MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
SEYMOUR INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011
NORMA DRUMMER ROOM, SEYMOUR TOWN HALL

Members in Attendance: Steve Plotkin, Bill Banks, John Conroy, Elise Wood, Ralph Noel

Also Present: Peter Jezierny, Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer, Eric Swift, Nafis & Young

Chm. Plotkin called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

WPCA, Easement Clearing

Atty. Steve Kulas representing Seymour WPCA stated that they have filed an application seeking a permit for cutting in the 100 foot upland review area. There are no easements in the wetlands but many have some in the upland review area. He presented a letter from Nafis & Young outlining six sub-basins that the easements serve. The areas are overgrown with trees and vegetation and not accessible for equipment and emergency vehicles. He stated that the clearing is crucial to the wetlands. There are two main reasons for the cut to be done; one is to allow access for emergency vehicles where there is no road if there is a break or a problem and it needs to be fixed. The other is to prevent root infiltration. He stated that none of the work will be in the actual wetlands only in the upland review area. He also stated that they would like to do the work when there is a hard freeze. Mr. Conroy stated that it is important that the Wetlands Enforcement Officer is aware of when and where the work will be done.

MOTION: B. Banks/E. Wood to accept the application. Motion Carried 5-0.

MOTION: R. Noel/E. Wood to approve the permit for WPCA Easement Clearing with the condition that the Wetland Enforcement Officer be notified of when and were the work will be done. Motion Carried 5-0.

Return Stream to Natural Channel, 124 Bungay Road

James Brennan, 124 Bungay Road stated that he would like to do work to restore the stream to its natural channel. There is a lot of sediment that has filled in the stream and changed the course. Mr. Plotkin stated that the sediment comes down the road and hits the dam and causes this problem. Mr. Brennan will be cleaning it out and doing some remediation. He will not be bringing in or taking out any materials. Mr. Brennan stated that on tree will be removed in order to get
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
SEYMOUR INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
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the equipment in. Mr. Conroy asked what work the Town will be doing and Mr. Brennan stated that the only thing they are doing is changing the catchbasins. Mr. Conroy stated that the road is undermined and very narrow and something should be done in that area. Eric Swift, Nafis & Young will check this out. Mr. Plotkin stated that since he is doing all the work himself he would recommend that the fee be waived

MOTION: E. Wood/B. Banks to waive the fee for this application since he is doing the work and there is no cost to the Town. Motion Carried 5-0.

MOTION: B. Banks/R. Noel to accept the application for 124 Bungay Road. Motion Carried 5-0

MOTION: E. Wood/R. Noel to approve the application for 124 Bungay Road to return stream to natural channel. Motion Carried 5-0.

Violation, Wetlands Markers, 57 Mountain Road

Mr. Jezierny stated that at the July meeting Mr. Conroy asked about the conservation markets for 57 Mountain Road, Lot #5. Mr. Jezierny stated that he investigated and there were no markers in place. He spoke to the property owner and also sent him several letters instructing him that the markers needed to be put in. He stated that this was not done and he issued a citation for failing to do so with a $50.00 a day fine until it is done. Mr. Nesteriak, property owner, exercised his right to appeal the fine. A hearing was held and the hearing officer upheld the decision of the Wetlands Officer and that the fine was $400.00. The markers are now in place. He was maintaining that he was told he could wait until the lots were sold to put the markers in. Mr. Plotkin asked if the fine was paid and Mr. Jezierny indicated that he has 30 days in which to pay the fine. Mr. Conroy asked about Lot #4 and it was noted that there are no markers there and they would be put in now while work is being done on the lot.
Legislative Update

Mr. Jezierny presented information on changes in State law regarding the length of time for subdivisions. The time will be extended to nine years with a maximum of fourteen. Mr. Plotkin stated that the regulations will need to be revised to reflect these changes. It was noted that Bob Looker could work on these revisions.

Commissioner Training

Mr. Jezierny presented information on Segment 3 of the training and when the sessions will be held. He asked anyone interested in attending to notify him and he will process the paperwork.

Election of Chairman

MOTION: J. Conroy/R. Noel to nominate Bill Banks for Chairman. Motion Carried 4-0-1 with Mr. Banks abstaining.

Minutes, Regular Meeting August 22, 2011

Mr. Conroy asked about the tree removal request by William Yoxall for 37 Great Hill Road. He asked if this property is considered farm land now. Ms. Wood stated that the designation for tax purposes is different from someone doing agricultural work. Mr. Conroy noted that there are serious flooding problems downstream from this property which he wanted the Commission to be aware of.

The Commission also discussed the work that the Land Trust will be doing at Chatfield Park. Mr. Jezierny stated that they are not having their annual Halloween event this year because of the damage that was done there. Mr. Conroy asked who will be doing the work and Mr. Jezierny stated that it was the same engineer who did the work last year. Mr. Noel stated that they are not going to be removing the rip/rap on a daily basis and putting it back. They will be using pipes when doing the work. Mr. Jezierny stated that he will find out when they will be doing the work and exactly what will be done.
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
SEYMOUR INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011
NORMA DRUMMER ROOM, SEYMOUR TOWN HALL

MOTION: E. Wood/B. Banks to accept the minutes of the 8/22/11 meeting with the noted changes.
Motion Carried 4-0-1 with Mr. Plotkin abstaining.

Mr. Jezierny stated that he spoke with Alex Pruzinski, Seymour Wire and he will be starting the clean up work this week. He indicated that he will do whatever he can to keep out of the river. It should take approximately a month to complete the work.

Mr. Jezierny stated that he got a call about trees and branches down at 38 Emma Street from the property above. He asked the Public Work Department to go and get them out of the stream. Mr. Plotkin felt that the owner of the property should be responsible to do this since the trees came from private property and he advised Mr. Jezierny to notify the property owner.

MOTION: E. Wood/B. Banks to adjourn the meeting.
Motion Carried 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryanne DeTullio
Recording Secretary