

CHAPLIN
INLAND WETLANDS, WATERCOURSES AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
Regularly Scheduled Monthly Meeting
November 20th, 2024 @ 7:00 P.M.
Chaplin Town Hall

Present: S. Matthies, V. Walton, S. Rusch, D. Field, P. Kegler, M. Jenkins
Staff: J. Theroux
Others: Mr. Smithwick, Mr. Matthew Maynard P.E.

S. Matthies called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

Alternates seated: V. Walton for D. Cates

Review and approval of the minutes from Wednesday, June 26, 2024, regularly scheduled meeting:

Motion by D. Field to approve regular meeting minutes for the 6/26/2024 meeting:
Second by P. Kegler. All in favor.
Motion passed.

Audience of Citizens: None

Additions to the Agenda: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

82 Cross Road, Mr. Smithwick: Construction of a 2-bay garage within the 100-foot upland review area.

Mr. Matthew Maynard presented the application and explained the position of the garage, approx. 8 to 9 feet from the wetlands. Other locations were considered however due to the topography, position of the residence and well, and emergency vehicle access, this is the only feasible location.

It was the consensus of the Commission that a site walk is warranted and Mr. Smithwick consented to allow Commission members to view the site at their convenience.

Motion by P. Kegler to accept the application for review.
Second by V. Walton. All in favor.
Motion passed.

Correspondence: A letter from Windham Water Works was reviewed. The letter summarized the importance of having them review all inland wetlands applications, and concerns over the potential introduction of PFAS chemicals associated with fire fighting foam agents into the pond and possibly the Natchaug River.

Agent Theroux will forward the letter to the Fire Chief Joe Pinto for review and comment.

Administrative Report: Agent J. Theroux explained to the Commission his e-mail to the England Road bridge project engineer concerning minor modifications needed to prevent erosion of the bridge footings. The modifications will include the addition of rip-rap stone above the high-water mark of the river along the footings.

The e-mail stated that Agent Theroux had no issues with these minor modifications and they were allowed.

Conservation Commission Business: None

Commission Discussion: D. Field brought up concerns with the pending sidewalk/parking area project and feels that the project will have to be reviewed by the Inland Wetlands, Watercourses and Conservation Commission. These concerns included the location of the sidewalks in relation to the vernal pools, the paving of the parking lot/ storm water runoff, and landscaping.

V. Walton asked if the Crocker drainage project at 152 England Road was commenced and Agent Theroux said it was ongoing.

The pending wetlands violation for Mr. Jamie Long at 161 England Road was also discussed. This property also has zoning violations that may be being litigated by the Town.

Adjournment: Motion by P. Kegler to adjourn, Second by D. Field. All in favor.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm

*Respectfully submitted,
Joseph R. Theroux
Acting Recording Secretary*