



William F. Martin  
Mayor

City known as the Town of  
**GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Town Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301  
Phone 413-772-1551 • Fax 413-772-1309  
Conservation@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

**Members:**

Blasiak, John (2016)  
DeHoyos, Thomas (2016)  
Miller, Gail (2017)  
Mosher, Timothy (2015)

**GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes of Tuesday August 12, 2014**

**7:00 p.m. Greenfield Department of Planning and Development  
114 Main Street**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, John Blasiak at 7:00 p.m. with the following members:

**PRESENT:** John Blasiak, Chair  
Timothy Mosher, Vice-chair  
Gail Miller

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ryan Hale, TRC Environmental Corporation  
Dawn Travalin, National Grid  
Zack Landmar, Michels Corporation  
Mathew Waldrip, BSC Group  
Tony Wonseski, SVE Associates  
Andrea Tavares, LandTech Inc.  
Chris Lorrain, LandTech Inc.  
Adam Connelly, US Pavement  
Whitney Russell  
Maureen Pollock, Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

**ABSENT** Thomas DeHoyos

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 22, 2014.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to accept the minutes from July 22, 2014, as amended.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

**7:10 Amended OOC (DEP #168-0278) - New England Power Company dba National Grid, for property identified as Assessor's Map R06, Lot 29A:** Amendment to an Order of Conditions submitted by New England Power Company dba National Grid, for property identified as Assessor's Map R06, Lot 29A, for the replacement of Structure 161A within Bordering Vegetated Wetlands.

Ryan Hale of TRC Environmental Corporation, representative to Applicant was present. Hale provided more detail on the questions raised by the Commission during the public hearing.



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- 1. Identify the dimensions of the existing and proposed tower Structures.** The existing Structure is a 65-foot tall lattice tower that is 50-foot wide at the top bridge, and sits on four individual concrete foundations, approximately 2 feet by 3 feet square at the surface, for a total of approximately 24 square feet in area. The new steel Structure will be a 60-foot tall, H-style steel Structure with two structural poles. The two poles will sit on two individual concrete foundations, approximately 8 feet in diameter (50 square feet each), for a total of approximately 100 square feet in area. Removal of the existing foundations and installation of the new foundations will result in a net increase of approximately 76 cubic feet of permanent fill within Wetland GR-11.
- 2. What is the scope of work and construction sequence? What will be done if areas are disturbed, and how will it be done?** The original scope of work called for reinforcement of the four existing foundations of Structure 161A, which is located within Wetland GR-11. Upon further inspection, it was determined Structure 161A would need to be completely replaced. Therefore a replacement Structure is proposed approximately 20 feet to the west of the existing Structure 161A, which would also be located within Wetland GR-11. Existing Structure 161A would be removed and its foundations would be removed down to 18 inches below the ground surface, and the new Structure 161A will be installed. Wetland topsoils recovered from excavation associated with construction of replacement Structure 161A would be used to backfill above the old Structure subsurface foundations, and exposed soils would be graded to match adjacent contours, seeded with a wetland seed mix, and stabilized with straw.  

The construction sequence will take place in 3 distinct phases.. Approximately 3,172 square feet of swamp mats will be required within GR-11 along the existing access road from Adams Road through the northern portion of the wetland. These swamp mats will be installed at the beginning of and removed at the end of each phase described below, unless they are frozen in place, and are not included in the swamp mat area calculations below.
- 3. Where will the staging area be located?** The staging area for all equipment will be in an upland area abutting the east side of Adams road, outside of wetlands and buffer zones. No refueling will take place on the swamp mats or in the staging area. Re-fueling will take place at the Greenfield staging yard off of Butternut Street. All of the equipment has large enough fuel tanks that they can each individually complete their tasks on the initial tank of fuel.
- 4. Provide an Alternative Analysis for the phased construction of concrete footings and swamp mats.** There is a proposed phased approach for swamp mat installation as an alternative to installing all mats at one time. Only the necessary number of swamp mats will be installed as required for each phase of the construction sequence, as identified above.



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- 5. Depth of the Bordering Vegetated Wetland that the swamp mats are planned to be lied down over.** Two layers of swamp mats will be installed within the Bordering Vegetated Wetland to accomplish the required tasks.

The Commission expressed they would like compensatory storage provided for the permanent wetland impacts.

Snow will be removed off the swamp mats by a loader with a bucket. The snow will be removed away from the wetlands. Snow will not be plowed into any wetlands. The swamp mats will not be treated with any chemicals, salt, or sand.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to close the public hearing and issue an Amended Order of Conditions for DEP # 168-0278 under the Wetlands Protection Act and Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance, with the following special conditions:

- 1. Snow Removal from swamp mats shall not have any chemicals, salt, or sand go into the wetlands; and**
- 2. No excavation shall be undertaken for the new footings until a compensatory storage plan has been approved by the Conservation Commission.**

**7:25 RDA - Log Plain Road (Assessor's Map R08, Lot 6):** Request for Determination of Applicability submitted by Jennifer & Gary Rosenberg, for the property located at Log Plain Road (Assessor's Map R08, Lot 6), to determine whether the boundaries of resource area(s) depicted on submitted plans is accurately delineated and to determine whether the work pertaining to the construction a four bedroom dwelling and installation of a new septic tank with three leaching trenches is subject to the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance.

Tony Wonseski, representative to the Applicant was present to discuss the proposed plans to build a four bedroom dwelling and installation of a new septic tank with three leaching trenches within the 100 ft buffer zone to a wetland. There will be no grading within the 25 ft No Disturb Zone, and erosion and sedimentation controls will be installed at the limit of work. Wonseski conducted a site visit with Blasiak, Miller, and Pollock on July 29, 2014. During the site visit, Wonseski showed Commissioners the project area and wetlands flagging done by Ward Smith, Professional Wetland Scientist. Blasiak expressed concerns about the hydrology in the area of wetland flag 2A6 and 2A7 and requested DEP wetland delineation data forms to be presented during the hearing. Ward submitted the forms to the Commission.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to close the public meeting.



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**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to make a positive determination, box 2a, the boundary delineations of the Bordering Vegetated Wetlands described on the referenced plan(s) are confirmed as accurate. Therefore, the resource area boundaries confirmed in this Determination are binding as to all decisions rendered pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act and its regulation regarding such boundaries for as long as this Determination is valid.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to make a negative determination, box 3, the work described in the Request is within the Buffer Zone, as defined in the regulation, but will not alter an Area subject to protection under the Act. Therefore, said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent, subject to Boiler Plate Conditions.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to make a negative determination, box 6, the area and work described in the Request is not subject to review and approval by the Greenfield Conservation Commission pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Ordinance, Chapter 195.

**7:40 NOI – 42 Colrain Road (Assessor’s Map R25, Lot 37B):** Notice of Intent submitted by BJ's Wholesale Club Inc., Store 307, for the property located at 42 Colrain Road (Assessor’s Map R25, Lot 37B), to determine whether the work proposed for the re-pavement of the existing parking lot is subject to the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance.

Representatives for the applicant were present, including Andrea Tavares, LandTech Inc.; Chris Lorrain, LandTech Inc.; and Adam Connelly, US Pavement to explain the proposed work. The proposed work includes the redevelopment of the existing parking lot at the BJ’s store. The existing pavement has reached the end of its lifespan and contains large cracks throughout. The bituminous pavement within the main parking area will be pulverized to a minimum depth of 8 inches, material removed, and repaved in two sections, at separate times, ensuring that roughly half of the parking lot is available for customer parking during construction.

The driveway leading to the rear of the building and about half of the paved area in the rear of the building is proposed to be milled and then repaved. The triangular parking area near the driveway will not be altered during the construction process.

The extent of the proposed work will occur completely within existing impervious areas. Therefore, there will be no increase in impervious area.

The finished grades in the proposed condition will match those of the existing conditions. All existing drainage patterns will be maintained in the proposed condition. The existing stormwater runoff from the parking area is collected by a series of catch basins and manholes and piped to a



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large detention basin across Colrain Road. The catch basins are all equipped with deep sumps and hoods. The detention basin contains a sediment forebay and appears to be in good working condition. No drainage problems currently exist on the property.

All erosion control measures including silt fences and straw wattles will be in place to the start of any construction related activities. All existing catch basins within the limit of work will be lined with silt sacks prior to the start of all construction activities.

Care will be taken to maintain access to the existing building throughout the construction process. Parking spaces will remain available to customers, including all handicap spaces. The objective of the construction sequencing is to cause as little disturbance to daily site operations as possible.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to close the public hearing and issue an Order of Conditions for DEP # 168-0300 under the Wetlands Protection Act and Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance, with the following special conditions:

1. All equipment shall not be refueled within the 100 foot wetland buffer zone;
2. Silt socks or straw bale with silt fencing shall constitute a limit-of-work as approved by this Order. Under no circumstances is any work allowed to take place on the down-gradient side (the resource side) of the sedimentation/siltation barrier;
3. Sediment capture devices, such as siltsacks, gravel bags or gravel berms wrapped in filter fabric shall be installed under the grate of each catch basin located at the project site and the two catch basins located at the BJs entrance on the west side of Colrain Road. Throughout the construction period, routinely check the sediment capture devices for efficiency and capacity load. Once capacity load is full, please lift out, empty all sediment, rinse and reuse.
4. All spoil piles shall be covered.

Other Business:

- **Emergency Certificate (Greenfield File #14-10): Meadowview Manor, 10 Princeton Terrace:** On behalf of the Meadowview Manor Condominium Association, Whitney Russell was present to explain the emergency. On July 24, 2014, the Association requested the Emergency Certificate in order to remove a dying Willow tree which was dangerously leaning over the road, lamp post, and street sign. Pollock conducted a site visit of the property on July 24, 2014 and took photographs for record. The tree appeared to be posing a threat to public health, and signed off on the Emergency Certificate. The tree has since been removed by a large tree lifting machine from the road surface of Princeton Terrace, with approximately 8 foot trunk base left in place.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to





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**approve the Emergency Certificate (Greenfield File #14-10) with the following conditions:**

- 1. A minimum of 8 ft trunk base of the removed Willow tree shall remain in place;**
- 2. The removed Willow Tree shall be replaced with one native tree with at least 2-inch caliper trunk; The replaced tree shall be planted by the end of this growing season;**
- 3. All disturbed or exposed areas shall be brought to finished grade and seeded in kind with New England wetland seed mix for permanent stabilization;**
- 4. Upon completion of the tree removal and tree replacement, the applicant shall notify the Conservation Commission so a follow-up inspection can be conducted;**

**Cabot Taps Separation Project: New England Power Company dba National Grid, French King Highway and Silvio O Conte Drive (DEP #168- 0296):** Per request of the Commission, Paul Knapik, representative for this approved project, provided before and after photos by the boring contractor of recent work that was performed in Palmer, MA in a wetland (emergent marsh/wet meadow) using the low ground pressure boring rig. The photos exhibit how the ground disturbance is pretty minimal, and would have less of a disturbance to wetland soil and vegetation than the placement of swamp mats.

The Commission will approve the use of low ground pressure equipment in lieu of swamp mats. If any disturbance does occur, the applicant would need to restore all impacted areas, per conditions 6; 21; 22; 23; and 30 of the approved Order of Conditions.

**MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to offer Alex Haro a position as Associate Member on the Commission.**

- **Highland Park, blocked culvert:** Pollock notified the Commission regarding a blocked culvert located along the walking trail at Highland Park. Blasiak, Pollock, and Paul Raskevitz (DPW) conducted a site visit on August 6, 2014. According to Raskevitz, there is no public record of the culvert. Pollock informed Raskevitz that the culvert is located within a wetland resource area and 100 ft buffer zone; therefore, any proposed work would need to be approved by the Conservation Commission.
- **DPW: Sewer/Drain ROW between Elm and Devens Street:** On August 8, 2014, DPW requested an emergency certificate to drive construction equipment over the existing R.O.W. with a portion being a wetland in order to access a Town drain line behind 48 Devens Street that is in need of emergency repair. Blasiak and Alan Twarog (DPW) conducted a site visit on August 8, 2014.

DPW will minimize damage to the wetland area by utilizing the lightest equipment necessary in



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order to complete the repair and by placing temporary matting (either timber, laminated or rubber) or temporary fabric with stone over this portion of the R.O.W. Once the work has been completed, the DPW will remove the matting or filter and stone, re-grade the affected area, and seed it with a conservation seed mix.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to approve the Emergency Certificate (Greenfield File #14-12) with the following conditions:

1. All disturbed or exposed areas shall be brought to finished grade and seeded in kind with New England wetland seed mix for permanent stabilization;
  2. Material removed from the project area shall not be deposited in any resource area under the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act and Greenfield Wetlands Ordinance unless otherwise approved by the Conservation Commission; and
  3. Upon completion of the project, the applicant shall notify the Conservation Commission so the Agent can conduct a follow-up inspection.
- **Greenfield Community College:** GCC is at the early design phase of developing a botanical garden. Jeffrey Marques, Director of Facilities Management will like the Commission to conduct a site visit in the fall to look at the project area and the nearby wetlands.
  - **Franklin County Conservation Commission Training Program:** The Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) is hosting 3 workshops that provide training and education to Conservation Commissions in Franklin County towns. The FRCOG has teamed up with local experts in the field to offer in-depth hands-on trainings and field sessions to Franklin County Conservation Commissioners.
  - **Handling Unscheduled Site Visits:** The best day and time for Commission members to handle unscheduled site visits is Tuesdays at 4:30PM.
  - **Surplus Property Disposition (Assessor's Map R27, Lot 25A):**

**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to recommend that the disposal of the property identified as Assessor's Map R27, Lot 25A shall not be granted.

Project Monitoring:

Enforcement Updates/Possible Violations:

- **592 Leyden Road:** Blasiak, Miller, and Pollock conducted a drive by site visit of the possible violation occurring at 592 Leyden Road. Based on the MassGIS wetland data-layers, the clearing of vegetation and piles of wood chips may be located within a wetland. Pollock will draft a letter



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to the property owner asking him to attend the next meeting so that he could discuss this matter.

Correspondence:

- **Horses at GTD/Griswold Conservation Area:** According to the property deed, horseback riding is an acceptable use on the trails. Therefore, the Commission cannot prohibit the use.
- **Just Roots, rock removal:** The Commission administratively approves the removal of rocks and tires located at Just Roots property, with the following condition:
  1. All ruts consequent to movement of equipment shall be flattened and seeded in kind with a New England wetland seed mix.
- **Landscaping Needs: Big Y, 237 Mohawk Trail:** Big Y is interested in removing the undergrowth along Wheeler Brook. A project representative submitted photographs showing its close proximity to the brook. The Commission stated undergrowth within the 25 foot No Disturb Zone cannot be removed.

Site Visit Scheduling:

1. **Manorview Manor Condo Association, Princeton Terrace – Meet Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 4:30PM on-site;**
2. **College Park Condo Association, 25 Keegan Lane – Meet Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 4:45PM on-site;**
3. **Greenfield Hotel, 184 Shelburne Road – Meet Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 5:00PM on-site;**
4. **MassDOT, Cheapside St/Rout5&10 Intersection – Meet Monday, August 25, 2014 at 4:00PM on-site;**
5. **WMECo, 230 Mountain Road – Meet Monday, August 25, 2014 at 4:30PM on-site;**
6. **ExxonMobil, 42 Mohawk Trail – Meet Tuesday, August 26, 2014 at 4:30PM on-site**

Next Meeting:

7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 26, 2014, at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Development; 114 Main Street

Adjournment:

**MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Pollock  
Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

John Blasiak  
Chair