



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

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Town Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301  
Phone 413-772-1549 • Fax 413-772-1309  
Conservation@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

**William F. Martin**  
Mayor

*Members:*  
Blasiak, John (2015)  
Haro, Alex (2015)  
Letourneau, Dee (2014)  
Mosher, Timothy (2015)

**GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes of Tuesday July 23, 2013**

**7:00 p.m. Greenfield Department of Planning and Development  
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  
Timothy Mosher, Vice-Chair  
Dee Letourneau  
John Blasiak  
Maureen Pollock, Agent

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 9, 2013.

Haro pointed out that public hearings for the Stoneleigh-Burnham School NOI and for the ExxonMobil, 142 Mohawk Trail NOI were continued to the July 23, 2013 meeting without explanation. The rationale for both continuances needs to be explained in the minutes, both being that the respective applicant was not ready to move forward. Haro corrected one spelling error on Page 2 and corrected the language pertaining to the motion to approve the Notice of Intent and issuance of Order of Conditions for the Wiley & Russell Dam Removal, to include “voted to approve the Notice of Intent and issuance of Order of Conditions for the Wiley & Russell Dam Removal with conditions.”

**MOTION:** Moved by Blasiak, seconded by Letourneau, no further discussion and voted 3-1-0 (Mosher abstained) to accept the minutes from July 9, 2013, as amended.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

**7:03 PM Cont. NOI (DEP # 168-0289) - Stoneleigh-Burnham School:** Notice of Intent submitted by SVE Associates c/o Leslie Brown representing the Stoneleigh-Burnham School, for property located at 574 Bernardston Road (Map R15, Parcel 2), for work pertaining to a stream maintenance dredging operation, equestrian improvements, pond maintenance, new fore bay construction and a new outside arena.

Ward Smith requested a continuance to the next regularly scheduled meeting because he is still waiting to receive the Water Quality Certificate in order to move forward with the above-mentioned project.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mosher, seconded by Blasiak, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to continue the hearing until Tuesday, August 13, 2013 at 7:00PM



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Other Business:

Colrain Road/Colrain Street Roundabout (DEP # 168-0292): The Commission received a request by Sara Campbell, Town of Greenfield Engineering Superintendent to revise the grading plan to remove the need for temporary work on the property of the cemetery at the northeast corner of the intersection. This was accomplished by adjusting the slope of the stormwater basin slightly. The volume of storage after this change is slightly greater than as shown on the approved plans. Campbell showed the Commission “before” approved plan and “after” advised plans for comparison. Campbell explained to the Commission that a change with a minor impact would be reflected in the as-built plans submitted for the Certificate of Compliance; however, MassDOT has requested a letter from the Commission stating that this change is acceptable.

Commission concludes this revision will have no impact on the resource area, and therefore, the Commission affirms the issued Order of Conditions does not need to be amended.

**MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Letourneau, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to accept the revision as discussed.**

The commissioners discussed requests from the Appoints & Ordinance Committee and Town Council to each receive a mark-up/track changes copy of the newly revised Draft Town of Greenfield Wetland Protection Ordinance (Chapter 195), if available. Mosher sent the Town Council the original ordinance and the draft version, but he does not have a document that has mark-up/track changes. Letourneau will search her files for a mark-up/track changes copy, and will send the Appoints & Ordinance Committee and Town Council a copy. Further inquiries of obtaining a copy should contact Haro.

**7:15 PM Cont. NOI (DEP # 168-0294) – ExxonMobil, 142 Mohawk Trail:** Notice of Intent submitted by Synergy Environmental, Inc. c/o David Hrinak representing Lehigh Gas Corporation, for the ExxonMobil Station property located at 142 Mohawk Trail (Assessors Map 35 Lot 15), for work pertaining to the installation of a retaining wall constructed of gabion baskets, opposed to the previously proposed sheet pile wall.

On behalf of the applicant, Christopher Horan of Synergy Environmental and Urs Furrer of Harriton & Furrer, LLP Attorneys and Counselors at Law were present.

MassDEP has some questions since the June public hearing.

Furrer discussed his concerns regarding MassDEP’s new questions and requests emailed to the applicant in June 2013 that were not requested when the original Notice of Intent was submitted and approved. Furrer would like clarification whether these new requests are necessary, as they will take additional time and add expenses to the project. The additional requests will make it difficult for the applicants to meet the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) deadline of September 1, 2013. After September 1, applicants will need approval from USACE to continue work in the water.



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Blasiak explained that the Commission had their own questions when the new plan was presented at the June 23, 2013 public hearing, which were satisfactory answered. The Commission, however, did not approve the new plan until MassDEP commented. As discussed, MassDEP commented with new concerns. It is up to the Commission to determine whether the proposed design will satisfy MassDEP's concerns.

The Commissioners asked Horan to present MassDEP's concerns and explain how the proposed plan will address their concerns. If MassDEP brings up concerns that were also considered by the Commission, then the Commission can decide what actions are acceptable. If MassDEP brings up concerns that were not considered by the Commission, then the action needs to be accepted by MassDEP.

MassDEP's only concern is whether the change of activities in the new plan will need a permit from USACE. The Commission also brought up this concern during the June 25, 2013 public hearing. Horan explained the only change to the new plan is the use of different materials, which is now gabion instead of sheet pile wall. There are some additional excavations needed to set the gabions. The location, size, and backfilling will stay the same. The additional sediment load that would be of concern to USACE will be minor. Horan has been in correspondence with the USACE regarding Category 1 permitting concerns. Horan will email Pollock this correspondence for filing.

Mosher – one of the USACE's concerns is whether silt will be getting into stream during construction. Diverting the water with sandbags downstream and upstream of the construction area, would allow construction activities to work in the dry.

Horan explained to the Commissioners how the project will be in compliance with the 401 WQC , performance standards identified in the Wetlands Protection Act 310 CMR 10.54, and Riverfront Redevelopment standards under 310 CMR 10.58(5)(a)-(e)or(f),(g).

Horan gave a detailed narrative explaining the measures being done during the diversion of the water. There will be sandbags placed upstream and downstream of the construction area, water diversion will remain in effect until the gabion walls are completely installed, there will be siltation protection measures for catch basin, upgrades to the outfall, silt fencing, and two turbidity curtains.

The commissioners responded that the proposed gabions and fence replacement would satisfy the protection of the resource; the fence and gabions will stabilize the bank on the ExxonMobil side and in turn will preserve the stream. The fencing will block debris from getting into the stream.

**MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Blasiak, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to approve the NOI as submitted and issue an Order of Conditions**

Other Business:

GTD Maintenance: New Kiosk, new map, new brochure, commemorative bench for Bill Griswold

Haro has not worked on the GTD maintenance yet because he has been on vacation. He will conduct a site visit Letourneau requests a copy of the current and old brochure and map. Once she receives the copies, she



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will start creating a new version.

Jehovah Witness Kingdom Hall, 290 Shelburne Road: Dale Putnam, Jeff McDol, and Frank Wheeler attended the informational meeting. Dale Putnam requested to use the former Wedgewood Gardens (now Millers Field) as overflow parking that would accommodate about 150 spots during four weeks each September. There would be workers to watch the cars, and to collect trash. Mosher cautioned that the area of interest is subject to flooding with water ruts occurring. Mosher suggested Putnam look at alternative parking locations, such as Greenfield Community College, Lot C, which is closest to the gate, and is usually empty even during the school year.

Putnam requested a site visit with the Commission to discuss performing vista pruning along Wheeler Brook, and to remove an old foundation found on the property. The Commission will conduct a site visit with Putnam on July 30, 2013 at 5:00 PM.

Putnam asked the Commission whether it is okay to use calcium chloride for dust control. Mosher cautioned the calcium chloride will runoff into Wheeler Brook, so it would better if the soil is watered each morning. Haro will ask DPW whether Putnam can pump water from the brook for spraying.

562 Leyden Road: Request for Emergency Certificate

Pollock and Eric Twarog conducted a site visit at 562 Leyden Road with the property owner, Joe Sabella on July 23, 2013 to assess the damaged culvert along a private common drive. Pollock showed photographs and described the major flooding issues caused by the damaged culvert. The Commission granted Joe Sabella the Emergency Certificate under the condition that he will contact the Commission when the excavation and replacement of the culvert is completed, and will be subject to the WPA.

**Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Mosher, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to issue the Emergency Certificate**

Maynard Pond dumping: Letter in the Recorder: An open letter in the July 16, 2013 Greenfield Recorder described potential wrongful activity being done at Maynard Pond. Blasiak would like to reach out to the writer so the Commission can address potential issues.

Next Meeting:

**7 PM on Tuesday, August 13, 2013:** Greenfield Department of Planning and Development; 114 Main Street.

Adjournment:

**MOTION: Moved by Blasiak, seconded by Letourneau, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 PM.**



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Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Pollock  
Conservation Agent  
Via digital recording

Alex Haro  
Chair