

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town of GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
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GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of October 23, 2012
7:00 p.m. Greenfield Department of Planning and Department
114 Main Street

NOTE: Public Notice Posted on door – Meeting relocated to Police Station at 321 High Street – Due to access issues

The meeting was called to order by chair, Alex Haro at 7:15 p.m. with the following members:

PRESENT: Alex Haro, Chair
Timothy Mosher, Vice-Chair
Dee Letourneau
John Blasiak
ABSENT: Thomas DeHoyos
ALSO PRESENT: Members of the public.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 9, 2012.

Amendments needed, Letourneau not present at meeting. Need names of those who motioned and seconded.

MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 3-1-0 (Letourneau abstained) to approve the minutes from October 9, 2012 as amended.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

7:20 p.m. Charles H. Dauchy (Chuck), Environmental Consultant representing the applicant, Timothy Richardson – NOI for property located at Smead Hill Road (Tax Map R33, Parcel 13B). Work pertains to the construction of two septic leach systems within 200 feet of a perennial stream.

Haro offered explanation of how the meeting would flow and provided a brief summary of site visit on Monday morning (Chuck, Alex, Dee, John present).

Dauchy submitted proof of abutter notification.

Dauchy provided description of proposed project – 2 leach systems to be constructed in Greenfield on a property parcel consisting of approximately 11+ acres that extends to Green River Road and is within 200’ of a perennial stream but all work will occur in the outer 100’. The leach systems are designed to serve a duplex to be constructed in Shelburne (North of 161 Smead Hill Road and the B&B). Board of Health (BOH) reviewed application for septic design in 2004.

Dauchy states proposed work meets standards of the Riverfront Protection Act which allows for up to 10% alteration within Riverfront Area if no practicable alternatives. Temporary alterations will alter 4+%. Permanent alteration will be less than 2% and will include annual mowing once a year, after the growing season to deter woody growth and allow for wildlife and ground nesters during the growing season.

Blasiak asked about sediment and erosion controls. Dauchy stated proposed project meets the Standards of the Riverfront Act with appropriate use of erosion and sediment controls.

Made note of additional measures added in the revised version submitted and dated October 23, 2012 which include mulching and dormant seeding after November 1st to increase application rate by 50% and allow for early spring growth. Modifications were also made to the silt fence breaks to prevent cumulative erosion. Specified areas over effluent trenches will be compacted and crowned to prevent trenching erosion.

Haro asked about size of effluent trench lines. Dauchy replied shallow due to site conditions with a minimum of 1' of cover typically no wider than a 2" bucket and that the work would be done within a day.

Dr. Taylor (Chair of Board of Health and Abutter) - point of clarification confirming 2004 application for septic with tentative approval contingent on approval from the Conservation Commission.

Haro asked about how the silt fence would be installed. Dauchy described standard methods including silt fence to remain until vegetation is stable. Discussion and clarification on two growing seasons occurred.

Blasiak asked who would monitor the erosion after construction complete. Richardson agreed that Commission members with prior contact would be permitted to review erosion as needed following rain events. Dauchy further explained quick cover species such as red top would be used to allow for quicker permanent cover and stabilization.

Dauchy discussed the history of the property violation and DEP approval of restoration in Riverfront area complete.

Dauchy restated that the project involved a limited area of disturbance and that the proposed project meets the E&S controls for the substantial grade of slope.

Mosher asked about ledge restrictions outside the 200' and how many test pits were done to ensure alternative analysis was considered. Dauchy showed at least 6-8 holes logged and confirmed the site conditions and limitations. Dauchy stated that BOH agreed no alternative locations.

Mosher asked about equipment and how they would access the property to deliver materials. Access road is available.

Alex asked if members were satisfied and opened the public comment period.

Dr. Taylor asked for clarification on several points regarding the Riverfront area inner and outer 100'. Definition of upland versus wetland and riverfront were discussed.

Dr. Taylor asked about the flow rate of the perk tests. Dauchy replied 5 minutes/inch and provided explanation. Topic reined in as outside jurisdiction of Commission.

Dr. Taylor expressed concern of whether the soils of the inner 100' of riverfront were adequate to protect the public water. Haro replied that the Commission follows the measures provided by the Riverfront Protection Act and considers them to suitable for the protection of public waters.

Keith Rowley (Abutter) asked about the effluents flow and entry into the leach systems and about baffles. Dauchy replied those are questions for the septic designer not present. Haro again pointed out that the design is outside the jurisdiction of the Commission and this meeting.

Dauchy replied that the proposed design does meet the standards of the Act and Title V Regulations.

Chris Belskis (Abutter on behalf of beaver pond downstream) asked about the Riverfront Act and how long it had been in place. Replied with since 1997.

Haro closed the public comment period. Blasiak stated that although the project is proposed on a difficult site, that the applicant has done a good job adhering to the standards. Haro agrees especially with the additional erosion and sediment controls added.

DEP File # WE 168-0288 has been issued with no comments. Confirmed not within critical habitat or endangered species areas.

MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 4-0 to approve the NOI with the following conditions:

- 1. Boiler plate Order of Conditions;**
- 2. Hay bales shall be used in addition to the silt fence; and**
- 3. The Commission shall have the authority to inspect the site following rain events as needed.**

Paperwork to be completed ASAP, but it is noted that the Commission does not have an agent at present.

Other Business:

Town of Greenfield Wetland Protection Ordinance (Chapter 195) – Continued discussion and review.

Mosher suggested a special meeting be considered to complete the project.

MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Letourneau, and voted to 4-0 to table until the Commission obtains the files and then sets a special meeting date.

Monitoring:

Blasik asked if the stakes had been put in at the GCC rotary project. Letourneau or Mosher will check whether this has been done.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, November 13, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Department 114 Main Street. FYI – Haro stated he will be unavailable from 11/2 – 11/12.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Blasiak, and voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dee Letourneau
Conservation Commission

Alex Haro
Chair