Minutes
Northampton Conservation Commission
2nd Floor Hearing Room, City Hall, Northampton, Mass.
May 23, 2019

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<tr>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Present</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Lake, Chair</td>
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<td>Mason Maronn</td>
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<td>Randy Krotowski</td>
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<td>Jack Finn</td>
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<td>Jason Perry</td>
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<td>Jessica Pica</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Wroblicka</td>
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<th>Staff</th>
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<td>Sarah LaValley</td>
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Meeting Opened At: By:
5:31 p.m. Mason

Minutes Approved: Motion By: Second By: Unanimous:
None

Public Comment
None

5:30 PM – Continuation - Notice of Intent for dumping ground remediation within bordering vegetation wetland and riverfront to unnamed stream. Work to include landfill excavation, removal of buried solid waste, and restoration to pre-construction conditions. MassDOT. 155 Locust Street, Map ID 23B-013
Tim Dexter, MassDOT, and Tom Keough, AEComm provided an update on the project. Access to the site will be provided through the Route 9 frontage and front of the site. Work will occur along the bike path easement in the rear of the site, but access from the path will not be necessary. A Water Quality Certificate (WQC) will be issued when the MEPA process is complete. Sarah stated that the WQC included a condition that “A minimum depth of 12-inches of wetland soil shall be provided in the Wetland Restoration Area” which will also need to be included in the Commission’s Order.
Mike Kirby asked about any salt remaining in the old salt shed on the property. Tim replied that he is not aware of any unused salt. All buildings on site will be demolished but there is no schedule for that portion of the work at this point.
Sarah provided an overview of recommended additional conditions for the project, primarily related to wetlands replication to ensure success.
Randy moved to issue an Order of Conditions, with standard conditions and additional conditions as recommended by staff. Seconded by Jack, the motion carried unanimously.

5:45 PM - Continuation - Notice of Intent for multi-use path construction. City of Northampton, Rocky Hill Road/Rocky Hill Greenway, Map ID 37-049
Jason moved to continue the hearing until June 13 at 5:30 PM. Seconded by Randy, the motion carried unanimously.
5:45 PM – Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if stormwater basin construction within buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetland is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act or Northampton Wetlands Ordinance. CED Northampton Solar. Burts Pit Rd, Map ID 35-080
Mike Gagnon, Milone and MacBroom, provided an overview of the project. Work is associated with a photovoltaic array. Access will be provided from Burts Pit Road through the planned marijuana growing facility. A stormwater permit from the Department of Public Works and a special permit from the Planning Board have been obtained. 4500 square feet of buffer zone disturbance is proposed. The area is generally disturbed, as part of a former gravel pit operation. Development of the site will involve removal and possible reuse of soil piles.
Mason asked about plans for vegetating the basin. Mike replied that the entire site will be filled in with topsoil and seeded with a conservation mix. It is designed as a dry basin, with no discharge to wetlands or buffer zones. Post development runoff will be an improvement over existing conditions. Work should be complete by the end of summer.
Jason moved to issue a negative determination by checking box 3, with standard conditions. Seconded by Randy, the motion carried unanimously.

6:00 PM – Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if drainage work within riverfront area (Mill River) is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act or Northampton Wetlands Ordinance. Fairway Village Condominiums, c/o HPMG. Fairway Village, Map ID 16A-020.
Terry Reynolds provided an overview of the project; designed to address bank washout at the end of a dead end driveway serving three units. Stormwater currently flows overland and is eroding the bank, in addition to undercutting from the Mill River. The project includes a catchbasin to connect to the existing stormwater system in the main roadway, and riprap will be removed. Undercutting is a larger issue, and will be monitored for now.
Sarah asked about stormwater treatment. Terry replied that a deep sump is proposed. Roof leaders will also connect to the system to reduce erosion.
Jason moved to issue a negative determination by checking box 2, with standard conditions. Seconded by Randy, the motion carried unanimously.

Request for Certificate of Compliance, Todd Cellura, 92 Turkey Hill Rd, DEP File 246-418
Sarah provided an overview, noting that an Order of Conditions was issued in 1997 for construction of a common driveway. Although work was completed two decades ago, an engineer’s statement regarding the project is provided. An energy dissipater and rip rap swale were not constructed, but the engineer and staff did not observe erosion, and this likely resulted in less overall disturbance. Jason moved to issue a certificate of compliance. Seconded by Jack, the motion carried unanimously.

Request for Certificate of Compliance, Tanya Hart, 60 Federal Street, DEP File 246-702
Sarah stated that The Commission issued an Order of Conditions in 2017 for conversion of a former barn area to a studio space. The Order required construction conditions, as well as conversion of a former lawn near the Mill River to understory. This has been done, and a plant list is included. Jason moved to issue a certificate of compliance. Seconded by Jack, the motion carried unanimously.

Review Proposed Ordinance Amendment, Violation Process
The Commission agreed that it makes sense to allow staff to issue violations of the Commission’s land use regulations in addition to wetlands violations. Jason moved to move forward with an Ordinance amendment. Seconded by Randy, the motion carried unanimously.
Approve and Sign Conservation Restrictions – two in Rocky Hill Greenway to Mass Audubon, one Broad Brook Greenway to Kestrel Trust
Jason moved to approve granting of the conservation restrictions. Seconded by Randy, the motion carried unanimously.

Pine Grove Golf Course Acquisition
Sarah provided an overview of a proposed acquisition. The City currently has an option to purchase 105 acres of the property for $650,000, with plans to restore the area. Jason moved to support the purchase. Seconded by Randy, the motion carried unanimously.

As there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:33 PM.