



Town of Griswold



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**INLAND WETLANDS WATERCOURSES COMMISSION
CONSERVATION COMMISSION & AQUIFER PROTECTION AGWNCY**

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 20, 2017**

I. REGULAR MEETING (7:00 P.M.)

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Present: Chm. Courtland Kinnie, Pete Merrill, Rob Parette, Gary Serdechny, Town Planner
Peter Zvingilas, Mario J. Tristany Jr.

3. Determination of Quorum

Chairman Kinnie stated that there was a quorum present for the IWWCC regular meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Kinnie asked for any corrections or omissions for the July 20, 2017 Regular minutes and the September 06, 2017 Special Meeting.

Chm. Kinnie noted that the July 20, 2017 minutes page 3 of 7 next to the last paragraph the July 20, 2019 date should be changed to July 20, 2017.

R. Parette made a motion, seconded by G. Serdechny to approve the July 20, 2017 minutes as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

Chm. Kinnie noted that the Special September 06, 2017 minutes third paragraph referenced the DEEP regulatory pond elevation as 159.42 ft. Historically the elevation that has been referred to is elevation 159.52 ft.

P. Merrill made a motion, seconded by R. Parette to approve the Special September 06, 2017 minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Applications

- 1. CC 03-18 JEWETT CITY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES, PROPERTY AT 51 & 51 WEDGWOOD DRIVE, 0 CHARLES ST. 47 OAK STREET, JEWETT CITY, CT.** Extension of the existing concrete wall to prevent flooding of the treatment plant facility during flooding events. The maximum height of the proposed wall is 4 feet above grade and will be constructed in two sections: one section 130 feet long and the other 240 feet long. The Headwork's building will be flood-proofed and the entrance drive to the facility will be re-graded and repaved to create a berm to prevent flood water from entering the site.

- Chm. Kinnie asked if there was anyone present to represent the application.
- Robert Russo from CLA Engineers introduced himself and also introduced Ken Sullivan, Superintendent of the Jewett City Dept. of Public Utilities (JCDPU).
- R. Russo stated that he has no further information to present to the Commission and noted that he would be happy to answer any questions that the Commission might have.
- R. Parette noted that at last month's discussion there was a question as to how the proposed flood wall was going to be attached to the Headwork's Building to insure that the joint was water tight.
- Chm. Kinnie noted that there were two points of concern namely the joint treatment and the back flow preventer's maintenance.
- R. Parette commented that the joint treatment is actually a building permit issue and as long as Peter is satisfied with the proposed design is fine as it is technically not a Wetlands matter.
- R. Russo reviewed the detail sheet and noted that the design called for the pinning of the proposed flood wall to the Headwork's building.
- M. Tristany stated that researched the proposed backflow preventer on line and noted that there was an animated video that showed how the unit functioned. M. Tristany noted that the backflow preventer appeared to be very functional.
- Chm. Kinnie noted that the JCDPU stated at last month's meeting that an annual maintenance program will be initiated once the backflow preventers are brought on line.
- Chm. Kinnie asked for a motion on the application and asked the M. Tristany for the date on the site plan set.
- M. Tristany noted that the latest plan revision date was August 16, 2017.
- R. Parette made a motion, seconded by G. Serdechny to approve application CC 03-18 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Reports from Enforcement Officer

- P. Zvingilas stated that Frontier Communications has not been maintaining the brook course that flows under Slater Avenue.
- P. Zvingilas further noted that the brook course flooded the Pickett property. P. Zvingilas stated that he contact Frontier.
- R. Parette asked Peter if he as inspected the E. Dean property pond cleaning work.
- Peter stated that he was not aware that the work had started.
- R. Parette noted that the site contractor R. Snide was supposed to contact Peter prior to the start of the reclamation work.
- P. Zvingilas stated that he would inspect the property and report back to the Commission at the October meeting.
- A general discussion ensued about the project. R. Parette questioned what was being done with the earth material that was being removed.
- P. Zvingilas also commented on the Eversource on-going Tree Trimming operation.
- P. Zvingilas noted that they are leaving large tree branches and tree trunks on the side of town roads
- A general discussion took place regarding the tree trimming matter.

7. Old Business

A. Discussion of Rivers Alliance of Connecticut letter regarding the State Water Plan and a request for a donation.

- Chm. Kinnie stated that he could not remember the amount of the donation that Rivers Alliance was requesting.
- R. Parette asked M. Tristany to have the subject request information available for next month's meeting.

B. Discussion of Connecticut Land Conservation Council letter dated June 29, 2017, for 2017-2018 Organizational Membership.

- Chm. Kinnie asked M. Tristany to also have the requested membership fee information available for next month's meeting.

8. New Business

A. Memo dated August 28, 2017 from Valerie Pudvah, Town Clerk, requesting 2018 Schedule of Meetings from all Boards and Commissions.

- M. Tristany noted that the Town Clerk requests this information annually from all Board and Commissions.
- M. Tristany noted that the schedule requires the signature of both the Chairman and the Secretary.
- Chm. Kinnie appointed R. Parette Secretary Pro-Tem to serve in the capacity of the IWWCC absent secretary.
- R. Parette stated that he did not see any issues with the IWWCC 2018 Meeting Schedule.
- Chm. Kinnie asked for a motion to approve the 2018 Meeting Schedule.
- R. Parette made a motion, seconded by G. Serdechny to approve the IWWCC 2018 Meeting Schedule. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion of Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions, Inc. Notice of the 40th Annual Meeting and Environmental Conference, Saturday, November 18, 2017 at the Radisson Hotel, Cromwell and CACIWC Membership renewal notice for July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

- Chm. Kinnie stated that the annual fee for a one Commission membership is \$65.00
- R. Parette made a motion, seconded by G. Serdechny to forward the annual membership fee in the amount of \$65.00. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Communications

A. Connecticut Federation of Planning and Zoning Agencies Quarterly Newsletter, Summer 2017, Volume XXI, Issue 3.

- M. Tristany noted that no action is required for this communication. It was included for informational purposes.
- A general discussion took place on two of the articles referenced.

B. ECCD Outlook Newsletter, Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc. Summer 2017 Edition.

- M. Tristany noted that no action is required for this communication. It was included for informational purposes.

10. Reports from Members

- There were no reports from members.

Chm. Kinnie noted that application CC 02-18 VERNOTT, ADAM, PROPERTY AT 118 KENWOOD ROAD, GRISWOLD, CT was carried over from last month's meeting but was not referenced on the agenda.
- R. Parette made a motion, seconded by G. Serdechny to add IWWCC Application 02-18 to the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
- Chm. Kinnie noted that 65 day review period will expire following tonight's meeting.
- Chm. Kinnie asked what is our course of action.
- Town Planner M. Tristany stated that IWWCC applications are not automatically approved, like Planning and Zoning and Zoning Board of Appeals applications, is the application is not acted upon within the statutory 65 day review period.
- Chm. Kinnie referenced the need for a letter from the applicant for an extension of the review period.
- Town Planner M. Tristany read an email dated September 21, 2017 from Adam Vernott which stated that a surveyor was hired to prepare the site plan and that it should be completed by Monday, September 25, 2017. The email further stated that upon receipt of the survey it will be forwarded to DEEP for review.
- M. Tristany, during the IWWCC meeting, emailed Adam Vernott to request an email back from him requesting a 65 day extension of the IWWCC review period. A response was not received during the discussion on application 02-18.
- Town Planner M. Tristany noted that the IWWCC doesn't have a specific date as to when DEEP will render its official recommendation on the subject application.
- M. Tristany further noted that if the plan still calls for excavation and construction at or below elevation 159.52, DEEP will definitely deny the subject application.
- Wetlands Enforcement Officer (WEO) P. Zvingilas commented that the cleanest way to deal with this application is to deny it without prejudice.
- Chm. Kinnie noted that the IWWCC cannot act on a "new" application when it first appears on the agenda.
- Town Planner M. Tristany commented that in order for Adam Vernott to construct the proposed revetment wall, construction has to start below elevation 159.52
- P. Merrill suggested that if a new application is submitted, the IWWCC should schedule a site visit.
- G. Serdechny stated that if a site visit is scheduled it has to be advertised an open to the general public.
- WEO P. Zvingilas stated that the members could inspect the site individually.
- Chm. Kinnie noted that the property owner has to be contacted and agree to the site visit.
- R. Parette made a motion, seconded by P. Merrill to deny application 02-18 without prejudice and to waive the application fee if the applicant re-applies. The motion passed unanimously.
- Chm. Kinnie asked of any additional member reports. There were none.
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11. Conservation Commission Matters

- A. Article Huffington Post, August 28, 2017 Winter Cold Used to Kill Off Forest Eating Beetles. Not Anymore.
- Chm. Kinnie referenced the subject article. A general discussion ensued.
- M. Tristany noted that the subject article was for informational purposes and no formal action is required.

12. Adjournment

- R. Parette made a motion, seconded by G. Serdechny to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mario J. Tristany Jr.
Town Planner