel.

Mr. Harlow explained that the weirs would be placed at 20-foot intervals. Once through the channel, the water would dissipate into the wetlands area. The goal would be to slow down the water and allow settling of sediments prior to the water reaching wetlands. Plantings would be done within the restored channel along its side. Geotextile grid and seeding would be placed on the embankments.

A commission member asked about the close proximity of the sewer line to the new house being constructed on Mr. Marika's property. Mr. Connor and Mr. Harlow both stated that the Town and the property owner would be working together closely to ensure property clearance was maintained. Mr. Connor pointed out that this was an ideal time to do the channel restoration work, as Mr. Marika's property was currently under construction.

Mr. Turri, as a resident of the Woodridge Lake area, stated that he believed a great deal of silt entered into the lake from the current drainage channel. Mr. Harlow concurred, noting that the current channel was 10 feet deep and 20 feet wide with several trees down or falling over. Ms. Lucas reiterated her concern regarding the Town's liability for drainage located partially on private property. Mr. Connor advised the Commission to limit their review to the wetlands issues associated with the project. He also noted that the Town's current drainage system in this location was the cause of a problem that the adjoining property owners have requested the Town to address. Both Mr. Connor and Mr. Stansfield observed that the proposed repair actually would protect wetlands on the property and further downstream. Mr. Harlow explained that it was the Town's and the engineer's belief that if nothing was done, the channel would continue to widen and ultimately endanger at least one resident's driveway and house.

If the Commission decided to grant the permit, the Town would put the job out to bid in March with the goal of starting work as soon as possible.

**MOTION** Mr. Turri, second Ms. Lucas, to accept the application in the matter of **Town of Goshen, applicant; Luan Marika and Daniel Pappalardo, owners; 44 and 50 Shelbourne Drive – Drainage Channel Restoration in the Regulated Area** and to schedule the matter for discussion at the March 3, 2016 regular meeting; unanimously approved.

**6. INLAND WETLANDS ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT:**

The Commission reviewed Mr. Connor's enforcement report for the period from January 8<sup>th</sup> through February 4<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION** Mr. Turri, second Mr. Wadhams, to accept the Enforcement Report for the period from January 8, 2016 through February 4, 2016; unanimously approved.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE:**

No business was discussed.

**IWC Minutes 020416**

**8. OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION:**

**A. Discussion with Colby Pitcher, Life Scout with Boy Scout Troop 35.**

Colby Pitcher explained that he was observing the meeting as a requirement for his Communications merit badge. The Commission briefly explained to him their responsibilities under Connecticut General Statutes. Colby then briefly explained the work he was doing constructing and installing wood duck nesting boxes for his Eagle Scout Project.

**9. ADJOURN:**

**MOTION** Mr. Turri, second Mr. Stansfield, to adjourn at 7:47PM; unanimously approved.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Stacey M. Sefcik  
Recording Secretary**