



Town of Griswold



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GRISWOLD INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES CONSERVATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 18, 2010

GRISWOLD TOWN HALL

I. Regular Meeting (7:30 P.M.)

1. Call to Order

Chairman Courtland Kinnie called this regular meeting of the Griswold Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Conservation Commission to order on February 18, 2010 at 7:37 p.m.

2. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum

Present: Secretary Stacie Stadnicki, Glen Norman, Dean Rubino, Lawrence Laidley, Alternate Gary Serdechny, WEO, Peter Zvingilas, Recording Secretary Donna Szall

Absent: Chair Courtland Kinnie, Vice Chair Robert Parrette Member Edward (Jay) Waitte

S. Stadnicki appointed G. Serdechny to sit for R. Parrette. It was determined that a quorum was present for this meeting.

3. Applications

A. CC 08-10 Knutson, Peter R. & Phyllis N., 268 Route 2, Preston, CT 06365. Property location: 989 Voluntown Road Griswold. Applicant requests approval of residential activity within regulated area in order to install a septic system and associated grading within the upland review area and no closer than 50 ft. to the edge of Pachaug Pond. The property is zoned R-60.

S. Stadnicki asked if there was anyone to represent the applicant. Demian Sorrentino, certified planner and soil scientist, Boundaries, LLC presented the application for Peter and Phyllis Knutson. He submitted a revised plan to the commission with the requested changes. D. Sorrentino explained the addition of note 14 for additional site testing in the proposed septic area for lot 178; note 15 for shade tolerant grass seed for new and previously existing lawn areas where tree canopy cover is dense and for stabilization of the soil surface; note 16 regarding the 87 ± c. y. of fill within the regulated for the proposed septic system on lot 178.

D. Sorrentino explained the engineer's note for the erosion and sedimentation controls for note 4 regarding all lawn areas that will be creeping red fescue for slope stabilization. He stated that everything that was requested by the commission was added to the site plan. There was discussion of this matter.

S. Stadnicki asked if there were any further questions. Hearing none, she entertained a motion. L. Laidley made a motion to approve application CC 08-10 with the proper erosion and sedimentation control measures. G. Serdechny seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

S. Stadnicki appointed L. Laidley as secretary pro tem.

B. CC 09-10 Woznica, Casimir, P.O. Box 339, Voluntown, CT 06384. Property location: 170 Mackin Drive, Griswold. Applicant requests approval of residential activity within a regulated area in order to construct a three season room addition to existing 3-bedroom dwelling where the southeast corner is approximately 45 ft from Pachaug Pond and to construct a 22 ft. by 28 ft. detached garage where the southwest corner will be 12.5 ft from the delineated wetland edge. The property is zoned R-60.

S. Stadnicki asked if there was anyone to represent the application. Norman Thibeault, professional engineer, Killingly Engineering Associates presented the application for Casimir Woznica who also was present. He stated that there was a site walk of the property on February 7, 2010 with one commission member, Rob Parrette who prepared minutes for the file. S. Stadnicki read the site walk minutes that had been submitted by R. Parrette for the record.

N. Thibeault stated that the commission requested additional information for this meeting. He explained that the pond elevation was actually 98.6. He explained that the roof drainage will toward the wetlands where there will be a 2 ft. wide by 1 ft. deep impact strip for the roof run off to allow it to flow in sheet flow over the retaining wall into the wetlands. He explained that there will be a stock pile and showed the commission its location on the site.

N. Thibeault showed photographs of the site showing the location of the wetlands and where the garage will be going. D. Rubino asked the distance from the garage to the wetlands. N. Thibeault stated that it would be approximately 10 feet from the edge of the wetland. He showed photos of the inlet at the pond from the site.

S. Stadnicki stated to let the record show that Glen Norman arrived at 7:55 p.m.

N. Thibeault stated that the area is a seasonally wet area and contains mostly runoff from the road with a concentrated flow from time to time and becomes dry in the summertime. There was discussion of this matter.

S. Stadnicki stated that there was additional information requested from last meeting and asked if the soil scientist signature with the date was on the plan. N. Thibeault stated yes. She stated that the elevation of the pond has been addressed. She asked about the delineation of the pond. N. Thibeault stated that this is actually an inlet from the pond. She asked the amount of fill to be brought in. N. Thibeault stated approximately 40 -50 c.y. so that the area for the garage will be raised and to prep for a septic repair area. S. Stadnicki asked if he looked at the soil types of the construction area for the garage and the addition since the whole lot has been filled. N. Thibeault stated that there is a detail for the foundation that will have a 42 inch depth minimum for the foundation footing and approved structural fill based on State per M.02.05 CTDOT Form 816. He stated that the inferior soils will be removed and replaced with 18 inches of good structural fill for the footing. There was discussion of this matter.

P. Zvingilas asked about the existing sheds since there were no permits granted for the sheds. N. Thibeault stated that the application will go before the ZBA for a variance for the sheds. P. Zvingilas stated that a wetlands permit is needed for the sheds as well. S. Stadnicki stated that the application must come before the wetlands commission for the deck.. N. Thibeault stated that he will include the sheds with the request for a permit for the deck. There was discussion of this matter.

P. Zvingilas asked about the increased lot coverage for the deck. N. Thibeault stated that the deck does not increase the impervious surface because the deck is slatted and so the water runs through it. P. Zvingilas asked what will hold up the deck. N. Thibeault stated it will be on pylons. There was discussion of this matter. N. Thibeault will include 4 sq. ft. for each pylon holding up the deck.

S. Stadnicki asked for questions by members. L. Laidley was concerned that the garage was too close to the wetland. N. Thibeault explained that currently the owner parks in the area that will become the garage so that right now cars park there now and there is the potential for fluids from the cars on to the soil and the garage will actually protect the wetlands from these fluids. There was discussion of this matter.

G. Norman asked the distance from the garage to the wetlands. N. Thibeault stated that the garage is 12 feet to the wetlands. S. Stadnicki asked P. Zvingilas if he had any concerns. P. Zvingilas stated no, other than what was already mentioned.

N. Thibeault that that he had hoped more members had been on the site walk since it was a much better picture of what will be done on the site. L. Laidley stated that he was concerned with the closeness to the wetlands since the buffer is 75 feet. G. Norman stated that Commissioner Parrette stated in his report that he did not have a problem where the garage was positioned. P. Zvingilas stated that there is time before the commission can act on the application. D. Rubino stated that the aerial view shows that there really isn't anything there. There was discussion of this matter.

S. Stadnicki entertained a motion. G. Norman made a motion approve CC 09-10 with the proper erosion and sedimentation control measures. S. Stadnicki stated that there should be stringent erosion and sedimentation control measures such as hay bails. P. Zvingilas asked where the hay bails would be located. N. Thibeault stated that the hay bails would be right on the property line. S. Stadnicki asked if abutters were notified. N. Thibeault stated yes abutters were notified for the ZBA public hearing. G. Serdechny seconded the motion. There were 4 aye votes and 1 nay vote by L. Laidley. The ayes carried.

4. Additional Business (New Applications)

A. CC 11-10 Griswold, Town of, 28 Main Street, Jewett City, CT 06351. Property location: Bitgood Road Bridge Replacement, Griswold. Applicant requests approval of commercial/industrial activity within a wetland/watercourse and regulated area in order to replace the Bitgood Road Bridge and to improve the hydraulic capacity by widening the span to accommodate the increased flow with associated placement of cofferdams, demolition of existing structure and construction of new abutments along with some permanent disturbance to adjacent wetland area. The property is zoned R-80.

S. Stadnicki asked if there was anyone to represent the applicant. Ron Joy and Scott Maderos of McFarland Johnson were present to represent the Town of Griswold. Also present was First Selectman Philip Anthony. Ron Joy submitted handouts of the presentation boards to be discussed. He explained this is the replacement of the Bitgood Road bridge showing the existing conditions plan as well as the proposed conditions plan. He explained the environmental conditions were flagged by a wetlands biologist and the 100 year storm floodways and flood plains were shown. He explained the existing conditions and that a hydraulic analysis was done to determine the span of the bridge during a 100 year storm event which will be lengthened from 40 feet to 60 feet.

S. Maderos explained the plan for the new elevation of the bridge that will satisfy state requirements within the 150 foot commercial regulated area designation and he explained those limits. There was discussion of this matter.

S. Maderos stated that there is a letter from Mike Schafer, Soil Biologist who delineated the wetlands and evaluated the soils for this project and his letter is in the file. He explained that there are open water impacts and explained those changes. He stated that there are wetland impacts created by off grading associated with the approach to the bridge. He explained the mitigation approach for erosion and sedimentation controls around the grading portions of the work such as hay bales and silt fence.

S. Stadnicki stated that the plans on file are not signed and this is a problem. S. Maderos stated that there was a time situation to get the application here on time. She stated that the signature is needed by the soil scientist and that the plans will not be approved without the signatures and that we should not accept the applications with without the proper signatures. P. Anthony stated that there should be a time frame for the signatures. S. Maderos stated that he will get in touch with Mike to sign the plans first of the week. S. Mederos stated that this is a presentation plan. S. Stadnicki stated that if this is being submitted as part of the record, it must be signed. S. Stadnicki stated that the actual design plans must be signed and dated by the soil scientist as well as signed dated and stamped by the engineers

R. Joy stated that the full bridge design set is still in progress but the erosion control and impact standpoint this is locked in. L. Laidley stated that a DEP permit is required. R. Joy stated that the DEP gave us the state and federal comments through the design and OEP comments are on the plan. S. Maderos stated that there are comments from CTDOT regarding elevations of coffer dams and wildlife requirements for shelving above the high water level. S. Stadnicki asked if there was an estimate of the actual amount of wetlands. R. Joy stated that there are approximately .04 acres or 1,700 sq. ft. of wetlands. D. Rubino asked the new height of the bridge. S. Maderos stated that the final elevation of the bridge will be 4 ft. higher and significantly wider going from 40 feet to 60 feet. There was discussion of this matter.

S. Maderos stated sheet 11 showing the notes of the work proposed and sheet 7 of the details of the turbidity curtain. The existing span will be removed, the turbidly curtains, the coffer dams installed and it will be dewatered and demo the existing abutments, building the new abutments and put the new bridge in place; all erosion controls will be in place. L. Laidley asked if there will be somebody on site to pay attention to the erosion controls. There was discussion of this matter including that there will be a full time engineer and clerk of the works on the site.

S. Stadnicki asked who was in charge of this for the town. P. Anthony stated that he is the facilitator for this project and that he speaks directly with the engineers and the state liaison officer on a regular basis and the DOT and DEP. He stated that P. Zvingilas will be involved in the project as well. There was discussion of this matter.

S. Stadnicki asked if the adjoining property owners have been notified. S. Maderos stated that the abutting property owners are in the process of being notified and there have been meetings with them for their input. S. Stadnicki asked if P. Anthony if any of the residents have had issues. P. Anthony stated no, it has been fairly congenial. There was discussion of this matter including that the CTDOT is responsible for the right of way process.

S. Stadnicki asked the commission if there would be an interest in having a public hearing. D. Rubino stated that there wouldn't be an interest since it must get done. P. Zvingilas stated that the road has been closed for some time now and they are waiting for something the happen.

S. Stadnicki asked when the project will start. S. Maderos stated as soon as possible.

S. Stadnicki asked for a motion. L. Laidley made a motion to accept CC 11-10 and that the plans have the required dated signatures and stamps and license numbers of the engineers and soil

scientist for the next meeting and to table it to the next regularly scheduled meeting on March 18, 2010. G. Norman seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

S. Stadnicki stated that there was another application and asked for a motion to put it on the agenda. L. Laidley made a motion to put CC 12-10 on the agenda. G. Norman seconded the motion. All were in favor. The ayes carried.

CC 12-10 Albro, Lorna, 80 Sheldon Road, Griswold, CT 06351. Applicant requests approval for commercial/industrial activity within a regulated area in order to cut two trees hit by lightning at the pond's edge of which the stumps will not be removed. Five additional trees will be cut with removal of stumps along with the removal of an existing brush pile. The property is in the R-60 zone.

S. Stadnicki asked if there was anyone to present the application. Lorna Albro explained that she is the new owner of 80 Sheldon Road mobile home park. She stated that there is a significant pile of brush that should be removed and recently there are two trees that were struck by lightning. She explained that there are leaning trees that should come down since they are a hazard. L. Laidley asked if the trees are in the water. L. Albro stated no. P. Zvingilas stated that they came to the commission because he discussed with them the removal of stumps. She asked if the stumps can be removed or could they be ground down and that they would like to make this area for recreation such as bocce ball. S. Stadnicki stated that she should speak with the planner about grasses and other plantings for the area near the wetlands. There was discussion of this matter including that the stumps can be cut as close to the ground and grind 3-4 inches below grade as possible and then cover over with topsoil.

G. Norman stated that we could authorize P. Zvingilas to grant administrative approval for this application. P. Zvingilas stated that he brought it to the commission for their advice. There was discussion of this matter.

S. Stadnicki asked for a motion to authorize P. Zvingilas to grant administrative approval for this application. L. Laidley made a motion to authorize P. Zvingilas to grant administrative approval for CC-12-10. G. Norman seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

5. Reports from the Enforcement Officer

P. Zvingilas made a comment that the commission has changed over time with new members and that it is a more liberal commission than in the past and noted that there was an approval for a garage 12 feet from the wetland. He stated that applications such as the tree removal; he will handle.

P. Zvingilas stated that after the rain storm at the school building project there was erosion in the road and catch basin, the silt fences have been properly installed. There was discussion of this matter.

6. Old Business

A. Discussion of letter dated December 15, 2009 from Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc. requesting a donation of support.

D. Szall explained that C. Kinnie asked her to look into this matter and that there has been no record of donations in past minutes or correspondence. There was discussion of this matter that there was a record for June 2006 in the bookkeeping department. There was consensus by the commission to write them a letter stating budgetary difficulties. D. Szall will send a letter to the Eastern Connecticut conservation District, Inc.

D. Rubino asked if there was any progress on the Reil/Johanson sites. P. Zvingilas stated that he has not been notified of anything being done there. There was discussion of this matter.

7. **New Business**

8. **Approval of Minutes**

A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 21, 2010

S. Stadnicki asked for a motion to table the minutes to the next regular meeting on March 18, 2020. L. Laidley made a motion to table the minutes to the next regular meeting. G. Norman seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

9. **Communications**

S. Stadnicki read through the list of communications.

A. Aquatic Control Technology, Inc. Permit Application for the Use of Pesticides in State Waters located at the Griswold School, 305 Slater Avenue, Jewett City.

B. Last Green Valley 2010 Grant Program

C. Making the Best land Use Decisions, Training Seminar, Wednesday February 17, 2010 at Glastonbury Town Hall

D. Connecticut Wildlife Magazine, January/February 2010 by the Connecticut DEP, Bureau of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division

10. **Reports from Members**

L. Laidley stated that the silt fence at the school had been knocked down by the snow plowing.

11. **Conservation Commission Matters**

There no conservation matters were discussed.

12. **Adjournment**

S. Stadnicki asked for a motion to adjourn. L. Laidley so moved. G. Norman seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Szall
Recording Secretary