



OLD VALUES - NEW HORIZONS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Conservation Commission
Thursday May 28, 2015
7:30pm @ Community Development Department

Attendance

Wayne Morris, Chairman-present
Bernie Rouillard-present
Pam Skinner-present
Justin Pare-present
Lisa Ferrisi- (arrived at 7:40 pm)
Jason Rodgers-excused
James Finn-excused

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

Chairman Morris took a moment to thank Mr. Rouillard for his 27 (27!!!!!!!) years of service to the Town of Windham. It is greatly appreciated by all.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Pare made a motion to approve the minutes for May 14th and March 12th, 2015. Seconded by Pam Skinner. Vote 4-0. (It really is 4-0 as Ms. Ferrisi arrived after the vote.)

Discussion

Daniel Rochford, Eagle Scout Candidate, addressed the Board. There had been a walk with Wayne Morris to look at the proposed site for his project. There is a stream that crosses the path; 25 ft. x 4 ft. width would be the proposed bridge that Daniel would like to build. Pressure treated abutments would be used perhaps and the bridge would be free- standing. Mr. Rouillard suggested using trusses as it will be difficult to find lumber long enough that will span the gap of the bridge.

Ms. Skinner made a motion to accept the proposed Eagle Scout project. Mr. Rouillard seconded. Vote 5-0.

Daniel Rochford let the Board know he will now be going before the Eagle Board for approval of the project. He will be in contact with this Board once his project is approved by the Eagle Board to coordinate his next step and when work can commence. He will also coordinate with Mr. Rouillard regarding structural questions and suggestions.

Campbell Farm Subcommittee Update

The need to maintain this property now that it is vacated is essential. Mr. Pare volunteered to mow the lawn now since it was in need of it for this time. There was a discussion of the mowing schedule and how invasive this would be to bird species like the bobolink.

Master Plan Natural Resources Chapter Update

The Conservation Commission would be interested in a section about Invasive Plants/Invasive Water Species and who to refer to if you need assistance with these species. Rare Species was also mentioned.

Bottomless boxed culverts were the proposal set forth the last time this was discussed at the last meeting.

Proposed Gas Pipeline Impacts – Dick Gumble and Homer Shannon were in the audience to speak to the proposed pipeline. (24-F-900). Mr. Shannon submitted “alignment sheets” from Kinder Morgan to show where the pipeline would go. These came out in March 2015. The proposed pipe is a 30-36 inch pipe. The pipe would go a minimum of 3 ft. down. It will most likely be adjacent to the power lines and the pipeline requires a 50 ft. right of way. Herbicides are sometimes used as a way to maintain visibility on the right of way. Many abutters have denied access to appraise the ground so it is unclear what obstacles the pipeline may run into.

A Dredge and Fill Permit would need to be submitted so the Board may see this once again once a permit has been set forth.

When prompted, Chairman Morris questioned the need for a pipeline of this size.

Mr. Shannon provided a url is available to look at the maps:

<http://1drv.ms/rngney>

Pages 14-16 are the relevant pages for Windham. The document is 34 pages in length. (It should be noted here that Mr. Shannon indicated this is a site he maintains; it is not an approved Kinder Morgan site.)

The Merrimack Valley Reliability Project may also be altered by the pipeline. This would be replaced by a taller tower structure. The tower structure would have 4 towers instead of 3. National Grid and Ever Source must be consulted to access the right of way. The current pipeline that goes through Windham would not be replaced; they would coexist.

Mr. Kevin Rochford of 17 Timberland addressed the Board about his interaction with Kinder Morgan. Kinder Morgan is trying to contact each of the individual homeowners instead of the towns and municipalities themselves. Mr. Rochford stated that there is building resistance to a new pipeline in both Pelham and Windham. Residents are not allowing Kinder Morgan to look at their properties. This could become an eminent domain issue if there is resistance.

The Board will investigate if a letter was sent from Kinder Morgan to the Town of Windham since it goes through Conservation Land. The Board and Mr. Shannon also used the term “energy corridor” and perhaps any energy is allowed to go through said corridor.

There was also a discussion about whether or not homeowners will be compensated for damages. Chairman Morris suggested that an aerial view of the impacted area would also help people conceptualize the impact. Chairman Morris stated that the aerial photography done in an effort to acquire Campbell Farm really helped citizens conceptualize the project. Perhaps it would be the same here for the impacted properties and land.

Case# 2015-11/Marblehead Rd (25-R-300, 103, 6000A, 6500, 7010, 7025, 8000)

Application by the Forestry Committee to Conduct Timber Harvest in the Town Forest

The access will be from Marblehead Road, through the old Town landfill (39 Marblehead Road 25-R-300), to the Town Forest (Lots 25-R-103, 25-R-6000A, 25-R-6500, 25-R-7010, 25-R-7025, 25-R-8000). The harvest will be in accordance with the 2012 Management Plan and will be conducted by a Licensed Forester.

Approximately 116 acres (total forest is 203 acres) will be harvested, with 25% of trees removed. An access road and staging area will be constructed for this harvest. Per Section 712 of the Zoning Ordinance the Planning Board will hold a non-binding public hearing on the proposal, scheduled for June 17th.

There will be a public informational meeting at 6 pm next Thursday to discuss any questions or concerns for citizens. No questions or concerns from the Board.

Planning Board

The Board did not discuss any items coming before the Planning Board.

ZBA Meeting – June 9, 2015

No Cases for Review

DES

Wetlands Permit Application, 17 Emerson Road, (Lot 25-G-115)

Construct a 10' X 12' perched beach and steps with approximately 400 square foot of disturbance and 6 foot of Shoreline Frontage impact along Rock Pond.

Ms. Allison Lewandowski addressed the Board. She is the homeowner of 17 Emerson Road as well as 21 Emerson Road. The permit would not be removing any of the existing wall. A permit has been pulled for repair of the existing wall yet the work has not been done because of the high water level.

The Board would like to see what the construction will look like as the plan states the wall could be 4 feet tall. Some time was spent deducing exactly what the permit was asking for. What would the permit look like at the end? What is the size of the tree/trees being taken out? The Board would also like more detail on the wall construction. The raised beach would be above the high water table as a point of clarification. It was also stated that several of the neighbors had these types of beaches as well. The Board would like the engineer to come before the board to answer some of these questions. Hence, no opposition was given, yet, no endorsement of the project was given either.

Misc. Items

Bridge construction was approved by Chairman Morris for Comprehensive Trail Services to do the work of the bids submitted.

Binder Updates were happily distributed and organized much to the joy and delight of the Board.

Chairman Morris contacted Mark Lauren from Department of Transportation in regards to a Conservation easement to cover all the mitigation land.

Non-Public Meeting per RSA 91-A: 3 (d)

At 8:40 pm, Mr. Rouillard made a motion to go into Non-Public under RSA 91-A:3. Ms. Skinner seconded the motion. Roll call. Vote 5-0.

At 9:09 pm, Ms. Skinner made a motion to come out of non-public under RSA 91-A:3.. Mr. Pare seconded the motion. Roll call. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Rouillard made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Skinner. Vote 5-0.
Meeting adjourned at 9:11pm.