# MINUTES FOR THE INLAND WETLANDS - ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD

Tuesday, March 23, 2024

Chair O'Dea called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM, virtually, via Microsoft Teams and in person in the Auditorium at the Community Cultural Center, 50 Chapman Place, East Hartford, CT.

### PRESENT

Chair Daniel O'Dea Cmsr. Tony Le Cmsr. Stephen Roczynski Cmsr. Richard Rivera

#### ABSENT

Cmsr. Peter Marra Alt. Cmsr. Gary Vollinger

Doug Wilson, Town Engineer and Acting Designated Agent; Ramfry Hernandez, Engineering Technician; and engineers from the applicant's engineering firm, F.A. Hesketh, were also present.

# APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Cmsr. Le moved to <u>APPROVE</u> the March 26, 2024 regular meeting minutes. Chair O'Dea seconded. All in Favor; Cmsrs. Roczynski and Cmsr. Rivera abstained.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. File #24-02, Application of the Greater Hartford Transit District to conduct a regulated activity in an Inland Wetlands and Inland Wetlands Upland Review area in conjunction with the construction of a parking lot at 144-148 Roberts Street.

Cmsr. Rivera moved to **<u>REMOVE</u>** the application from the table.

Cmsr. Roczynski seconded.

All in Favor; None Opposed

The applicant's Engineer spoke on behalf of the application. Mr. Wilson passed out additional amendments in hardcopy format to the original application. After a detailed discussion by the applicant's Engineer, Chair O'Dea said he was in receipt of a letter dated March 13, 2024 that was from Mr. Disbrow, the former Designated Agent (now retired), with his concerns about the application. Chair O'Dea discussed a second letter received from F.A. Hesketh in response to Mr. Disbrow's questions. Mr. Wilson explained that there was a letter in the file from Mr. Disbrow communicating the revisions to the application were received and reviewed and that the

staff comments of March 24<sup>th</sup> have been addressed. Commission members did have some additional questions regarding the application, specifically surrounding the depths of the boring. The Engineer from F.A. Hesketh answered the Commissioner's questions.

Cmsr. Rivera moved to **APPROVE** the application with the following conditions:

- The permit is non-transferable without the written consent of the Town of East Hartford Inland Wetlands Environment Commission.
- Soil sedimentation and erosion controls acceptable to the Town Engineer are to be maintained at all times.
- All work in the Inland Wetlands and/or Inland Wetland Upland Review Area shall be commenced within five (5) years from the effective date. The activity shall be completed within one (1) year from the commencement of the activity.
- Written notice shall be submitted to the Town Designated Wetlands Agent 48 hours prior to the starting date of the approved activity.
- In evaluating this application, the Inland Wetlands Environment Commission has relied on information provided by the applicant, and if such information subsequently proves to be false, deceptive, incomplete and/or inaccurate, this permit shall be modified, suspended, or revoked.

Cmsr. Roczynski seconded. All in Favor; None Opposed

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

None

# **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS: APPOINTMENT OF DESIGNATED AGENT**

Since the current Designated Agent (Mr. Disbrow) has retired, a new agent will need to be appointed. For the record, Town Engineer, Doug Wilson, will be the new Designated Agent for the Commission. As Designated Agent, he will approve applications that don't rise to the level to appear before the Commission yet still may have impact on the Wetlands. Mr. Wilson provided his background to the Commission. He hopes to see better reporting in the future between the Commission and the Department of Public Works.

Cmsr. Roczynski moved to <u>APPOINT</u> Mr. Wilson as the Commission's Designated Agent. Cmsr. Le seconded. All in Favor; None Opposed

# AGENT APPROVAL APPLICATIONS:

None

**OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO SPEAK:** 

None

# **COMMUNICATIONS - VIOLATIONS:**

- A. 89-99 Central Avenue has been referred to the Town's Corporation Counsel
- B. 110 Prospect Street Mr. Wilson briefed the Commission on what was occurring on this piece of property.
- C. 1022 Burnside Avenue Mr. Wilson stated that they will be submitting a new application.
- D. 168 Ridgewood Road This is not a violation. Mr. Wilson will follow up with a letter. The new owner has been doing extensive tree removal and was not aware that her property was on wetlands. Mr. Wilson will work with the homeowner to prevent additional work being done in the inland/wetlands. Also, Mr. Wilson hopes to communicate better with the property owner, and other new property owners, by advertising and issuing press releases that will demonstrate that the Town has up to date GIS Mapping available on the Town's website.

## **COMMUNICATIONS - ADDITIONAL:**

A. Mr. Wilson received an email from Mayor Martin regarding the Burnham Brook located at the East Hartford Golf Course. The Department of Public Works is proposing to do some work on it in the near future. The Commission was not opposed to prosecution of the work by the East Hartford DPW, provided the reporting form included with the General Maintenance Permit (#24-01) was submitted to the Commission.

## REPORTS:

Mr. Wilson explained that remedy to the violation at 89-99 Central Avenue is close to being submitted. It will possibly be under new business at next month's meeting.

# **APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT:**

1. Commission Clerk TOTAL

\$120.00

\$120.00

Commissioner Roczynski made a motion to <u>PAY</u> the bills. Seconded by Cmsr. Rivera. All in Favor; none opposed.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Cmsr. Roczynski moved to ADJOURN.

Cmsr. Le seconded

All in Favor; None Opposed Meeting adjourned at 8:14 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Enman, acting Clerk
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