

**TOWN OF POMFRET
INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 2, 2020**

1. **OPEN REGULAR MEETING** – The Chairman opened the meeting at 7pm
2. **ROLL CALL** – Present: P. Safin, D. St. Martin, J. Rowley, N. McMerriman, W. Gould, J. Bergendahl, A. Howe, L. Shaw, R. Brais, and J. Rabbitt. Absent: J. Stoddard, and J. Folsom.
3. **SEAT ALTERNATE(S) AS NEEDED:** L. Shaw was seated for J. Stoddard
4. **ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA:** none
5. **PENDING APPLICATIONS:**
 - A. **John Gatheru, 27 Longmeadow Drive**, application for a previously approved single-family dwelling, with no changes to the previously approved plans. Jamie submitted a draft letter of approval of the site plan for the construction of a single-family home and driveway with 8 conditions of approval. D. St. Martin made a motion to approve the application with the following conditions: 1) that the applicant and/or owner of property maintain a minimum 25' riparian buffer along wetlands corridor (with exception of driveway and 10' snow shelf). Riparian buffer may be brush hogged once per year in order to maintain invasive species; 2) the applicant shall install a minimum of 4 (pressure treated posts 4"x4"x8' – exposed) set 25' back from edge of wetlands as a permanent monuments associated with the wetlands delineation; 3) a pre-construction meeting shall be held with site contractor and Town Staff (i.e., Town Planner); 3A) applicant must submit a NDDH letter; 4) That no grading and/or construction activity occurs within 25' of the wetlands area as shown on the plans (except as provided under condition three); 5) that the wetlands area is identified (field staked) prior to construction/excavation activities at the site; 6) that a \$1,000 cash surety is posted for E&S with additional \$500 posted for cost of construction meetings and inspection fees; and, 7) a final "as-built" shall be submitted, reviewed, and approved by the Town Planner prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy. L. Shaw seconded the motion and it was approved.
 - B. **Pound and Boundary Restoration Services for John & Audrey Catanzano, 274 Deerfield Road**, application for approval to construct rip rap retaining wall along south border of property abutting Wappaquoia Brook. J. Rabbit went through the file and saw that there were issues with vegetation having been removed. He also stated that any stream restoration has to be done by a PE and this plan was submitted by a contractor. He then passed photos around for the commission members to see the property. W. Gould asked if vegetation had been removed. Jamie stated that yes, there had been a lot of vegetation and mature trees removed from this property and no permits were ever filed. W. Gould said this sounds like a problem to him. Jamie said that as this is a new application, we should table this for now. R. Brais asked if it would be 90 days but Jamie said he believed it would be 65 days. There was further discussion regarding the missing vegetation and that the commission do not remember ever seeing an application for this property come in before them. J. Catanzano said they put black mesh and stone on the bank because a beaver ripped most of the vegetation away. D. St. Martin thought they should wait on a design plan until Staff visits the site. W. Gould wanted Staff to visit before 9/7/20. Jamie said he would try. W. Gould made a motion to have Staff visit the site prior to 9/7/20 to see the site before a tree was being removed. D. St. Martin seconded the motion and asked if it's just the tree or is the root being removed also. J. Catanzano said the tree will be cut. The tree is enormous.

One-third of it fell into creek and is resting on two willows. They are just having the tree topped off. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

6. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS – none

7. NEW APPLICATION(S): none

8. NO-FEE APPLICATIONS: - none

9. NOTICES OF VIOLATION/CEASE AND DESIST ORDERS:

A. Outstanding NOV (Notice of Violation)

1. Deborah/Paul Simpson, 64 Hampton Road, follow-up on 3/2020 of the restoration plan from 1/26/15 NOV. They are continuing to work on the site and taking positive steps towards remediation. There is no final date yet, but they are continuing to work on it (9/2/2020). P. Safin said he is seeking to get this finished this year.

10. JURISDICTIONAL RULINGS: none

11. AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES: none. Someone mentioned that there is a lot of material across from Carter's farm. M. Nicholson said the land was purchased and they are putting up a barn. P. Safin asked Ryan if he would go and check this out.

12. PRIOR APPLICATIONS WITH CONDITIONS:

- A. Robert Higgins, Searles Road, single family home. There has been E&S failures. Jamie said the E&S has been restored but he is still tracking this.

13. SUBDIVISIONS APPROVED BY PLANNING & ZONING: none. Mention was made that there may be a potential new subdivision and new road coming.

14. COMPLAINTS/CONCERNS RECEIVED BY COMMISSION: none

15. NEW COMPLAINTS: none

16. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: none

17. EXTENSIONS REQUESTED: none

18. COMMISSION BUSINESS:

- A.** Updates and report for WEO and Commission members. Jamie informed the commission members that the LIUNA project is ongoing, and the E&S is done. P. Safin mentioned the new role of water coordinator, of which Nancy and Alex now belong. Ryan said he is one for Plainfield and both he and Alex said they are unsure of what is needed for this role.
- B.** Approval of the July 1, 2020 meeting minutes. D. St. Martin made a motion to approve the minutes with amendments. N. McMerriman seconded and the motion carried.
- C.** A letter was sent to Chris Grilley in August via certified return receipt regarding the incorrect application and money still owed to the Town.
- 1. List of Bonds being held with Town of Pomfret (Escrow Agenda and Putnam Bank:**
- a. Pomfret School –Both commissions have given permission to release the funds and transfer whatever is necessary to pay off the wetlands portion that is still due.
 - b. Bill Hull – both commissions have given permission to release the funds

D. Correspondence: CT Wildlife May/June 2020 issue has arrived and was distributed along with the March/April 2020 issue.

Returned to item 18A. M. Nicholson said the BOS received a call regarding the permitting process. They would like to set up a new permitting process and maybe Jamie and/or Ryan might be able to replicate what another Town is doing. She stated that a citizen approached a Selectman and complained about the permitting process. They would like to make it more user friendly. It was mentioned that once the application comes in, the clerk processes it and gives the permit fee to the treasurer to deposit. The application is then looked at by Ryan, and even if it is fine and can be signed off on, we still have to hold the permit until we receive a letter from the Northeast District Department of Health. It also is different here because the staff are part time. NDDH has been backlogged due to the COVID situation so the letters were at least 4 weeks behind schedule. M. Nicholson thought maybe we could reorganize as Land Use instead of IWWC and P&Z. P. Safin thought that maybe we could get some helpful hints or SOP by looking at our website and hold an ad hoc meeting. Jamie mentioned that any commission meeting to conduct commission business, whether it be 2 people or 8 in attendance, has to be posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

19. ADJOURNMENT: D. St. Martin made a motion to adjourn. N. McMerriman seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn L. Krajewski, Clerk

Date: _____