East Haddam Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission
Land Use Office

Regular Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2021

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the East Haddam Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission was called to order by Ms. Augustiny at 7:30 PM at the Municipal Office Complex.

2. Attendance

Members Present: Mary Augustiny, Bryan Goff, Daniel Jahne, and Jennifer Burton-Reeve
Members Absent: Randolph Dill (chairman)
Also Present: James Ventres (Land Use Administrator), Don Angersola, Jason Rogers, Judi Bender, Mr. & Mrs. Chotkowski

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Jahne to accept the minutes from the May 18, 2021 meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goff and unanimously approved.

4. Bills

Mr. Ventres presented one bill from Nathan Jacobson Assoc. for the review of the Getaway project for $823.79

A motion was made by Ms. Burton-Reeve to pay the bill presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goff and unanimously approved.

5. Membership

Already addressed at the prior meeting.

6. Field Inspection Report

At a field walk held on June 7, 2021, the commission visited 58 O'Connell Road and East Haddam Colchester Turnpike (Smith property). The field walk was attended by Ms. Augustiny, Ms. Burton-Reeve, Mr. Goff and Mr. Ventres.

7. Wetlands Permit Review

a. **Continued - #W21-08 – Corner of Falls Road & Great Hillwood, cleaning of existing fire pond.**

Mr. Ventres reviewed the pond and the work that will be done to clean it out. At the end of the work, the goal is to take a final depth reading to understand how long it takes to fill back up. This one has not been cleaned out since at least 2010, if not longer.

Mr. Ventres noted that there are multiple fire ponds around town which are still viable but need to be cleaned out.

Ms. Augustiny recalled that Mr. Dill requested an actual depth be taken upon completion of the cleanup.

Motion by Mr. Goff to approve application #W21-08 – Corner of Falls Road & Great Hillwood, cleaning of existing fire pond, with the following stipulation that the final depth of the fire pond be measured upon work completion, with the plans dated 6/15/2021. Second by Mr. Jahne and unanimously approved.

b. **Continued - #W21-10 – Wigwam Road, cleaning of existing fire pond.**

Mr. Ventres provided a bit of history about this pond. It was initially designed and reconstructed back in the 1980s. There is a wetlands commission approval with the outline to put in a water supply line in 2009; that was never completed. The pond is even more filled with debris now. The outline is the same outline approved in 2009 and would be dug to the depth that the original plan outlined. One of the major source of sand in the fire pond was sand from the state highway, and now that the State is no longer using sand, there is likely to be less sand to remove. There is quite a bit of land to the west of the fire pond to hold the dredged materials. The plan is to clean out the pond first, then the State will clean out/replace the Town Street culvert, and then the water supply line would be installed if there are budget monies for that in the future.

Motion by Mr. Goff to approve the application #W21-10 – Wigwam Road, cleaning of existing fire pond, in accordance with the document dated 6/16/2009, and the plans dated 1986. Second by Ms. Burton-Reeve and unanimously approved.

c. **Continued - #W21-06 – 6 Forest Way (Lake Hayward), Jeffrey & Judi Bender, construct an addition in the upland review area. Assessor's Map 80, Lot 338.**

Ms. Augustiny asked Mr. Rogers, the builder, the review the additions to the plan. He outlined the planting plans he has created with Ballek's. There are several water catches added into the design to catch the additional water coming off the roof. The commissioners reviewed the plant list.

This property is a seasonal property

In the construction, there is a pile of sand that will be moved offsite. In the proposed addition, there is a basement which will require dirt to be removed and stored offsite. Erosion control is on the other plans submitted and not included on the gardening plan. Erosion control goes the full length of the property.

The septic was pointed out on the plans and is already in place.

Motion by Ms. Burton-Reeve to approve the application #W21-06 – 6 Forest Way (Lake Hayward), Jeffrey & Judi Bender, construct an addition in the upland review area, with the planting plan received on 6/15/2021. Assessor's Map 80, Lot 338. Second by Mr. Goff and unanimously approved.

d. **Continued - #W21-09 – 58 O'Connell Road, Cynthia Chotkowski, construct an agricultural building in the upland review area. Map 86, Lot 18.**

Ms. Chotkowski noted she has miniature horses, not ponies.

Mr. Chotkowski outlined the plan to show where the building will be and outlined the size of it. There is a woodchip berms in place for erosion control. This is a totally new barn, and there is an existing shed that will remain in place. The shed will remain where it is as it is on a good foundation.

The manure is bagged and taken to a compost station.

Mr. Goff asked that the green line on the plan be marked as the woodchip berm to line the entire wetland edge.

Motion by Mr. Goff to approve the application #W21-09 – 58 O'Connell Road, Cynthia Chotkowski, construct an agricultural building in the upland review area, in accordance with the plans dated 6/15/2021. Map 86, Lot 18. Second by Ms. Burton-Reeve and unanimously approved.

e. **New - #W21-11 – 277 East Haddam Colchester Turnpike, Alice Smith, construct a small beach area in the upland review area. Map 67, Lot 10**

Mr. Ventres noted this is a new application that was not part of the packet sent out. This application will need to be tabled as it has to be on the agenda two times. There was a field walk conducted on this property already.

Motion by Mr. Goff to continue the application #W21-11 – 277 East Haddam Colchester Turnpike, Alice Smith construct a small beach area in the upland review. Map 67, Lot 10. Second by Ms. Burton-Reeve and unanimously approved.

8. IWWC Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ventres noted that Disc Golf is so successful that they are looking at adding another 9 holes between the access road and the Transfer Station and the reservoir. The new course has several purposes – to provide the ability to do a quick game, as well as a longer game. There are no wetlands other than an existing crossing on one of the trails. He is reviewing moving the gate to allow for more parking. This course is rated the top woodland course, when googled. This item will be on the agenda, and a site walk will be scheduled.

Mr. Ventres noted that the East Haddam Fish and Game Club will want to bring their application forth, and the site walk will be scheduled for a weekend morning, as it is a long walk. It starts at Geoffrey Road and goes down to Mt. Parnassus and other roads.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Goff to adjourn the meeting at 8:08pm. The motion was seconded by Ms. Burton-Reeve and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary