

**INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.
WOODSTOCK TOWN HALL – MEETING ROOM B**

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Parker at 7:03 p.m.
- II. Roll Call** – Marla Butts, Carl Knittel, Bill Rewinski, Woody Durst, Michael Thienel, Diane Wolff, Mark Parker, Tina Lajoie (Assistant Wetlands Agent).
Absent: Terry Bellman
Also Present: Dave Copeland, Contractor and Ron Ferguson, VP of Solair and resident of Woodstock
- III. Appointment of Alternates** – None
- IV. Action on Minutes of Previous Meeting – February 5, 2018**
Motion by M. Butts to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by W. Rewinski. Motion carried unanimously.
- VI. Old Business**
- a. Review of changes to by-laws**
As previewed in the minutes of February 5, 2018, the proposed changes were listed.
Motion by D. Wolff, seconded by M. Butts to approve the revisions to the by-laws as printed in the February 5, 2018 minutes. Document will be updated and distributed to members at May 7th meeting. Motion Carried unanimously.
- b. 562 Senexet Road – Review of letter to owner and wetland’s agent permit/sign off.**
T. Lajoie explains that upon investigation of a complaint, a letter was sent out to the property owner which requests additional information on what was reported as a possible violation. The owner did come into the office and discussed with office staff details of work once receiving the letter. T. Bellman visited the location and determined that the activity met the guidelines for an Agent sign-off as activity was in the upland review area. Property owner completed the application, paid the fee and a permit was granted for the disturbance and placement of the stripped soil to be used for a future horse riding rink and for landscaping. M. Butts reports that what she viewed was the top soil being stripped but her concern was the material toward the brook going to Roseland Lake where it appeared to be large piles of stone and soil, and it appeared to be trucked in from off site. T. Bellman is not present to report to IWWA, as he visited the site. M. Butts will get additional information for the next meeting.
- VII. New Business**
- a. 04-18-06 Laurel Ridge, Inc., 65 Ide Perrin Road – Emergency road repair**
T. Lajoie reports that a complaint was received in the building/wetlands office from a resident that there was work being completed on this private road in a wetland, replacement of collapsed drainage culvert, and she asked J. Navarro and T. Bellman to visit the site to evaluate. T. Lajoie received information from the contractor (Sig Swanberg) that this was categorized as an emergency repair. Ron Ferguson had submitted photographs with the application of the work that was completed, before and after, and these details were discussed. A 48” culvert pipe was existing and partially collapsed. This hole in the center of

the road is where it had caved in. Once this was identified, they immediately called a local contractor to come out and fix the road before any personal property damage was reported. D. Copeland stated that this is actually an abandoned town road which the facility continues to work on and maintain. In addition to Laurel Ridge using this road, there are also three other property owners that are beyond the damaged road area and they could not get to their homes. The facilities manager was immediately called and then SAS was contacted for the emergency repair and he was on site the next day. They believed this contractor was a good choice since he has done a lot of work for the town and understood what the state and town specifications might be. The contractor replaced the 48" corrugated metal pipe with twin 36" pipes. M. Butts points out there should be a minimum of 2 feet of fill over the culverts. Pipes were installed at the same depth, plus or minus an inch, per D. Copeland. No transit was set up. The applicant believes if they had not responded as quickly as they had, the complainant would have been flooded.

Map showing the elevation is reviewed. Mr. Ferguson states that because he believed this is an abandoned town road, he did not realize he needed Agency approval. M. Butts would like verification that the capacity of these twin 36" pipes in their current condition would be capable of withstanding the flows. The application can only be received by IWWA and they cannot render a decision until next month. M. Butts requests an engineer run some numbers. Applicant stated they added 12 feet of pipe but the road footprint was not widened. Check dam is on the cross culvert that goes underneath the roadway. Spillway is before the road culvert and overtops before entering the box culvert. Mr. Ferguson asks if the town has an engineer that can review it because they have already spent \$24,000 on this abandoned road that services these residents. M. Butts comments that USGS has a website that can generate calculations of flows. Mr. Ferguson believes one of their members is a retired town engineer and perhaps they could ask him to provide the information. W. Durst asks about a previous application that was reviewed and the agency received a DOT booklet containing town road standards for road construction. Could we review that for these details? M. Butts would like contributing drainage information.

Motion by M. Butts to receive application #04-18-06 for consideration, Laurel Ridge Inc., emergency repair with a request for additional details on the flow capacity of the replacement pipes and what storm flows can it pass. Seconded by C. Knittel. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Town of Woodstock Budget – Review of Changes.

M. Butts asked for this item to be placed on the agenda for discussion on how the changes in staff will affect the work of IWWA. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that it would be important for the agency to advise the BOF and BOS at the April 3rd public hearing on the importance of this staff support role for IWWA and how this change of reduced hours and responsibilities could adversely impact the ability of the IWWA/ PZC/ZBA to do their jobs well and provide efficient services to town residents and the regulated community. The budget needs to reflect more than \$1,000 to cover the work for support staff. It is mentioned that having NECCOG handle the engineering services for the town is not recommended. There have been issues in the past with what services they can actually provide, they don't seem to have the updated engineering software that we would need to complete the calculations. There is concern with a large project coming up, Tayler Brooke, and not having someone on staff to really check the progress to make sure what was approved by IWWA is completely followed. Some of the Agency members will be available at the public hearing to offer comment and recommend taking another look at staffing and budgetary reductions and the impact to their work that is mandated by the State of CT.

VIII. Wetlands Agent Activity Report

T. Lajoie reports the following sign offs:

- New Construction on Spring Hill Road (Lake Bunggee). Activity proposed is in upland review area. NDDH approval is pending for zoning application.

IX. Citizen's Comments/other topics

a. Carl Knittel is submitting his resignation and stated that it is due to the way the Town is treating a loyal 30-year employee (Terry Bellman) and is hesitant to stick around with a lack of support for the agency's work. The Agency members are thankful for Mr. Knittel's faithful service to the town and Agency.

X. Adjournment

**MOTION TO ADJOURN BY C. KNITTEL, SECONDED BY D. WOLFF AT 08:27 P.M.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,

Tina M. Lajoie, IWWA Clerk

Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency