

**INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE
REGULAR MEETING ON JUNE 19, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Inland Wetlands Agency (IWA) for the Town of Woodbridge was held on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 in the Central Meeting Room of the Town Hall, 11 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, Connecticut.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Robert Blythe Chair, Jack Kurek, Josh Goldberg, David Speranzini and Barry Josephs
ALTERNATES: Jean Webber and Josh Lemon
ALSO PRESENT: Terry Gilbertson, Agency Enforcement Officer (AEO).
Chairman Blythe called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Cheryl and Joel Gelernter: 11 Hemlock Hollow Road
Application for repair of existing driveway

The application for repair of the existing driveway at 11 Hemlock Hollow was formally received. The application was accompanied by a plan showing the location of the existing driveway and a narrative describing what the driveway repairs would consist of, a certificate of mailing to the abutting property owners, and checks for both local and state application fees.

The property is on a public water supply watershed.

Mrs. Gelernter was present to discuss the application. In discussion she noted:

- The driveway has developed big dips in it and is cracking.
- The repair would consist of grinding the old asphalt, regrading and adding some drainage pipes.
- The existing cattle grate at the front of the driveway would be removed.
- The driveway would remain in its current location.
- This will be the third driveway repair since they had lived in the house.

AEO Gilbertson noted:

- It was better to manage the water before it entered the onsite wetlands.
- Work should be done in a “dry” time of the year.
- Recommended requiring a pre-construction meeting.

Later in the meeting the Agency members acted as follows on the application:

** **Mr. Kurek moved to defer action on the application to the Agency’s duly authorized agent subject to there being a pre-construction meeting.**

** **Mr. Goldberg seconded.**

** **Voting for: Blythe, Kurek, Josephs, Goldberg and Speranzini.**

** **Abstain: No one**

** **Opposed: No one**

Unanimous Approval 5-0

Town of Woodbridge: Dominic Rendero: 35 Sanford Road
Application for Eagle Scout Project of Replacement of Pedestrian Footbridge for Hiking Trail

The application for replacement of a pedestrian footbridge for the hiking trail on Town owned property at 35 Sanford Road was formally received. The application was

accompanied by a plan showing the location of the footbridge and a certificate of mailing to the abutting property owners.

The property is not on a public water supply watershed.

Eagle Scout candidate Dominic Rendero of Troop 59 in Bethany was present to discuss the application. He distributed copies of a power point presentation he had prepared showing details on the proposed bridge construction.

In discussion he noted:

- Bart Piccarelli of the Bethany Land Trust was his project coach.
- The bridge would be constructed by volunteers from his troop and the Land Trust.
- The cost of the bridge would be financed by donations, with any shortfalls financed by the Bethany Land Trust.
- He planned on having the project completed by August 31, 2019.
- The bridge is part of the blue and yellow trail systems in the area.
- Currently wooden pallets have been laid in place on cement blocks as a bridge.
- The bridge would be 30' ~ 32' in length and 2' to 3' above the stream it would cross.
- Three phone poles, donated by Eversource, would form the bridge and be supported by concrete pads on either side of the stream.
- Repair would secure the phone poles to the concrete pads.
- Permission for the project has been received from the Woodbridge Board of Selectmen and Woodbridge Town Plan and Zoning Commission.

The applicant responded to questions from Agency members as follows:

Q: How long would the bridge be and what would the bridge decking be made of.

A: The bridge would be 30' to 35' in length and would have synthetic decking.

Q: How would the "old" bridge be disposed of.

A: It would be removed from the property.

Q: How would the bridge be made "even".

A: By digging down.

Q: How would the footings be made stable.

A: They would be poured on "dry" ground.

Q: How would materials be transported to the site.

A: Materials would be transported by hand. No vehicles would be used.

Q: Has a waiver of the application fees been requested.

A: Not in writing, but it was being requested.

Note: The applicant was informed that written request for the waiver of the application fees must be submitted.

The Chairman noted that no action on the application could be taken that evening since under State Statute the Agency must wait 14 days after receipt of an application for which work is directly in a wetlands or has the potential for a significant activity. After discussion it was the consensus of the Agency members to schedule a special meeting for Wednesday, July 3, 2019 at 5 pm to take formal action on the application.

Agency members also acted as follows on the applicant's oral request for a waiver of the application fees, subject to a written request being submitted to the Agency:

- ** **Mr. Kurek moved to waive the application fees as provided by 19.7 of the IWA Regulations.**
- ** **Mr. Speranzini seconded.**
- ** **Voting for: Blythe, Kurek, Josephs, Goldberg and Speranzini.**
- ** **Abstain: No one**
- ** **Opposed: No one**

Unanimous Approval 5-0

Patrick Lewis: 163 Center Road

Application for installation of a public water line from Center Road to residence.

The application for installation of a public water line from Center Road to the residence at 163 Center Road was formally received. The application was accompanied by a plan showing the location of the proposed water line, a certificate of mailing to the abutting property owners, and checks for both local and state application fees.

The property is on a public water supply watershed.

Mr. Michael Giuliano of North Haven Sewer, the contractor who would be doing the work, was present to discuss the application. In discussion he noted:

- The Regional Water Authority (RWA) would run the water line off of Center Road from the main trunk line to a meter vault.
- The 1 ½" water line would run under the brook inside of a 4" to 5" pipe which would be installed 10' below the brook using directional boring.
- The 1 ½" water pipe would be slide through the directionally bored pipe.
- The directional boring is done by a steerable drill.
- The work by the boring company would be done first, with work by the RWA done in approximately 4 weeks.

Mr. Guiliano responded to questions from Agency members as follows:

Q: How long would the boring be?

A: 300'

Q: Where would the trenching stop.

A: 50' to 60' from the brook. There would be 400' of trenching on the west side of the driveway

Since no work was proposed directly in the onsite wetlands, Agency members asked AEO Gilbertson if he would be comfortable acting on the application, to which he replied in the affirmative.

Later in the meeting the Agency members acted as follows on the application:

- ** **Mr. Speranzini moved to defer action on the application to the Agency's duly authorized agent.**
- ** **Mr. Kurek seconded.**
- ** **Voting for: Blythe, Kurek, Josephs, Goldberg and Speranzini.**
- ** **Abstain: No one**
- ** **Opposed: No one**

Unanimous Approval 5-0

OLD BUSINESS

Woodbridge Park Association: 70 Penny Lane

Agency members Josh Goldberg and Josh Lemon reported on their field walk of 70 Penny Lane relative to the proposed relocation of the Woodbridge Park Association's hiking trail easement on that property. In their report they noted:

- A wooden boardwalk would be built over the wetlands if the trail easement were relocated which would be 18" above the wetlands
- A portion of the relocation of the trail easement would go over an area subject to a Town Drainage Easement.

It was the consensus of the Agency members that installation of a boardwalk would require an application to the Agency inclusive of plans for the proposed boardwalk.

Estate of Helen Taffel: 106 Seymour Road

Project engineer John Paul Garcia was present and noted he had submitted a chain of documentation showing that the subject property was created as part of an old subdivision with access off of the private "common" road. A front yard setback was not only from Seymour Road, but also the private road frontage.

Agency members and Mr. Garcia again discussed the proposed development of the property. Mr. Garcia noted that any house would be modest, and any site plan would include showing where a generator pad and propane tank could be located and limits of clearing. He stressed that whether or not the site can support a septic system remains unknown. He added that he prefers the use of a conventional spread system for the septic design.

Agency member Josh Lemon again expressed his concern that the onsite wetlands may be more extensive than what is represented on the plan, based on his training in soils identification. Mr. Garcia said that he would have the soil scientist that he had engaged go back out to the site and re-check the soils delineation that he had done.

Further discussion on this matter was continued until the Agency's regular meeting on July 17th to allow time for Mr. Garcia to have the flagging of the wetland boundaries revisited.

RECEIPT AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY THE IWA SINCE THE MAY 15, 2019 REGULAR MEETING OF THE AGENCY WHICH IS NOT RELATED TO LISTED AGENDA ITEMS:

ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

AEO Gilbertson reported that there was an unprecedented high water table this year.

He also noted that to date he had received no response from the owners of 220 Seymour Road.

SCHEDULING DATE FOR NEXT IWA SITE INSPECTIONS

No site inspections needed to be scheduled.

As previously noted, a special meeting to act on the application for 35 Sanford Road was scheduled for Wednesday July 3, 2019 at 5:00 pm ~ location to be determined upon meeting room availability.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Site Inspections of May 15, 2019**
- ** **Mr. Goldberg moved to approve the minutes with pagination corrections.**
- ** **Mr. Kurek seconded.**
- ** **Voting for: Blythe, Kurek, Josephs, Goldberg and Speranzini.**
- ** **Opposed: No one**
- Unanimous Approval 5-0**

- **Regular Meeting of May 15, 2019**
- ** **Mr. Kurek moved to approve the minutes with pagination corrections.**
- ** **Mr. Speranzini seconded.**
- ** **Voting for: Blythe, Kurek, Josephs, Goldberg and Speranzini.**
- ** **Opposed: No one**
- Unanimous Approval 5-0**

ADJOURNMENT

- ** **Mr. Josephs moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m.**
- ** **Mr. Kurek seconded.**
- ** **Voting for: Blythe, Kurek, Josephs, Speranzini and Goldberg**
- ** **Opposed: No one**
- ** **Abstained: No one**
- Unanimous Approval 5-0**

Accordingly, the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Sullivan,
Acting Recording Secretary