

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015 – 7:15PM**

PRESENT: Chairman Tom Stansfield, Carey Budnick, Allen Kinsella, Lorraine Lucas, Andy Savarese, Ray Turri, Rick Wadhams; Town Planner/Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer, Martin Connor, AICP

ABSENT: None.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Thomas 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. April 2, 2015 regular meeting.

MOTION Mr. Turri, second Ms. Lucas, to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2015 regular meeting as written; unanimously approved.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Harold and Margaret Wilson, 121 Sandy Beach Road – AFTER-THE-FACT Filling and Grading in the Regulated Area and Shoreline Stabilization.

As the applicants were not present, the Commission agreed to table this matter to later in the meeting.

B. Left of Center, LLC, applicant; Colby Excavating, LLC owner; 171 Torrington Road – Construct Restaurant and Associated Paving & Septic System in the Regulated Area.

Bill Colby, PE, addressed the Commission regarding this matter and distributed revised plans, which included the proposed landscaping plan, and a letter from the Connecticut Department of Health dated April 24, 2015 which granted conditional approval for the proposed septic system. Mr. Connor explained that this matter had been continued to this meeting as the Commission had been awaiting three outstanding items: the landscaping plan, Department of Public Health (DPH) approval for the well and septic system proposal, and the results of the review performed by the Town's engineering consultant. Mr. Connor said that the applicant has since submitted a landscaping plan, as well as DPH approval. He said that he had also received a letter dated May 5, 2015 from Todd Parsons, PE, the Town's engineering consultant, which delineated a few minor issues that he recommended be addressed through conditions of approval.

Mr. Colby then reviewed the plans with the Commission, noting that the wetlands had been flagged by George Malia, present in the audience. He then submitted a copy of Mr. Malia's report, explaining that the wetlands were located on the west side of the property. Mr. Colby said that the restaurant would be located on the eastern side of the lot, in approximately the same location as that of the existing Quonset hut. An 80-foot by 40-foot restaurant was proposed with 46 parking spaces, located to the front and west of the proposed restaurant, in approximately the same area that was currently used for bus parking. The well would be to the eastern side of the property.

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Stormwater runoff from the front parking area and roof leaders would be routed to a catch basin along Route 4, subject to Department of Transportation approval. A yard drain was proposed to the east of the restaurant. The rest of the parking area would sheet flow to two water quality basins the north and south of the western parking area. The basins were partially located within the flagged wetlands area; however, the only work occurring in the wetlands was associated with constructing the basins and planting wetlands-appropriate vegetation. Mr. Colby explained that Mr. Parsons had had some questions regarding the ability of the basins to function as retention ponds due to the nonpermeable nature of the soil in that location. Mr. Colby explained that Mr. Malia had then written a later dated April 22, 2015, which he then submitted, explaining how the change in grade in this area would assist in the movement of water through the bottom of the southern basin; lateral movement of water through the sides of the northern basin would also help it to drain properly. George Malia briefly addressed the Commission to explain the function of the two basins, and the need to use more permeable soils for the sides of the northern basin in order to aid lateral movement of water.

Mr. Colby then explained the plans for the septic system. Two grease chambers, a 3000-gallon tank, and a 1000-gallon pump chamber would be located behind the building. The leach field would be located to the northeast, along Beech Hill Road. The leach field was outside of the regulated wetlands area. He noted that the parking was also entirely outside of the regulated area. In total, the project would require 1200 square feet of total wetlands disturbance, which was largely the replanting of the retention basins with wetlands plantings.

A commission member questioned whether a basement was proposed, and Mr. Colby responded negatively. The building would be one story with a frost wall, slab-on-grade foundation. The Commission then discussed with Mr. Colby the planned function of the basins. Mr. Stansfield questioned where snow removed from the parking area would be stored. Mr. Colby said that it would be plowed into the basins, which was essentially what was currently being done. Mr. Connor noted that the current parking area was gravel and therefore the possibility for sediment transport was currently greater than it would be with the proposed paving parking area.

The Commission briefly discussed the significance of this application. Several members expressed the opinion that while this project was significant for the Town, it did not include work that was significant to the wetlands onsite. Mr. Connor recommended that, if the Commission wished to approve this application, they include Todd Parsons' recommendations from his May 5th letter as conditions of approval.

MOTION Mr. Stansfield, second Mr. Turri, to approve the application in the matter of **Left of Center, LLC, applicant; Colby Excavating, LLC owner; 171 Torrington Road – Construct Restaurant and Associated Paving & Septic System in the Regulated Area** as per maps and plans prepared by Colby Engineering & Consulting dated February 18, 2015 and revised May 6, 2015 and the landscaping plan prepared by Rosemary Aldridge dated April 26, 2015 subject to the requirement that all comments made by Todd Parsons, PE in his letter to Martin Connor dated May 5, 2015 be addressed as conditions of approval; unanimously approved.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Norman Waycott, III, for Carolyn Schmidt & Dennis Belancik, North Goshen Road (Assessor's Map #08-020-002) – AFTER-THE-FACT Timber Harvest with Stream Crossing.**

Mr. Connor explained that he had been contacted by the Highway Supervisor about a timber harvest on North Goshen Road with possible damage to a nearby stream. Mr. Connor then sent a letter to Mr. Waycott, who immediately contacted him. It was subsequently determined that Mr. Waycott's stream crossing was not the cause of the damage to the stream.

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Mr. Waycott addressed the Commission and apologized for failing to first obtain a permit. He explained that he had started the work and removed some trees; however, he had stopped as conditions became very muddy. Mr. Waycott explained that he had not been using a skidder but rather a forwarder. The crossing had been done via two 4-foot by 21-foot panels approximately one foot thick. He had also used logs to corduroy the approach to the crossing. Mr. Waycott explained he had used the original gravel driveway for the site to access the harvest site.

Mr. Connor stated that, notwithstanding the failure to obtain the permit, he believed the crossing had been done correctly. The Commission explained that approval could not be granted at this meeting, and any additional would have to be postponed until after the matter was finalized at the June meeting.

MOTION Mr. Turri, second Mr. Kinsella, to accept the application in the matter of **Norman Waycott, III, for Carolyn Schmidt & Dennis Belancik, North Goshen Road (Assessor's Map #08-020-002) – AFTER-THE-FACT Timber Harvest with Stream Crossing**; unanimously approved.

MOTION Mr. Turri, second Mr. Wadhams, to amend the agenda to add **Martin Tyrrel, 13 Lake Shore Drive – Replace Cottage Piers and Drainage Improvements in the Regulated Area**; unanimously approved.

B. Martin Tyrrel, 13 Lake Shore Drive – Replace Cottage Piers and Grading & Drainage Improvements in the Regulated Area.

Martin Tyrrel addressed the Commission and explained that his cottage current stood on cinderblocks that were approximately 2 feet into the ground and needed to be replaced to ensure the structural integrity of the cottage. He was therefore proposing to have the cottage jacked up in order to remove the cinderblocks and then helical piles would be installed instead. The cottage would be lifted high enough to allow the work to be done by machine, and no excavation would be required other than to remove the existing piers. Mr. Tyrrel stated that the house was approximately 30 feet from the shoreline of Tyler Lake.

Mr. Tyrrel stated that he had spoken with Mr. Connor about water problems he has encountered since the house on an abutting property had been rebuilt. He had proposed raising the grade of his own property approximately 1 foot in order to prevent the water from coming onto his property; however, Mr. Connor had stated that he would need to provide engineered plans for this work. Mr. Tyrrel stated that he was considering withdrawing this portion of the application. After a brief discussion, Mr. Tyrrel stated that he would keep the application as is until the June meeting, at which time he would either provide the engineered plans or withdraw this portion of the application.

MOTION Mr. Turri, second Mr. Wadhams, to accept the application in the matter of **Martin Tyrrel, 13 Lake Shore Drive – Replace Cottage Piers and Grading & Drainage Improvements in the Regulated Area**; unanimously approved.

At this time, the Commission noted that the applicants from item 4A had not yet arrived. It was decided to continue with this matter.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Harold and Margaret Wilson, 121 Sandy Beach Road – AFTER-THE-FACT Filling and Grading in the Regulated Area and Shoreline Stabilization.

Mr. Connor stated that, as per the Commission's request, he had visited the site. He showed the Commission pictures he had taken of the shoreline stabilization work. Mr. Connor stated that he was unable to determine whether filter fabric had been used; however, the wall had been mortared and appeared stable.

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MOTION Mr. Turri, second Mr. Savarese, to approve the application in the matter of **Harold and Margaret Wilson, 121 Sandy Beach Road – AFTER-THE-FACT Filling and Grading in the Regulated Area and Shoreline Stabilization**; unanimously approved.

6. INLAND WETLANDS ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Commission briefly reviewed Mr. Connor's enforcement report for the previous month.

MOTION Mr. Kinsella, second Mr. Turri, to accept the Enforcement Report for the period from April 3, 2015 to May 7, 2015; unanimously approved.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:

Commission members reviewed a permit from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection issued to Torrington Water Company and Aquarion for the Diversion of Water.

8. OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION:

A. Discussion of Recommendations Made by Town Engineering Consultant Todd Parsons, PE Regarding Proposed Beach Maintenance Best Management Practices Document.

The Commission agreed to table this matter to the June 4, 2015 regular meeting.

9. ADJOURN:

MOTION Mr. Savarese, second Mr. Stansfield, to adjourn at 8:06PM; unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey M. Sefcik
Recording Secretary