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M A S S A C H U S E T T S
Town Hall
35 Central Street

Stoneham Conservation Commission
781-279-2696

**STONEHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
July 13, 2020
REMOTE 7 PM**

Stoneham Conservation Commission - Monday, July 13, 2020
Mon, Jul 13, 2020 6:30 PM - 10:30 PM (EDT)

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Commissioners in attendance: Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Rob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day, Carolyn Jin and Jessica Gerke

PUBLIC HEARING:

11 South Marble-

Adrian Poci

The regulation of the flow of water in backyard, in and out of the channel, by replacing the old pipe and extending it along the entire length of the channel. Notice of Intent Continued. Alex Rozycki made a motion to continue until 8/3/20 and seconded by Bob Parsons Roll Call Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Rob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day 6/0

Rear Hillside Ave.

Jim Juliano

Construction of a new single family house with driveway and associated grading in the 100 foot buffer zone. Notice of Intent continued/Request for Determination of Applicability continued. Bob Parsons motion to continue, seconded by Domenic Cimina Roll Call Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Rob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day 6/0

AT&T

Scott Adams

Request for Determination of Applicability continued.

Same plans as when proposed two years ago for TMobile, fencing will be enclosed. There will be a 500 gallon propane tank fenced in enclosure. Domenic Cimina makes a motion to close public hearing, Megan Day seconds. Roll Call Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Bob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Norm L'Esperance, Megan Day 7/0 Motion to approve operating order of conditions made by Alex Rozycki and seconded by Norm L'Esperance Roll Call Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Rob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day 7/0

23 Valley Rd

Charles Houghton for George Haley

Request for Determination of Applicability. Negative determination with restoration plan.

Charles Houghton mention 3 pepper bush plants for restoration. Motion to approve tree removals and plantings by Norman L'Esperance, seconded by Alex Rozycki Roll Call Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Rob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day 7/0

Montvale Ave Culvert

Mel Higgins/David Klinch

Amended order of Conditions requested. Continued.

Mel Higgins from Weston and Sampson introduces James Pearsons, David Klinch from Eversource, Brett Gonsalves from DPW, Trevor McCourt from McCourt Construction and Mike Zylich from Eversource.

Mel Higgins summarizes that in 2017 Conservation Commission issued an order of conditions to Eversource for underground transmission and then an extension was granted. They are requesting an amendment to the open order of conditions for proposed work culvert replacement. Weston and Sampson designed a larger opening in a 12x5 rectangle box culvert with 2 feet of stream bed material.

Brett Gonsalves mentions Eversource is doing the work for the Town.

Mike Hager is the project manager from Eversource. Originally it was jack and bore underneath culvert with trenchless crossing. Plan to use open trench construction with duck bank underneath. Goal is same expense as current design and less construction time.

Ellen McBride asks if it will solve Montvale Ave flooding problem.

Brett Gonsalves explains it was undersized and this will help mitigate flooding in low areas.

Bob Parsons asks about the additional capacity of new culvert. Will downstream effects be mitigated by another project?

Alex Rozycki asks about full box culvert without open bottom impacts

Michael Hager comments the design is by Weston Sampson, Michael looks at it from construction reasonability.

James Pearson is the design engineer from Weston Sampson. He asks what is the question of impacts?

Alex Rozycki asks about trenchless to 4 sided culvert, bank restoration and brook impacts?

Dave Klinch- Environmental consultant from Epsilon has jack and bore as the least impactful but Town has problematic culvert. Eversource has been asked to fix failing infrastructure. Weston and Sampson have done design for Town.

Alex Rozycki asks about replanting and tree count with access to Culvert.

Mel Higgins hasn't had boot on the ground.

James Pearson says it's an urban setting, impacts are roadway, planter strips, curb, sidewalk, minimal vegetation. Replacing in kind. Ecological improvement because it will have wider bottom with 2 feet of stream material .

Domenic Cimina asks about 2 feet of materials and rise. Not much elevation.

Bob Parsons says open area is 5 foot. Plans say 12x7. James Pearson confirms 5 feet is open area.

Bob Parsons asks capacity benefit?

James Pearson answers criteria was 10 year storm, FEMA model used for stream to mitigate concerns.

Bob Parsons asks about head walls, wing walls for erosion?

James Pearson head walls exist and proposed similar to what's there.

Bob Parsons asks stone in culvert size? Velocity checked?

James Pearson bedding stone size is generic on drawings. Not specified, will be determined in field.

Bob Parsons asks about utility crossings?

James Pearson says MWRA transmission main, it will be cleared over the top, 10' city main diameter may be in bedding zone, plans to protect with casing or lower so its beneath culvert. Sewer crosses underneath, needs protection, gas line underneath to relocate with utility company.

Dave Klinch raises concern that MWRA needs to approve standards within zone of influence. Eversource is reviewing with contractor. Different impacts for this project.

Ellen McBride would jack and bore plan still involve utilities?

Dave Klinch responds yes and most are planned in advance with utilities for relocation plans.

Alex Rozycki trenchless and proposed for 10 year storm seems small. Utility conflicts, no tree protection on north side, 3 trees from street view.

Mike Zylich from Eversource asks if folks would like to be onsite?

Ellen McBride responds most work underground in Montvale Ave. Are trees involved?

Mike Zylich offers to setup site visit for laydown.

Ellen McBride asks about culvert for 25 year storm.

James Pearson responds too much bigger push flooding downstream

Alex Rozycki 18" bypass gravity or pump? Won't hold up in a summer storm. Erosion and sediment disturb.

Michael Hager- Manhole construction pending. Project may get pushed to spring. Trenched in construction techniques, but because of culvert has to use trenchless construction with pits on either side and tunnel underneath culvert.

Bob Parsons utility crossing how will they be handled? Utilities perpendicular through side walls of culvert?

Sewer exposed above river stone within culvert crossing. Concern from water quality standpoint. Sewer as waste water pipe please answer plan next meeting.

Brett Gonsalves concerns have been given to James Pearson. With higher velocity for sewer maybe different class of pipe possible. Clay pipe is in Montvale Ave. Brett Gonsalves will look closely at how addressed.

Alex Rozycki asks about discharge to culvert? Stone won't be replaced. Utility conflict clarifications.

James Pearson- MWRA slow with drawings so is lower than plans depict and encased in sleeve but doesn't anticipate issues.

Norm L'Esperance makes motion and is seconded by Megan Day to continue. Roll Call Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Rob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day 7/0

46 Isabella Street

Beth Dinardi

RDA

Ellen McBride site visit today, pool is outside 25 foot no disturb. When pool is emptied where will it be drained?

Anthony Dinardi said there is a dry well on the property they can drain to.

Alex Rozycki said don't chlorinate the pool in the last week, and the dry well works.

Bob Parsons thinks it is a good solution

Alex Rozycki make a motion to grant negative determination of applicability with conditions discussed, Bob seconds. Roll Call Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Rob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day 7/0

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

3 Sullivan Circle

David Vaccaro

Request for Certificate of Compliance #297-330

Brett Gonsalves visited, storage of ladders is not Vaccaro's property. Motion by Norman L'Esperance to grant certificate of compliance, seconded by Bob Parsons Roll Call Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Rob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day 7/0

DISCUSSION ONLY:

2 North Street

Bear Hill Golf Course

Discussion of restoring impacted areas and tree plantings. Continued.

3 Daniel Drive

Joseph Penney

DCR report

Ellen McBride reports no news from DCR, it is in DCR legal office. Penneys signed on but had to leave. Continued.

7 Emerald Court

John McNamara

Protection of Wetlands

John McNamara signed on as meeting had ended, continued.

158 Franklin Street

Charles Rotondi- Michael Rotondi

Wetlands protection

Site walk by Brett Gonsalves revealed piles of gravel outside 100 foot tape measure. Shed driveway to vegetation. Wetlands are not delineated. Storage of materials, ladders, vehicles, concrete blocks in yard.

Ellen McBride asks how Mike Rotondi determined edge of wetlands.

Brett Gonsalves believes cattails may have been used as a reference. No wetland flags.

Megan Day mentions trucks night dumping into wetlands.

Brett Gonsalves says he did not walk the entire property.

Ellen McBride suggests a site walk to edge of wetlands to determine 100 foot. DEP will be consulted if Conservation Commission is not allowed on property.

Brett Gonsalves said Mike Rotondi offered to stake the ground.

Ellen McBride mentions Mr Rotondi is not a wetland scientist.

Megan Day says the complaint was anonymous for fear of retribution. May need a wetland scientist.

Alex Rozycki mentions he has worked with Rotondis before and they are good honest people. Alex Rozycki would like to do a site visit.

Bob Parsons says it's a tricky situation as there is often disturbed areas in the buffer zone. He suggests writing a letter to spell out no activity in wetlands without filing with Conservation Commission.

Megan Day says it is a legitimate concern.

Ellen McBride states the commission hasn't been on the property and would like to be. Will ask Mr Rotondi for site walk before August 3rd meeting to determine if wetland scientist is necessary.

Bob Parsons says unless he is proposing work he wouldn't need to delineate wetlands.

Brett Gonsalves states redo driveway outside 100 foot with erosion control so erosion doesn't wash down to wetlands.

Alex Rozycki agrees getting on site is key.

Ellen McBride states Mr. Rotondi agreed not to work, any work done with force an enforcement order. Bob Parsons mentions writing letter again and would welcome a site visit.

Whip Hill

Jim Previte

Mr Previte attended meeting and said he has not filed papers for retirement yet as he is on FMLA. Ellen believes a meeting with Bob Parsons, Dennis Sheehan, Jim Previte and Brett Gonsalves would be wise to have a formal agreement and plan for a Conservation agent. Brett Gonsalves has been covering Jim Previte's site visits. Jim Previte's position can not be filled while he is on FMLA. The caretaker at Whip Hill is at the Conservation Commission's discretion.

Jim Previte state it is a convoluted position without a contract but as a town employee he had 2 days at Whip Hill and 3 days at DPW. There was an agreement as tree warden and environmental inspector. Jim Previte is considering possibilities of taking retirement option after FMLA.

Ellen McBride reiterates that group meeting is the best option. Jim Previte agrees.

Alex Rozycki thanks Jim Previte, Ellen McBride and Bob Parsons for their efforts.

Bob Parsons says we need to figure out next steps, unfair to task Brett Gonsalves, appreciates all Jim Previte has done. There is a person in Everett who does not need full time but there are employment questions to be answered. Stoneham is the only community without a Conservation agent. Need someone available to quickly answer questions.

Brett Gonsalves is happy to help out as the interim and be part of conversation with Dennis Sheehan.

Ellen McBride mentions educating the Town about Conservation Commission whether through articles in the paper or other means. Will work on scheduling meeting with Dennis Sheehan.

Permit for Tree Removal

Ellen McBride

Discussion of bylaw or policy for permit for tree removal.

Warrant articles for October due, Ellen McBride will follow up on it.

Approve Meeting Minutes June 22, 2020

Bob Parsons motions to approve, seconded by Dominic Cimina Roll Call Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Rob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day 7/0

Next Meeting August 3, 2020

Motion to adjourn by Megan Day, seconded by Norman L'Esperance Roll Call Ellen McBride, Bob Parsons, Rob Fotino, Domenic Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day 7/0