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Town of Griswold



28 Main Street
Griswold, CT 06351
Phone (860) 376-7060, Fax (860) 376-7070

INLAND WETLANDS WATERCOURSES COMMISSION CONSERVATION COMMISSION & AQUIFER
PROTECTION AGENCY REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021, AT 7:30 P.M.
GRISWOLD TOWN HALL FIRST FLOOR MEETING ROOM, JEWETT CITY, CT

REGULAR MEETING (7:33 P.M.)

1. Call to Order

Chairman C. Kinnie called the regular meeting of the Griswold Commission (IWWCC) to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Chm. Courtland Kinnie, Martin McKinney, Rob Parrette, Pete Merrill, Kevin Franklin, Town Planner Mario J. Tristany Jr.,

Chairman C. Kinney sat Commissioner M. McKinney for regular member Glenn Norman

Absent: Gary Serdechny, Larry Laidley, Glenn Norman

3. Approval of Minutes

A. **March 18, 2021, Minutes** (Present: Kinnie, Merrill, Parrette, McKinney)

- Commissioner R. Parrette noted that the March 18, 2021, minutes were previously approved

B. **July 15, 2021, Minutes** (Present: Kinnie, Serdechny, Merrill, Laidley, McKinney)

- Chairman C. Kinnie asked if the members present had a chance to review the minutes
- Commissioner M. McKinney stated that he was present at the July 15, 2021, meeting and made a motion to approve the minutes as presented
- Commissioner P. Merrill seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by the Commission
- Commissioner R. Parrette abstained from voting
- Chairman C. Kinnie commented that based on the email received from Town Attorney Mark Branse we can deal with minutes now when there are members absent from a previous meeting, said member(s) could vote on the approval of the minutes if they are comfortable with and trust the staff that prepared the minutes, as well as the members that were present at that meeting and their vote.
- Commissioner C. Kinnie asked Town Planner M. Tristany to forward the Branse email to the members

4. Applications

A. CC 13-2021 Duane A. Button, 471 Shetucket Turnpike. Applicant desires to construct a driveway to access property off Glasgo Road (Route 201).

- Commissioner C. Kinnie read the application into the record and asked if there was anyone present to represent the application
- Glenn Zagarenski, Survey Crew Chief stated that he was present to represent Duane Buttons
- Glenn noted that the property address is 454 Shetucket Turnpike and what was being proposed is a driveway for farm machinery to cross the highway
- Glenn further noted that Old Glasgo Road abandoned by the Town isn't sufficient for farm equipment
- Glenn noted that Rich Snarski is the Soil Scientist for the project and that a temporary berm will be installed upgradient of the proposed driveway to direct all storm water flow to the existing catch basin
- Chairman C. Kinnie noted that Glenn referenced a temporary berm and further commented that the driveway will serve as a dam and how are you going to keep the flow to the catch basin without leaving part of the berm intact
- Glenn's response was the proposed grades would pitch toward the catch basin and otherwise flow the opposite way
- Commissioner P. Merrill stated that he was concerned with the slope and stated that any volume of water coming down the driveway will erode the driveway onto the highway. Contour 196 was referenced and it is up the driveway and anything below that will flow to Route 201
- Glenn referenced the catch basin elevation 194.96 and the contours look like at the driveway apron is one foot lower than the highway line and to the water would continue to flow as it does now
- Commissioner K. Franklin commented that he doesn't see any of the water getting to the catch basin and the entirety of the driveway sheet flows down the driveway because there is a berm so the entirety of the driveway doesn't drain to the catch basin
- Commissioner K. Franklin asked Glenn if they have received a ConnDOT permit was received
- Glenn responded no, and this was the first step
- Commissioner C. Kinnie stated that typically the application comes here before it goes to ConnDOT
- Commissioner R. Parrette asked why they don't just come off Jarvis Road
- Commissioner C. Kinnie stated that it would be impossible to make a left-hand turn due to the angle onto Route 201 is impossible as it is about a 3-foot drop
- Commissioner M. McKinney stated that there should be a drainage pipe under the driveway
- Commissioner C. Kinnie stated that the comment made by Commissioner K. Franklin that the sheet flow coming down the driveway is a straight shot
- Chairman C. Kinnie noted that if the driveway is well crowned it will shed the water on each side but it also creates a dam issue for anything coming off the other slope, and has any thought been given to put any additional drainage before the apron to allow any water from the up-hill portion to pass to the north
- Glen responded not to his recollection and this is what the engineer proposed
- Commissioner P. Merrill stated the plan shows 6 to 13 inches of fill and questioned those tractors have a lot of weight and wonders if 6 inches of material is going to suffice from keeping tractor tires from breaking through
- Chairman C. Kinnie read the report that referenced the fill material and asked the members what they would like to do and further noted that we cannot act on the application tonight
- Town Planner M. Tristany noted that since you cannot act on the application tonight, that would give them a month to consult with ConnDOT and they will comment on how they want the drainage to be handled

- Commissioner M. McKinney asked Town Planner M. Tristany if the slope exceeded ten percent
- Town Planner M. Tristany stated that what was shown is about 4 percent but without the upper portion of the driveway being shown on the site plan, it is difficult to guess on the total slope
- Town Planner M. Tristany stated that he will prepare a letter to the engineer detailing the Commission's concerns about the application and further suggested that the engineer prepare a detailed narrative on the drainage design
- Following a brief discussion, the Commission voted to have the applicant contact ConnDOT and add the comments to the narrative
- Motion by Commissioner M. McKinney to table CC 13-2021 to the October meeting
- The motion was seconded by Commissioner R. Parrette to table the application the Commission unanimously voted to table

Chairman C. Kinney asked for a motion to approve the March 18, 2021, meeting minutes. It was noted that there was not a quorum of the members that were present at the March 18, 2021, here tonight to approve the March 18, 2021, meeting.

Following a brief discussion, Commissioner L. Laidley made a motion to table action on the March 18, 2021, meeting minutes to the August 19, 2021, regular meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner G. Serdechny and the Commission unanimously voted to table action on the March 18, 2021, minutes.

5. Reports from the Enforcement Officer

- Town Planner M. Tristany stated that there were no enforcement issues to date.
- Town planner M. Tristany stated that he had spoken with Charles Lee regarding Pond property owners and their desire to remove weeds, rocks and tree stumps in their respective beach areas and asked if the DEEP would be the approving agency or the town
- C. Lee stated that he was not sure and that it could be a combination of the two
- C. Lee said that he would follow up on the matter and get back to Town planner M. Tristany
- Town Planner M. Tristany passes out the email that he received from DEEP regarding work to be done within the pond with the pond draw down
- Commissioner C. Kinnie read the following DEEP document into the record:

Guidance for property owners who propose to do work on shorefront or submerged lands while Pachaug Lake is drawn down for dam repair fall 2021 to spring 2022.

- 1. Property owners must determine the extent of their own property boundary (e.g., ends at water line or extends into lake).***
- 2. Property owners must determine if any proposed work will be conducted on others' property, including DEEP property and/or if DEEP property will be utilized to conduct work.***
- 3. If the proposed work is not conducted on DEEP property and/or DEEP property will not be utilized to conduct work, the property owner should contact the Griswold Inland Wetlands Agency for permitting requirements.***
- 4. No work may be conducted on DEEP property nor can DEEP property be utilized to conduct work.***
- 5. Property owners may conduct work once all applicable licenses/permits have been granted.***

- Town Planner M. Tristany noted that any work below elevation 159.52 requires CT DEEP approval

6. **New Business**

- Town Planner M. Tristany passed out a letter from George Maistrelis dated September 12, 2021, that was received by the Planning Department on September 13, 2021
- M. Tristany gave a brief explanation as to what George Maistrelis was looking for and further commented that the Planning and Zoning Commission Special Exception Approval was never completed as the required bonds were never submitted and the Mylar Plan Set was never submitted for endorsement by the Wetlands Commission Chairman and the Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman
- George Maistrelis was present and stated that Public Act 21-163 granted up to 19 years for applications approval
- Town Planner M. Tristany referenced the October 29, 2007, Special Exception letter and read items #3 and #4 into the record
- Commissioner C. Kinnie stated that Attorney Branse should review this matter
- Town Planner M. Tristany stated that the Town Attorney had previously reviewed this several years ago and stated that because the applicant did not follow through with the Planning and Zoning Commission Conditions of Approval (Bonds and Mylars) the Special Exceptions are neither approved nor denied.
- G. Maistrelis asked why his letter was not on the agenda and said that he had submitted the letter in advance of the filing deadline
- Town Planner stated that the application deadline is two weeks before the scheduled meeting date and the letter was received on September 13, 2021
- Chairman C. Kinnie stated that even if the letter was on the agenda for tonight's meeting, the Commission could not act on it by State Statute
- Chairman C. Kinnie asked Town Planer M. Tristany to forward the Maistrelis letter to Attorney Branse for review and to place this matter on the October agenda

7. **Old Business** - None

8. **Reports from Commission Members**

- Commissioner K. Franklin passed out a document entitled: Accuracy, Precision and the Standards for Surveys and Maps in the State of Connecticut to the members and gave a brief explanation

9. **Conservation Commission Matters**

- None

10. **Adjournment**

- Commissioner R. Parrette made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m., The motion was seconded by Commissioner P. Merrill and the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn.

11. AQUIFER PROTECTION AGENCY - This Meeting Is Cancelled Due to Lack of Applications.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mario J. Tristany, Jr.

Mario J. Tristany, Jr.
Town Planner and Wetland Enforcement Officer