

CHAPLIN INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Regularly Scheduled Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, January 22, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m.

Chaplin Town Hall, 495 Phoenixville Road, Chaplin CT.

Present: Chairman S. Matthies, P. Kegler, V. Walton, D. Field

Absent: M. Jenkins, P. Deveny, D. Cates, J. Theroux/Staff

S. Matthies called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Alternates seated: V. Walton for M. Jenkins and D. Field for P. Deveny.

Review and approval of the minutes from Wednesday, December 18, 2019 regularly scheduled meeting:

Motion by V. Walton to approve minutes for the December 18, 2019 regularly scheduled meeting.

Second by D. Field. No discussion.

All in favor. Motion passed.

Audience for Citizens: None

Additions to agenda:

Motion by P. Kegler to add agenda item "Review and Discuss 2020-2021 Budget" under new business.

Second by D. Field.

All in favor. Motion passed.

Old Business: None

New Business: 80 Chappell Street, Mr. Kirk Stygar: excavation, grading, filling within intermittent watercourse and wetlands, construction of deck/gazebo in wetlands/watercourse.

S. Matthies stated the work has been under a cease and desist. Agent Theroux is out tonight, and Mr. Stygar came in earlier and dropped off the application, but it was not received by the Town clerk. We can review it, but no actions can be made. The first day for the Commission to receive the application is at the meeting next month and we can officially discuss at that time. We can't act on it until the March meeting.

The application was reviewed. Mr. Stygar hired SPD Environmental Services and the inspection report discusses disturbance to the intermittent stream, but the report is positive and states it reduces chances of flooding to residents. The banks have been stabilized and help with erosion control with the stones he has placed in there and the recommendation was to seed the bare soil. As far as the gazebo goes, the watercourse enters two small pools adjacent to the gazebo that sits on a large rock, before branching off into 2 separate channels, one into a large wetland area towards location of pond and the other towards Chappell street. The purpose of the report was to document unpermitted activities which has been done. Disturbances in watercourses were minor. It was recommended that something be

added to stream bank. The proposed pond would attract wildlife and during construction there should be care taken upon the surrounding canopy and have a proper erosion control plan prior to job commencement. Mr. Stygar also wants to remove 15 red maples at location of the pond. This pond will be used for livestock/watering and that would fall under Section 4 - Permitted uses of right. The applicant provided 2 photos where he dug out including depth of channel and stones placed to prevent eroding. Also missing with the application was the fee to file. S. Matthies will leave a note for Agent Theroux that it was given to us tonight and needs to go to the town clerk and be put on the agenda as a new application next month.

The commission needs to determine if the pond falls under Section 4. The commission discussed what constitutes a farm and what is the definition of farming and essential to the farming operation; clarify if this means existing or future farm. S. Matthies will also talk to Agent Theroux about the Section 4 aspect.

Review and Discuss 2020-2021 Budget: S. Matthies reviewed the changes made to the budget. The Board of Finance stated that Boards/Commissions should not go over budget more than 2.5%. Some of the items increased due to no fault of the commission, i.e. filing cabinets purchased without their knowledge. He emailed the Board of Finance and First Selectman for guidance. He heard back from Bill Rose and he explained the 2.5% is the entire town budget. S. Matthies reviewed the increases – CACIWC newsletter dues increased; advertising, office supplies and postage increased. He read the note that is going to the Board of Finance with the updated budget sheet explaining the 2.5%+ increase for the Commission.

Motion by P. Kegler to submit FY 2020-2021 budget to the Board of Finance.

Motion seconded by D. Field. All in favor.

Motion Passed.

Correspondence: None

Administrative Report: None.

Commission Discussion: None

Adjournment:

Motion by V. Walton to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Second by P. Kegler. All in favor.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Suzanne Gluck

Recording Secretary