



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 (2020)
Mosher, Timothy (2018)

GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Tuesday, August 22, 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
Erika LaForme
Rachel Lindsay
John Griffin

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Jordan, Jordan Energy
Brian Huntley, Tighe & Bond
Maureen Pollock, Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 8, 2017.

MOTION: Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to accept the minutes from August 8, 2017.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

- **7:00 p.m. Continued NOI – Charlie Fiechter/GTR Greenfield Millbrook Solar LLC, - 195 Mill Brook Road (Assessor’s Map R11, Lot 84):** Notice of Intent submitted by Charlie Fiechter/GTR Greenfield Millbrook Solar LLC, for property located at 195 Mill Brook Road (Assessor’s Map R11, Lot 84), for the installation of a 4,320 panel 1.468 MW ground-mounted solar photovoltaic system at this location.

Bill Jordan and Brian Huntley were present.

Jordan stated the project has reduced the amount of solar panels by 9%, so that the panels would be located outside of the 200-ft Riverfront Area. The new proposal includes 3,780 panels with 1.4 MW.

Huntley stated he looked at the buildable area within the Riverfront Area and DEP didn’t believe the area was degraded, so the applicant has decided to move the panel outside of the 200-ft Riverfront Area. Stated there are a few utility poles located in the 100-ft buffer zone. Explained



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the stormwater treatment and stormwater checklist, as submitted.

Jordan stated he worked closely with Mark Holley from the Greenfield Water Department and with MassDEP. Stated the tree warden Paul Raskevitz has no issue with the 30 trees to be removed. Stated the trees are mostly white pines (*Pinus strobus*) with some red maples (*Acer rubrum*) to the south and east of the site.

Lindsay inquired whether the tree removal will occur within the 25-ft No Disturb Zone.

Mosher responded, no.

Griffin stated MassDEP's Drinking Water Supply granted the project authorization to proceed with conditions. Griffin read correspondence addressed to the Greenfield Water Department from Deirdre Doherty, Section Chief, WERO of the MA Department of Environmental Protection Drinking Water Program, dated August 10, 2017.

Mosher stated he is not happy that the applicant submitted revisions and requested information 3 days prior to the meeting. Mosher read the list of information requested during the April 25th meeting and whether it was submitted to the Commission:

1. Tree inventory – number of trees to be removed – submitted
2. On-site wetland flagging – submitted
3. Clear legend showing wetland flags and boundaries – submitted
4. Section elevation of solar array – submitted
5. Erosion controls depicted on the site plan – submitted
6. Written approval from MassDEP to install wind and solar energy projects on lands held by public water systems for drinking water purposes – submitted
7. Explanation of how the project meets the performance standards for Riverfront Redevelopment – no longer applicable as work is outside of the Riverfront Area
8. Updated memo from DPW regarding their questions/concerns from their April 21, 2017 memo – submitted
9. Written scope of work – submitted

Chair Mosher opened the public hearing for comment.

None

Chair Mosher closed the public hearing at 7:45 pm.

MOTION: Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, and voted 4-0-0 to approve the Order of Conditions (DEP # 168-0319) submitted by Charlie Fiechter/GTR Greenfield Millbrook Solar LLC, for property located at 195 Mill Brook Road (Assessor's Map



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- R11, Lot 84), for the installation of a 3,780 panel 1.4 MW ground-mounted solar photovoltaic system at this location, with the following special conditions:
1. All trees removed within the 100-ft Buffer Zone shall be replaced at 1:1 ratio.
 2. All new plantings shall be monitored for two growing seasons and all failed plantings shall be replaced according to the following schedule:
 1. Reports shall be submitted to the Commission at the end of the first and second growing seasons censusing the surviving plantings.
 2. Plants that died in the previous growing season shall be replaced the following spring.
 3. Reports shall be submitted to the Commission at the beginning of the second and third growing seasons listing the replacement plantings.
 4. These reports shall include both a plant list and photos of the plantings.
 3. All conditions stated in the correspondence addressed to the Greenfield Water Department from Deirdre Doherty, Section Chief, WERO of the MA Department of Environmental Protection Drinking Water Program, dated August 10, 2017 shall be met, including:
 1. Any surface water runoff must be directed from the wells;
 2. The installation of solar panels must not interfere with access to distribution line for the public water system;
 3. The Greenfield Water Department will provide emergency contact information to all contractors;
 4. The Greenfield Water Department will work out a notification system to ensure that it is aware at least 48 hours in advance of any maintenance, inspections, grass cutting, etc., by contractors;
 5. The use of fertilizers and herbicides, or other pesticides, is prohibited in the Zone 1.
 6. All equipment and vehicles must be refueled, maintained and cleaned off-site and not within with Zone 2 limits;
 7. All conditions noted in the Certification Form signed by Mark Holley on behalf of the Greenfield Water Department on April 11, 2017 are in effect.
 4. All responses stated in the comments received by the Town Engineer, Nicolas Reitzel in the correspondence included in the applicant's Notice of Intent submission received August 22, 2017 shall be met, including:
 1. There shall be no portable toilet systems brought onto or stored on-site. Sanitation requirements during construction activities shall be stored outside of the Zone 2 limits.
 2. If ready mix concrete is to be used on-site, there shall be no washing of the vehicles or washing of unused material within Zone 2 limits;
 3. If a waste dumpster is used and stored on-site, it shall have an impervious barrier under the unit, and shall have a perimeter berm constructed so as to not allow the release of any materials, solid or liquid from the containment area. The unit shall be covered to protect it from an precipitation from



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entering or producing a runoff contaminated from the stored waste materials. The dumpster shall be serviced with waste removed at least weekly, and at no time be allowed to overflow from the designated capacity. The dumpster, containment liner and peripheral amenities shall be immediately removed at the end of the construction phase. The containment liner and berm may be constructed as a temporary device consisting of man-made products, such as HDPE or plastic sheeting and containment berms.

4. Vehicles required for the installation of the solar array shall be limited to those specifically required for the purpose. No long term storage or excessive number of vehicles will be allowed. It shall also include limiting employee vehicles to the minimum required to access the site. Consideration should be made to car pooling staff from an outside location to the site.
5. Vehicles using hydraulic fluid to power installation equipment shall use environmentally approved water based fluid only. Vehicles using such devices shall be fully equipped with spill control mitigation systems at all times when operating within the Zone 2 limits.
6. There shall be no fueling, servicing, "oiling," greasing or maintaining of equipment within the Zone 2 limits. There shall be no storage of fuels, hydrocarbon products or hazardous material brought onto the site within the Zone 2 limits.
7. Any waste spoils, overburden materials or products generated from the construction activities shall be immediately removed from the site and disposed of in a proper fashion. There shall be no on-site storage of such materials. Any generated material shall be immediately placed within a closed truck; such as a gated "dump" truck with sides and removed as a covered load. Placement of such materials on the existing ground temporarily and then re-loaded will be prohibited.
8. Equipment utilized for maintenance, shall not be stored on-site. Equipment such as mowers or weed wackers shall not be fueled or maintained on-site. No herbicides or chemicals shall be used to manage on-site within Zone 2 limits.

Other Business:

- **DPW Highland Park parking lot-** Greenfield DPW staff have delivered piles of gravel from the Silver Street roadway project project. DPW are setting up to regrade/repave the parking lot/public right-of-way. Pollock is working with DPW to put up erosion controls which should have been put up before the piles. The work itself is considered exempt under the MA WPA; however, they should have put erosion controls up prior to commencement and put the piles away from the intermittent stream.

This is the exemption language under the WPA: 10.02(2)(b)2.p. "Pavement repair, resurfacing, and reclamation of existing roadways within the right-of-way configuration provided that the



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roadway and shoulders are not widened, no staging or stockpiling of materials, all disturbed road shoulders are stabilized within 72 hours of completion of the resurfacing or reclamation, and no work on the drainage system is performed, other than adjustments and/or repairs to respective structures within the roadway;"

Enforcement Updates/Possible Violations:

- **637 Colrain Road** – The Commission instructed Menard to hire a wetland scientist to delineate the property, figure out where he can and cannot add fill to this property, and to submit the report and application to the Commission. The Commission stated that the cease and desist order has not be lifted until Commission approval. Pollock received a phone from Bill Lateral saying he was contacted by the Menard but is unable to perform the work. Stated he recommended
- **Plain Road (right-of-way)** –MassDEP has recently notified the Conservation Commission that a possible violation may have occurred by the DPW regarding recent activity related to a Plain Rd right-of-way maintenance project adjacent to Allen Brook and Punch Brook. The Conservation Commission requests that a DPW staff member attend the August 8th meeting in order to discuss these matters. Donald Ouellette was present to discuss the activities. Ouellette stated DPW staff removed built up sediment and vegetation from the vegetation shoulder. Stated the shoulder was bare. Stated the DPW should have filed the project with the Commission prior to commencement. Stated DPW staff seeded and laid straw over the disturbed area. Stated DPW will file a Notice of Intent for further maintenance needs adjacent to wetlands and streams.

Project Monitoring:

Correspondence:

Site Visit Scheduling:

Next Meeting:

7:00 PM on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Development; 114 Main Street.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen Pollock
Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

Timothy Mosher
Chair