

CONSERVATION COMMISSION



Town of GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
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GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of July 14, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Greenfield Police Station
321 High Street

The meeting was called to order by Vice-chair Tim Mosher at 7:00 p.m. with the following members:

PRESENT: Tim Mosher, Vice-chair; Tom DeHoyos; Dee Letourneau

ABSENT: Alex Haro, Chair

Also present: Ralph Kunkel, Conservation Agent; and members of the public.

Approval of Minutes: June 9, 2009

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, and voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of June 9, 2009 as amended.

Approval of Minutes: June 9, 2009

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, and voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of June 23, 2009 as submitted.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

7:03 p.m. Joseph Kwan, Northrup Grumman Space and Mission Systems – to review a Notice of Intent for property located at 11-17 Meridian Street for a proposal to remediate contaminated soil and place soil cap at the former Swarf Disposal Area for the GTD. Continued from June 23, 2009.

Nathan Jones, PE, and Ernest Ashley, LSP, both of Camp Dresser McKee were present on behalf of the applicant. Jones reviewed the project. Jones explained that the change in the current submission would be for remediation of the river bank; that they would be installing up to 10 wells in order to install skimmers and absorbent socks. Jones said that should it be necessary they would use high vac extraction for the petroleum. He said there would be a 10 inch thick gravel road for the equipment that would be used for the river bank remediation and that there would be a decontamination pad at the end of road before trucks left the site. Jones said any excavated soil stored on site would be covered at the end of each day.

Letourneau asked for clarification about the high vac extraction. Ashley said that at the bank the petroleum was on top of the groundwater. Ashley went on to say that some of the petroleum was viscous; in lieu of excavation, since it may not be stabilized, a series of wells were proposed to install larger absorbent socks, and skimmers; if the absorbent socks and skimmers were not effective, then a high vacuum would be applied to the wells. The equipment necessary for the high vac extraction, said Jones, would need to be able to access each well. Jones emphasized that this would occur if socks and skimmers were not successful after a year, but the road would need to be in place just in case it was needed. Ashley said socks and skimmers were a passive technique and that if those

techniques were not effective, the applicant would like the option to use the more active techniques.

DeHoyos asked if there was a fail safe plan if the high vac didn't work. Ashley said that there was not. Ashley added that since they first began monitoring, the depth of the oil seemed to have increased. Ashley said they couldn't use chemical technology wherein a chemical reacts with the oil, because it would discharge to river.

DeHoyos asked how often the socks would be maintained. Jones said monthly. Ashley said that would be changed to quarterly when they were certain the petroleum was not accumulating. DeHoyos ask if Ashley would be on site. Ashley said there would be an engineer on site during the cleanup; that he, Ashley, as LSP would be on site to inspect it after the cleanup. DeHoyos asked that the qualifications of the engineer be submitted to the Commission.

DeHoyos asked for a Maintenance Plan. Jones handed out an O&M plan. Jones said he would be out to inspect the site after any major storm event.

DeHoyos asked if the silt fence would be left in place. Jones said it would be removed once the vegetation was reestablished.

DeHoyos asked if there would be dewatering on site. Jones replied that there would be; however, dewatering would be kept to a minimum as shown in the proposal. DeHoyos said he was concerned about the water to be treated and asked how spills would be handled, should a line leak or a pipe carrying that water break. Jones said there was no plan in place. DeHoyos asked for a plan to protect the water to be treated.

DeHoyos asked about gasoline storage. Jones said all vehicles would be refueled off site.

Letourneau asked about the protection of the decontamination pad. Jones said it would be protected with berms.

DeHoyos addressed protection for the river in the event of any accidental spills or leakage and asked for additional protection along the river side of the concrete pad. Jones said they would put up a berm.

DeHoyos asked about protecting the site when the construction personnel was not present and suggested a construction fence about 6 feet high. Ashley said Greenfield's Zoning Laws would prohibit the fence in the flood plain, but that they were willing with the owner's permission to put a fence at the entrance on the Arbors' property.

Mosher asked how the "water-to-be-treated" would be treated. Jones replied that they would be using a Fractal Tank to remove solids and that there would be granular activated carbon to remove any organic chemicals in the water. Mosher asked how often they would be cleaning the filters. Jones replied they would be cleaned as necessary, probably several times a day; he said they must be continuously maintained by the contractor. Jones said that they would only be operating the filtering system for a few days during backfilling.

Mosher asked for verification of the number of yards of earth that would be removed in each area. Mosher expressed concern about putting contaminated soil back into the

excavated areas. Mosher said that putting that much contaminated soil into a smaller area would result in the contamination becoming more concentrated; he then asked if there would be a barrier to prevent leaching from contaminated soil that would be put back. Jones replied that while there would be some background level of contamination the soil excavated would be cleaner than the soil removed. Mosher expressed concern that the contaminants would migrate during rain events. Ashley said that the lead contamination detected had not migrated and that they would be capping the fill area. Jones said the soil has a depth of 13-14 feet; that they would not be concentrating the contamination. Mosher asked for assurance that there would be a monitoring plan at that location. Jones said that was proposed in the submission. Jones said they would conduct four quarters of sampling after they completed the capping.

DeHoyos asked what would happen if during the monitoring they found something. Jones replied that they would have to clean it up. Ashley said that there is not lead impacted groundwater.

Mosher expressed concern about the use of the monitoring wells with socks and skimmers and the High Vac back up. Mosher said the riverbank could be reconstructed using various techniques, as an example sheet piling . Mosher pointed out that if the wells do not work, they would have to excavate and still reconstruct the riverbank and concluded by saying perhaps the decision to use wells was made to reduce the cost of the clean up. Jones said the decision to use the wells was not based on cost; that the decision was based on the long term stability of the embankment.

DeHoyos asked if the people working on the site would be decontaminated before leaving the site. Ashley said there would be a health and safety plan for people working on site. Ashley added that there would be a boot wash.

Mosher asked about reseeded, Jones said they would be using a conservation wetland mix and a conservation upland mix further away from the resource area as discussed at the site visit.

DeHoyos asked for the Commission to receive a copy of the annual DEP summary letter.

Mosher asked how the wells would be installed. Ashley said some wells along the river bank would be flush mounted.

Mosher asked how often the storage tanks would be removed where socks are stored. Jones said they are required to be removed the day they are collected; that they would be stored on site for a period of hours only.

DeHoyos asked about the removal of trees. Letourneau asked how many. Jones responded that all the vegetation, (most of it young) would be removed in the lead remediation site adjacent to the wetlands, but that no trees would be removed along the river bank.

There was no further discussion.

Mosher closed public the public hearing.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, and voted 3-0 to accept the Notice of Intent as revised with the following special conditions:

- 1. All vehicles leaving the site shall be decontaminated.**
- 2. To prevent spills the pipe carrying contaminated water shall have a secondary protection.**
- 3. The storage drums for storing the contaminated socks shall be removed the same day the socks are removed.**
- 4. To ensure protection of the river, the decontamination pad shall have a raised berm installed on the riverside of the pad.**
- 5. An access fence shall be installed to limit off hour access to the site.**
- 6. The Annual DEP summary be shall be copied to the Greenfield Conservation Commission (The Commission).**
- 7. The Quarterly groundwater monitoring shall be copied to The Commission.**
- 8. There shall be a boot washing facility at the decontamination pad for all workers leaving the site.**
- 9. The number of new wells installed along the river shall not exceed 10 wells.**
- 10. Prior to construction the applicant shall submit the resume of the on-site engineer to The Commission.**
- 11. Prior to construction the applicant shall submit the plan for treatment of the contaminated water to The Commission.**
- 12. A conservation wetland mix blended to an upland mix shall be used for revegetation.**

Other Business:

Amy Marketos asked permission to remove three trees that were within the river front. The consensus of the Commission was to allow Marketos to remove the trees she had asked about.

Annual Reorganization:

MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 3-0 to the next meeting when the current four members would be present.

Project Monitoring: Kunkel reported on King Road.

Enforcement Updates: Kunkel reported that Joseph Santos, 23 Woodland Drive, had left a message saying that he would call back when Kunkel was in the office.

Correspondence: None.

Site Visits:

Set Next Meeting Date: Greenfield Police Station, July 28, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ralph Kunkel
Conservation Agent

Timothy Mosher
Vice-chair