



William F. Martin
Mayor

City known as the Town of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1548 ext 3 • Fax 413-772-1309
Conservation@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

Members:
Griffin, John (2019)
LaForme, Erika (2019)
Lindsay, Rachel (2017)
Miller, Gail (2017)
Mosher, Timothy (2018)

GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Tuesday, March 28, 2017

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

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

PRESENT: Timothy Mosher, Chair
John Griffin
Erika LaForme
Rachel Lindsay

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Lattrell, Lattrell Ecological Consulting LLC
Nicolas Reitzel, Town Engineer
Denise Coyne, Greenfield Savings Bank
Maureen Pollock, Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

ABSENT: Gail Miller

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 28, 2017

MOTION: Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to accept the minutes from February 28, 2017.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

- **7:00p.m. NOI – Theresa Levissee, 660 Colrain Road:** Notice of Intent submitted by Theresa Levissee for property located at 660 Colrain Road (Assessor's Map R35, Lot 13), for repair work pertaining to a culvert inlet.

Representative to the applicant, Bill Latrell was present. Latrell, Mosher, Griffin, LaForme, and Lindsay conducted a site visit on March 28, 2017.

Latrell described the project work, which is to repair a collapsed inlet of a 76 foot long culvert located at 660 Colrain Road. The repair is modest and as designed by David Vreeland, PE of Vreeland Design Associates. The repair involves digging out along the collapsed culver to a section that remains in good repair (about 3-5 feet). The culvert will be cut at the point where the concrete is not damaged to form a new entrance. The soil above the new culvert inlet will be



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graded to approximately 45 degrees with 6” to 12” stone riprap placed on the slope to stabilize the slope. The area around the new culvert inlet will be stabilized by compacting 12” to 18” crushed stone under the new inlet to prevent future undermining and minimize possible future erosion. In order to prevent any stream siltation an erosion control barrier will be placed just down gradient of the top of bank delineation. The erosion control will be comprised of a staked 8” straw wattle or double mirafi filter fabric. In addition, a sand bag dam will be located about 20 feet upstream of the culvert inlet. Water in the stream will be pumped behind the temporary sand bag dam to the outlet of the culvert. Therefore, the area of work will be relatively dry when working on the repair. The work would be done between July 1 and September 30th of this year. Eddy Young will be the contractor performing the work and David Vreeland, PE of Vreeland Design Associates will supervise the work. After the work is completed, David Vreeland will submit a report with a PE stamp and request a Certificate of Compliance to the Commission.

Mosher inquired whether any trees would be removed. Lattrell responded, he is not planning to remove any trees. Mosher inquired whether any new vegetation will be planted. Lattrell responded no new vegetation will be planted as the bank’s slope is too steep and there is limited space due to the existing driveway.

MOTION **Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to issue an Approved Order of Condition (DEP #168-0317) under the WPA for repair work pertaining to a culvert inlet submitted by Theresa Levisse for property located at 660 Colrain Road (Assessor’s Map R35, Lot 13), with the standard boiler plate conditions.**

MOTION **Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to issue an Approved Order of Condition (DEP #168-0317) under the Greenfield Wetlands Ordinance for repair work pertaining to a culvert inlet submitted by Theresa Levisse for property located at 660 Colrain Road (Assessor’s Map R35, Lot 13), with the standard boiler plate conditions.**

Other Business:

- **DPW: Glen Brook Reservoir Dredging Project** – Nicolas Reitzel was present to discuss the proposed Glen Brook Reservoir dredging project in Leyden, MA. The reservoir provides 1/3 of Greenfield’s water source, which runs on gravity. The dredging project is exempt under the MA Wetlands Protection Act but the Greenfield Town Council has requested the Commission to provide comments on the project.

Under the current Operations and Maintenance schedule, the reservoir is to be drained every 15 years for the purpose of silt/sedimentation removal. Once drained, the material is removed by using a machine, such as a bulldozer, to accumulate the material onto the banks of the reservoir for further removal (if silt/sedimentation is not removed from within the reservoir the cost and



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the difficulty of the water purification increases). Once drained and cleared, the estimated recharge time for the reservoir is approximately four (4) months. During this period there would be no usable water in the reservoir for drinking or for firefighting purposes and all usable water would come from other city water resources. The last time the reservoir was cleaned out was back in 1998 or 2000.

Reitzell proposed that the Town alter the process of silt/sedimentation removal by using a crane with a “clamshell” to partially dredge (est. 3,000 cubic yards) the reservoir annually. Dredged materials would be allowed to dewater in a constructed basin adjacent to the reservoir. He stated that this process would be less invasive to the waterway and surrounding area; would be more cost effective; and would eliminate or reduce the recharge time.

DPW has communicated with the Army Corps of Engineers about the plans and have provided positive feedback. The Leyden Conservation Commission has already approved the proposed work, even though it is exempt. The project would require 401 Water Quality Certification from MassDEP. An NHESP filing would not be required.

The Commission expressed concerns regarding the effectiveness of the process stating that any gap in the material removed may refill with more material before the next phase of annual maintenance. Mosher suggested that a total drawdown be performed with a sediment removal and then start the annual maintenance.

Reitzell agreed that there is a potential for that to occur. Reitzell stated that the entire plan would be sent to Fuss & O’Neil, a civil and environmental engineering consulting firm in April 2017 for further engineering review, and specifications. After which time, the Commission would like to be given an update.

The Commission commented that while there is potential for the location of the removed material to fill back in, it would be in the best interests of the Town to attempt the proposed removal since it would be less invasive to the watershed and possibly more cost effective as well.

Mosher stated that if the one year maintenance plan works then great, but if it doesn’t then this needs to be revised. Stated there needs to be measurable results that prove that this new plan is more effective.

Griffin stated that this would be a pilot project. Stated the 15 year maintenance plan is not effective and now the DPW need to find a design and maintenance plan that will work.

Lindsay stated that the DPW are investing in something that will lower the environmental impact and will be cost effective. The DPW need to further plan out with Fuss & O’Neil and then test and see.



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MOTION: Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to draft a memo for the Town Council.

- **Trash/Debris along the Green River:** Pollock was contacted by the owner of 529 Green River Road about trash/debris along the Green River. Pollock conducted a site visit on March 6, 2017 and observed trash/debris along the road and along the river in the Town of Colrain. Pollock contacted the Board of Health about handling trash/debris issues in Greenfield and advised the property owner to contact the Town of Colrain. Pollock reached to the Connecticut River Watershed Council to add Green River Road to the Source to Sea Cleanup.
- **GTD/Griswold Conservation Area:** Save the Date Forestry for the Birds walk, June 17th 9:00am-12 noon, meet in the parking lot.

Enforcement Updates/Possible Violations:

- **237 Mohawk Trail**– On February 28, 2017, Commission members noticed a potentially unauthorized point source discharge at the south-eastern edge of the parking lot into Wheeler Brook. Commission members also observed trash and debris along the bank and in the brook. Denise Coyne of Greenfield Savings Bank was present to explain the possible violation. Coyne stated when Greenfield Savings Bank constructed the ‘money tree’ ATM, they noticed drainage issues in the ATM lane area with water pooling, so they decided to cut out the existing curb to allow stormwater to discharge into the Wheeler Brook. Greenfield Saving Bank did not notify the Commission prior of cutting the curb, as they did not realize they needed to.

Griffin suggested removing some pavement and adding more vegetation to allow the stormwater to slow down and filter before entering the brook.

Mosher suggested they could design a recharge swale to slow down and filter the stormwater before entering the brook. Also, suggested a catch basin with a deep sump could be constructed as a way to treat the water before entering the brook. Stated the eroding bank would also need to be addressed.

Coyne stated that the Bank will consult with an Engineer will submit a Notice of Intent with a design to address the drainage issues within the parking lot, the point source discharge, and the eroding bank.

Project Monitoring:

Correspondence:



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Site Visit Scheduling:

- 660 Colrain Road (Assessor's Map R35, Lot 13) Meet on-site at 5:00pm on March 28, 2017

Next Meeting:

7:00 PM on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Development; 114 Main Street.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Griffin, seconded by Lindsay, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen Pollock
Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

Timothy Mosher
Chair