

**CHAPLIN INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Regularly scheduled monthly meeting**

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.

Chaplin Town Hall, 495 Phoenixville Rd. Chaplin, CT.

Present: Chairman S. Matthies, P. Kegler, M. Jenkins, D. Cates, V. Walton

Absent: P. Deveny

Staff: J. Theroux

**S. Matthies called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.**

Alternates seated: V. Walton for P. Deveny

Review and approval of the minutes from Wednesday, October 23rd, 2019 regularly scheduled meeting:

**Motion by P. Kegler to approve minutes as amended, Second by D. Cates. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Audience of Citizens: None

Additions to agenda:

**Motion by V. Walton to add “Approval of regular meeting dates for 2020” and “Election of Officers” to the agenda under Administrative Reports. Second by D. Cates. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Old Business: Bestway Food & Fuel, 64-66 Willimantic Rd.

S. Matthies reported that a site walk was done and considering earlier discussions when the application was first presented, there will be a determination if there is a significant impact activity before further discussion. P. Kegler stated that he didn't see it as a threat of significant impact after reviewing plans at site. S. Matthies stated due to the way it was engineered with detention basins, designed for a 100-year storm, protections with silt fence, the construction schedule and inspections, he is comfortable with it not being likely to have substantial sedimentation. He doesn't feel there is risk of sedimentation bypassing the mitigation factors with the silt fence and to have substantial potential of sedimentation into the wetlands or that it rises to a level that would trigger a significant impact. If there isn't a significant impact this means it would not go to public hearing and it could be acted on tonight.

J. Theroux stated that E&S measures during construction against wetlands need to be upgraded to super silt fencing or backed with staked hay bales. Provided these are

implemented correctly he doesn't feel there is a chance for a significant impact to the wetlands.

**Motion by D. Cates that this application is not considered a significant impact to the wetlands. Second by M. Jenkins. All in favor with one abstention from P. Kegler. Motion carries.**

Frank Magnotta, Consulting Engineer representing Bestway Food & Fuel, presented a copy of the certified return receipt mail sent to Windham Waterworks. They are required to send a copy of the application to them.

F. Magnotta presented two revised drawings showing additional silt fence near the wetlands including the detail. The double silt fence will have the center staked hay bales. He also reviewed the increased scheduled construction to reflect that the basins will be built initially before other activity continues onsite to handle any runoff on site. The basins won't be to full depth and width of the final dimension but will be sufficient to handle regular storms as far as sediment control on the property. The erosion sedimentation control sheet was also reviewed.

The Committee reviewed the plans and discussed the main detention basin in the back. The bottom of the basin elevation is at 492 and the wetlands elevation is 493/494.6 which goes up gradually. The Committee asked if the bottom of the detention basin will have standing water in it; F. Magnotta stated a test hole was dug and did not encounter water so the wetlands are perched.

J. Theroux asked about the inspection and maintenance schedules in the event dirty snow is pushed into the basins. F. Magnotta stated that there is a lot of area for snow storage so it should not go into the basins and he doesn't expect much material in the snow.

V. Walton asked if all goes well with the construction schedule will the gas station be operational by December of next year? F. Magnotta stated that if everything goes ok, that is the plan.

F. Magnotta explained about the wood posts vs metal where it drops off – it is not a dangerous drop but will keep a vehicle from going down the slope.

The water runoff onto Route 6 was discussed – F. Magnotta stated that there is a swale in the pavement and also a flat top basin off of the pavement and a small part of the curb is cut keeping waterflow back onto the road and the high point of the elevation forces most of the water back onto the site. The shed and barn on the property will be removed by basic demolition. The Commission agreed that they have enough information now to decide on the application.

**Motion by D. Cates to approve the Bestway Food & Fuel, 64-66 Willimantic Rd application. Second by V. Walton. Discussion: J. Theroux stated that there should be a special condition that a preconstruction meeting be held prior to demolition to**

**ensure that the E&S measures get established first and correctly. Motion amended by D. Cates to approve the Bestway Food & Fuel, 64-66 Willimantic Rd application with a condition of a preconstruction meeting be held prior to demolition to ensure that the E&S measures get established first and correctly. Second by V. Walton. No further discussion. All in favor with one abstention by P. Kegler. Motion carries.**

New Business: None

Correspondence: J. Theroux stated that he received a new directory of soil scientists.

Administrative Report: J. Theroux reported that all has been quiet, no issues.

Commission Discussion:

- a. Approval of regular meeting dates for 2020.

**Motion by V. Walton to approve the following 2020 dates for the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses regular meeting to be held at 7:00pm, Chaplin Town Hall - 1/22/20; 2/26/20; 3/25/20; 4/22/20; 5/27/20; 6/24/20; 7/22/20; 8/26/20; 9/23/20; 10/28/20; 11/18/20; 12/16/20. Second by D. Cates. All in favor. Motion passed.**

- b. Election of Officers

**Motion by D. Cates to nominate S. Matthies as Chairman, P. Kegler as Vice Chairman, and V. Walton as Secretary. Second by M. Jenkins. Discussion regarding the role of the Secretary to be a fill in if the recording clerk is unavailable. All in favor. Motion passed.**

S. Matthies congratulated all the new members to the Commission from the recent election. Discussion regarding Sharyn Roush continuing to serve, and that Deb Field is also interested as an alternate – currently there are two vacancies and they can both serve.

Adjournment:

**Motion by M. Jenkins to adjourn the meeting at 7:48pm.  
Second by D. Cates. All in favor.  
Motion passed.**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Suzanne Gluck  
Recording Secretary