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By Town Clerk's Office at 10:35 am, Oct 13, 2023

TOWN OF BURLINGTON

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

DEPT. /BOARD: Conservation Commission

DATE: 9/14/2023

TIME: 6:30 PM

PLACE: 29 Center Street – Town Hall – 2nd Floor Main Hearing Room

Member(s) in attendance: Kent Moffatt, Larry Cohen, Bill Boivin, Indra Deb, Rob Sheahan, Sarah Wolinski (all in person)

Member(s) absent: Ed LoTurco

Conservation Administrator John Keeley and Assistant Conservation Administrator Eileen Coleman were also present.

THE MEETING WAS BROADCAST LIVE ON THE BCAT GOVERNMENT CHANNEL

~~*Approved at the October 12, 2023 Conservation Commission meeting*~~

1. Call Meeting to Order – Roll call of attendance

Mr. Cohen called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and read a statement about public participation and technology. On a roll call, all members except for Commissioner Ed LoTurco were present.

2. Public Participation (for items not on the agenda)

There were no comments from the audience regarding items not on the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes August 24, 2023

MOTION- To approve the Minutes of the 8/24/2023 meeting of the Commission. The Motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

4. Request for Determination of Applicability

a. 11 Winter Street – Christine Tierney – Remove trees



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Ms. Coleman explained that there are several trees in poor condition near a wetland that the applicant has requested to remove. Ms. Coleman did not have any issue with the tree removal. There was a discussion on the removal of tree snags and the possible replanting of trees in the wetland area and barring the grinding of stumps.

Ms. Coleman read the draft decision, the applicant proposed 5 trees to be cut in the bordering vegetated wetlands and the rest in the buffer zone. The closest trees are within the wetland and all of the trees in question appear unhealthy and could pose a safety risk. Any machinery required to remove the trees will only be allowed on pavement or existing lawn areas. Prior to cutting the trees will be marked with ribbon and inspected by the Commission and representatives from the tree company. Stumps shall not be removed unless approved by the Commission or Commission Staff.

MOTION- To issue a Negative Determination of Applicability for the project at 11 Winter Street under Burlington Bylaw Article XIV and state Wetlands Protection Act. The Motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

b. Cambridge Street roadway – MASSDOT Highway Division – Pavement restoration, safety & complete streets improvements (continued from August 24)

Civil Designer Chris Lyman of Howard Stein Hudson working as a design representative for MASSDOT as well as MASSDOT wetlands coordinator Erica Larner were present at the meeting to speak about the project.

Ms. Larner responded to concerns from the Commission regarding adding hoods to catch basins. This was seen as ineffective and would not have reduced oil and grease removal or sedimentation. She shared plans with the Commission highlighting the changes to impervious surfaces in the project area.

The applicant proposed to undertake pavement restoration safety and complete streets improvements along Route 3A between the Burlington and Billerica town line and Birchcrest Street in Burlington. Work included mill and overlay of the existing roadway, sidewalk and pedestrian curb ramp reconstruction, and reconfiguring lines including striping for new bicycle lanes. All work would occur within the existing right of way.

The three work areas within the jurisdiction of conservation include:



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Area 1: Sidewalk widening from 4 feet to 5 feet, mill and overlay and driveway apron reconstruction within 100 feet of an intermittent stream near Edsel Drive, creating an addition of 349 square feet of impervious area.

Area 2: Resurfacing, sidewalk reconstruction and pedestrian curb ramp reconstruction within the 100-foot buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetland (BVW) on the southern side of Route 3/ Wilmington Road intersection will generate an additional 197 square feet of impervious area.

Area 3: Resurfacing, sidewalk reconstruction and a bicycle ramp within the 100-foot buffer zone to BVW on the northeastern side of the Route 3/ Wilmington Road will add an additional 907 sf of impervious area.

No changes were proposed to the stormwater system other than grate replacement, adjustment of catch basins, and structural inspections. Segments of the work are located within the 100' buffer to vegetated wetlands and within the 100' of a streambank, neither of which were field delineated. The Commission found the road and sidewalk improvements would not be detrimental to the wetland.

Minor nomenclature changes were made to the Conditions, otherwise they were largely standard.

MOTION- To Issue a Negative Conditional Determination for the project on Cambridge Street under the state Wetlands Protection Act. The Motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

5. Public Hearing – Notice of Intent

12 Grandview Avenue – Town of Burlington – Rehabilitation of sewer pump station & force main replacement – DEP #122-690

Assistant Town Engineer, Meghan Cavalier introduced herself as well as Patrick Terrien and Ryan Angelico of Weston & Sampson, and Gage Morin, Civil Engineer for TOB.

Mr. Terrien summarized the project as a pump station that is 50 years old and beyond its design life and is set to be fully rehabilitated.

Mr. Keeley mentioned that the work is within the 100' buffer zone to vegetated wetlands associated with Maple Meadow Brook. He believed clearing of vegetation was required but it was largely invasive Japanese Knotweed. The applicants believe the project would not start until 2025.



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There was no one in the audience nor online for public comment.

Mr. Cohen stated that he believed that the issue could be closed at the next meeting.

MOTION- To continue the public hearing for the rehabilitation of of the sewer pump station at Grandview Avenue DEP #122-690 until the 9/28/2023 meeting. The Motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

Items #6 and #7 were postponed until the next meeting of the Commission on 9/28/2023.

8. Administration

a. There were no Planning Board comments.

b. Subcommittee & staff reports and updates: Mr. Keeley stated that filings have been received, including the Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation for the Fox Hill School project.

c. There was no other business to be discussed.

d. Upcoming meetings: September 28, 2023 | October 12, 2023

9. Adjourn

MOTION- To adjourn the meeting. The Motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

Respectfully submitted by Tom Prior, Recording Clerk