

# CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town of GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS  
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**GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of November 13, 2012**  
**7:00 p.m. Greenfield Department of Planning and Department**  
**114 Main Street**

The meeting was called to order by chair, Alex Haro at 7:00 p.m. with the following members:

- PRESENT:** Alex Haro, Chair  
Thomas DeHoyos  
Dee Letourneau  
John Blasiak
- ABSENT:** Timothy Mosher, Vice-Chair
- ALSO PRESENT:**

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 23, 2012.

Amendments needed: Change end time to approximately 8:00 PM

**MOTION:** Moved by Blasiak, seconded by Letourneau, no further discussion and voted 3-0-1 (Tom DeHoyos abstained) to approve the minutes from October 23, 2012 as amended.

**Public Meetings/Hearings:**

**7:03 PM: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.** - Public Meeting to review a Request for Determination of Applicability for the *MassBroadband123* Project for the underground installation of new fiber optic cable in new conduit along a 322-foot section of Shelburne Road West. Installing this new fiber optic cable will require directional drilling within previously disturbed and paved Riverfront Area.

Haro: No public posting in paper, hiccup in public process. We can discuss, but not vote on them.

Haro: No site visits

**MOTION:** Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Letourneau, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to continue the public meetings until the end of the meeting or until applicants arrive.

**7:06 PM: Stoneleigh Burnham School (Attn: Leslie Brown)** - Public Meeting to review a Request for Determination of Applicability for verifying the wetland delineations.

Anthony Wonseski, of SVE Associates, attended tonight meetings to discuss the RDA on File. The RDA is specifically for verifying the wetland delineations that were completed by Ward Smith. Want to come to an agreement on the delineations before the snow. Hope to begin work with an NOI over the winter because it is less destructive to resource area. There is an existing perennial stream on the property that leads to a culvert that runs under Route 2 ramp; and there is an existing (man-made) pond on the site. Stoneleigh is an equestrian school and

some flags missing by crossing due to horseback riding.

A future NOI filing will focus on maintenance work within the pond and brook on the property of the Stoneleigh Burnham School; including dredging the channel to protect the BVW, removing the sediment loads in the pond by dredging, replacing the catch basins and addressing the nutrient problem. The NOI will also incorporate plans to construct a new outdoor arena. They will be using mats and excavators for sediment removal. Also, look to upgrade the drainage facilities by replacing catch basins and adding a vegetated basin/swale. None of this is included in this RDA filing and there will be no voting on this matter.

A site visit is scheduled for Tuesday November 20, 2012 at 8am.

No legal notice was posted for this meeting; therefore, meeting must be continued until proper legal notice is posted. Angela Panaccione will send notice to the paper. Applicant is agreeable with a continuance.

**MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to continue the meeting until Tuesday November 27, 2012**

**7:20 PM: Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. (Continued)** - Public Meeting to review a Request for Determination of Applicability for the *MassBroadband123* Project for the underground installation of new fiber optic cable in new conduit along a 322-foot section of Shelburne Road West. Installing this new fiber optic cable will require directional drilling within previously disturbed and paved road right of way in the Riverfront Area.

Cornell Robinson, of Mass Broadband Institute, attended tonight's meeting with representatives Mike Turgen, of Jacobs Engineering, and Mike Nolan, of G4S Technologies, to present the RDA for the underground installation of a new fiber optic cable along Shelburne Road West. Cornell Robinson presented the need for the project. The new service will span the state, and will be above ground in the rest of Greenfield; affixed to either existing utility poles or existing conduits within the road right of way. In this case, the poles need to connect under the Route 2 overpass. Work will occur on the north side of the street. A perennial stream is located on the south side of the street.

Mike Turgen: The need to connect the wire between the two utility poles under Route 2 can only be accomplished underground. They cannot connect over the Route 2 overpass. There is an intermittent stream and BVW in the back of the property that is not present on the maps or on the GIS overlays. It comes to a culvert that drains across the street to the perennial stream. This is about 6 to 10 feet from the drilling site. In addition, a catch basin is located approximately in the middle of the two poles, which go under the street and lead to an intermittent channel across the street. This intermittent stream may be from road run-off. The direction drilling will occur from the eastern pole (NT 43) west, under the bridge, and coming up away from the culvert but right at the other pole (NT 44). Straw wattles will be installed as erosion controls at the culvert site and around the catch basin. The applicants are looking for a Negative 2 Determination with conditions for erosion control measures.

Haro asked for a description of the drilling process.

Mike Nolan: They will use a boring machine and push through the ground to the other side. There will be no vegetation removal or trees cut during the course of the project. The area is previously cleared. Excavation (by an excavator) will occur around the poles for approximately 6 feet to even the grade and run the wire from the conduit to the pole through a trench. The drilling will be at a depth of at least 36 inches, but will go deeper. It is possible they will run into ledge or other obstruction and have to drill farther down. The worst-case scenario is that they will have to saw cut the road and install the cable that way. All work should be done within a day and no areas will be left open. The process will not introduce any new materials (lubricants/liquids) into the system; they use water. All soils removed will be replaced (backfill).

There will be no work on the bank or in land under water; all work will be in the buffer zone. There will be a

temporary disturbance in the buffer zone. The distance from the drilling site to the top of bank is 29-foot, and the distance from the drilling site to the intermittent stream is approximately 6-10 feet. This will be in the 25-foot no disturb zone.

A site visit was conducted Tuesday November 13, 2012 at 4pm by Agent Panaccione and Mike Turgen, of Jacobs Engineering, and Mike Nolan, of G4S Technologies. At the site visit distance from the drilling site to nearby streams and wetlands were measured. The distance from the stream to the drilling site at pole 44 is 29-feet. The distance from the intermittent stream (not present on maps or overlays) and BVW to the drilling site at pole 44 is measured to be 13-feet (not 6'-10' as previously discussed). The biggest concern is the minimum disturbance in the no disturb zone. A waiver will be needed for work in the 25-foot no disturb boundary.

No legal notice was posted for this meeting; therefore, meeting must be continued until proper legal notice is posted. Angela Panaccione will send notice to the paper. Applicant is agreeable with a continuance.

**MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Blasiak, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to continue the meeting until Tuesday November 27, 2012**

**7:45 PM: Western Massachusetts Electric Company** - Public Meeting to review a Request for Determination of Applicability for the installation of a new mid-span electric utility pole to provide service to Berkshire Gas remediation located on the gravel shoulder within the north side roadway Right-of-Way (ROW) of Meade Street.

Mellissa Cody, of Tighe & Bond, attended as representative for WMECo. The project proposed to install a new utility pole 147/8M (18-inch diameter wood pole), with no guy wire or angled support, between the two poles currently present on the road right of way of Meade Street (147/8 and 147/9). The new pole will be installed using a truck-mounted auger (utility line truck) and will result in approximately one to two feet of total disturbance. Erosion and sediment controls, in the form of straw wattles and/or staked mulch logs, will be provided around the base of the proposed new pole.

The new pole is to provide new electric utility services to Berkshire Gas's remediation project and it will be Berkshire Gas's responsibility to connect the services. The work is being conducted as far from the riverfront area as possible, and the road slopes away from the river toward the location of the new pole. There will be no vegetation cut and disturbances will be minimal. Work will be completed within a day. The project will be completed by Christmas. If soils need to be removed or disposed of as remediation waste from the site, it is the responsibility of Berkshire Gas. Common practice is to push the cuttings back in the hole and mound the rest up at the base of the pole. Field screening will occur on site by Berkshire Gas to check the soils for contaminants. Work is proposed to be done before Christmas.

Blasiak requested the removal of the any excess dirt as a condition for work. Pole will displace a lot of earth, that if mounded around the pole, will eventually wash down to the Green River.

A site visit was conducted Tuesday November 13, 2012 at 10am by Agent Panaccione and Mellissa Cody, of Tighe & Bond. The delineations are already on file and though it is NHESP priority habitat, a Wood Turtle management plan is already on file.

No legal notice was posted for this meeting; therefore, meeting must be continued until proper legal notice is posted. Angela Panaccione will send notice to the paper. Applicant is agreeable with a continuance.

**MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Letourneau, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to continue the meeting until Tuesday November 27, 2012**

Other Business:

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

Haro recommended a special meeting be considered to complete the project. Special meeting scheduled for Tuesday December 4, 2012 at 6 p.m. at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Department 114 Main Street. Panaccione will look through the computer to find the consolidated draft chapter 195 ordinance and email it to the board.

Stop & Shop Fuel Station Request COC: Not been two growing seasons. Send a letter telling them to wait/re-file after the second growing season. Notify them that they have to wait.

Monitoring:

Athens Pizza: Check new building and the site plans. Added addition to the building and put in a retaining wall. Check OOC to see if notification was required before addition construction began. Starting more construction. Piles of dirt and lots of work occurring. Need to check out site and pull file.

Enforcement Updates:

Ratify First Light Enforcement Order. Location of violation is off Stone Farm Lane and Turners Falls Road. Property is owned by First Light. This EO resulted from a violation, issued by the building inspector Mark Snow, for unlawful structures on the site (Homeless encampment/housing structures.) Con Com became involved due to the structures occurring in the riverfront zone (Connecticut River). Most structures are framed with saplings collected from the surrounding woods and walls consist of materials gathered from river, plastic tarps, etc. Panaccione to go on a site visit Wednesday November 14, 2012 at 10:30am with Mark Snow, building inspector, and Beth Blazer, of First Light, to view area after structures have been removed and the area cleaned up.

**MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, no further discussion and voted to 3-0-1 (Blasiak abstained) to ratify the Enforcement Order issued against First Light Utility Co. on September 14, 2012**

Site Visits:

Tuesday November 20, 2012 at 8a.m. at the Stoneleigh Burnham School to verify the wetlands delineations

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, November 27, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Department 114 Main Street.

Adjournment:

**MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Blasiak, and voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Panaccione  
Conservation Commission Agent

Alex Haro  
Chair