

Town of Plymouth

80 Main Street

Terryville, CT 06786

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
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2026 MAY 26 PM 2: 33

Linda Kumpke
TOWN CLERK

Inland-Wetlands Conservation Commission

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Minutes

May 20, 2026

Call to Order: Inland-Wetlands Conservation Commission Acting Chairman Corey Finke called the May 20, 2026, Inland-Wetlands Conservation Commission Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., in the Assembly Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

Present were Inland-Wetlands Commissioner Nathan Brown, Inland-Wetlands Commissioner/Acting Chairman Corey Finke, Inland-Wetlands Commissioner Jacob Hoadley, and Inland-Wetlands Commissioner Anthony Roveto. Also in attendance were Town Council Liaison Ray Engle, Director of Planning and Economic Development Margus Laan, and Public Works Director Joe Sopczneski.

Pledge of Allegiance

Inland-Wetlands Commission Acting Chairman Corey Finke led the Inland-Wetlands Commissioners and the Public Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda Review

Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Jacob Hoadley, to accept and approve the May 20, 2026, Inland-Wetlands Commission Agenda as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Acceptance of Minutes Previous Meeting(s): Regular Meeting of May 6, 2026

Anthony Roveto made a motion, seconded by Jacob Hoadley, to accept and approve the May 6, 2026, Regular meeting minutes as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Requested time limit of no more than three minutes. This comment period is for topics not otherwise discussed during the evening's meeting. Comments on Agenda Items need to be made during the time of presentation & discussion before the Commission on the item for inclusion in the "Record" upon which the deliberation & decision is based.

No report.

New Applications for Acceptance and Determination

No report-No Applications in the Queue

Old/Continuing Applications for Presentation, Deliberation and/or Decision

Todd Road Bridge over Todd Hollow Brook; Project Scope-Bridge Reconstruction; Property Owner/Applicant: Town of Plymouth, Joseph Sopczneski, Director of Public Works; Engineer: Wengell McDonnell & Costello

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Todd Road Bridge over Todd Hollow Brook; Project Scope-Bridge Reconstruction Cont'd.

Public Works Director Joe Sopczneski introduced Keegan Elder, P.E., WMC Consulting Engineers, for the Todd Road Bridge. He further stated Keegan Elder was present this evening to address any questions the Commissioners might have and also to provide an overview of the project.

Keegan Elder stated WMC's intent is to get the road open and not disturb the integrity of the existing structure. He further stated he wanted to present the project limits of work and their plan on how to get it done. Keegan Elder gave a PowerPoint presentation and discussed the project at length. Keegan Elder stated the existing arches are not in good enough shape to support traffic in their current condition. Keegan Elder stated WMC has made no permanent impacts to the wetlands or the watercourse, noting the intent of this project is to design a slab over the existing arch which will be supported by its own foundations, so as not to bear any additional load on the existing arch. He further stated they had to raise the existing arch approximately 14 inches to avoid any impact. Keegan Elder stated they will be installing guardrail which will be attached to the slab bridge which will have head walls to protect motorists from going over. Keegan Elder stated most of the grading matches the existing with some grading on the downstream side that encroaches onto private property. He further stated they are coordinating with these property owners and will secure easements/permissions from each property owner which they may need for the project. Keegan Elder stated the sequence will be as follows, noting the signage is up and they will supplement if needed prior to construction. He further stated all plans will include the installation of erosion sedimentation control fence details all in accordance with the State of Connecticut guidelines and once it is in place the Contractor will start demolishing the top of the existing arch where WMC will be building. Keegan Elder stated before that is done, he will be installing debris shields to make sure nothing falls into the channel. He further stated that after that is done, they can cast their abutments. Keegan Elder stated the work to the existing arch that they will be doing will be in the form of repointing the existing masonry and pinning some of the existing stones that have fallen out. Keegan Elder stated they will also be setting up scaffolding as well for the existing arch. Keegan Elder stated once the new structure has been completed over the existing structure they will backfill, pave and install the guardrail; take care of any drainage features mentioned previously, and clean up the site and restore it as needed. Keegan Elder stated it's a simple project from a constructability standpoint; they don't intend to be monkeying round in the channel or doing anything to the watercourse or in the wetlands; mostly upland review impacts from a wetland's perspective to the adjacent property and adjacent review area. Keegan Elder stated the Contractor will have to abide by the latest National Environmental Standards (NES) for the State of Connecticut and any specifications that the Town requires WMC to implement for the project. Keegan Elder stated their new slab is over spanning the existing arch with the guardrail being attached to the end of it on all four corners to protect the blunt ends. Keegan Elder stated the paving will match the width closely to what was previously there for the existing condition. Keegan Elder stated this is the project in a nutshell and the limits of what they intend to do.

When questioned by Nate Brown if the slab was poured or precast, Keegan Elder stated the slab will be poured.

When questioned by Corey Finke as to what the timeframe is and date of completion, Keegan Elder stated the project like this can take four to six months schedule defers to joe, once they secure from rights of way they can go out for bids this fall.

Todd Road Bridge over Todd Hollow Brook; Project Scope-Bridge Reconstruction Cont'd.

When questioned by Anthony Roveto, Keegan Elder stated the limits of disturbance on the upstream side are much less than downstream and the only clearing that will be done will be for installation of the guardrail and the four foot shelf the guardrail needed for support.

When questioned by Anthony Roveto if the pad area will be landscaped where the turnaround is currently located to keep vehicles off it, Public Works Director Joe Sopczneski stated they would remove the pad at the end and have typical native plants in the area.

When questioned by Anthony Roveto, Keegan Elder stated the overall width will be slightly wider than what is currently located there and it will be 17 feet curb to curb. He further stated they would not be able to go much wider without having an impact to the downstream property owners and potentially the watercourse and wetlands. He further stated that for such a low volume road they feel it will be adequate, noting they have gone down to 9 foot lanes for some State projects.

Corey Finke stated he lives on Todd Road and noted the bridge is pretty narrow. Corey Finke stated that originally the bridge was one way with a stop sign on each side. Corey Finke stated that his only concern is people driving too fast down the steep road, noting delivery drivers coast all the way down and drive way over the speed limit. He further stated it could be an issue with someone hitting the other vehicle if they're trying to go over the bridge at the same time. Corey Finke stated that maybe a stop sign or speed bump would take care of the issue.

Joe Sopczneski stated they can review these comments and take them into consideration.

Keegan Elder stated they could implement something into the design.

Anthony Roveto made a motion, seconded by Nate Brown, to accept and approve the Todd Road Bridge over Todd Hollow Brook; Project Scope-Bridge Reconstruction; Property Owner/Applicant: Town of Plymouth, Joseph Sopczneski, Director of Public Works; Engineer: Wengell McDonnell & Costello. This motion was approved unanimously.

370 South Main Street/ Assessor Parcel Number 069-107-16A-1; Project Scope: Renovation and Expansion of Rail Trackage, involves Demolition; Property Owner/Applicant: Inland Intermodal, LLC, Jeremy Legendre, Regional Manager; Engineer: Robert Green Associates, LLC

Jeremy Legendre, Regional Manager, Inland Fuels (subsidiary of Santa Energy), stated he was present this evening as a representative for Santa Energy, noting he runs the propane facility located at 370 South Main Street, Terryville. Jeremy Legendre stated they are looking to do a rail expansion noting everyone has a set of plans. Jeremy Legendre stated he had given Margus Laan a brief description, as well as the scope of the project, from the Contractor who is looking to do the rail work, noting there had been a question as to how in depth they would be at the previous Inland-Wetlands Commission meeting. Jeremy Legendre stated Bob Green, Robert Green Associates, is the Engineer, and present this evening to answer any questions the Inland-Wetlands Commissioners may have.

Todd Road Bridge over Todd Hollow Brook; Project Scope-Bridge Reconstruction Cont'd.

Jeremy Legendre stated the area in question is the industrial turnout location, noting he was referring to the upland review, and they are 78 feet away from the closest wetlands pin. Jeremy Legendre stated this had been another question made at the same previous Inland-Wetlands Commission meeting.

When questioned by Anthony Roveto, Jeremy Legendre stated the only thing near the wetlands was the actual switch which would be replaced. He further stated they would be replacing approximately 100 feet of the existing track, and a switch would be installed. Jeremy Legendre stated the switch turnout will be aimed away from the wetlands and would be heading towards the South Main Street area and into their facility.

Bob Green stated everything is inward of the existing main line and the majority of the work is on Santa Energy's property.

When questioned by Nate Brown, Jeremy Legendre stated all of the work is primarily up on top where the tracks are currently and outside of the wetlands.

Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Jacob Hoadley, to approve the project for 370 South Main Street/ Assessor Parcel Number 069-107-16A-1; Project Scope: Renovation and Expansion of Rail Trackage, involves Demolition; Property Owner/Applicant: Inland Intermodal, LLC, Jeremy Legendre, Regional Manager; Engineer: Robert Green Associates, LLC, as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Other items as may properly come before the Commission

Line Item - \$500 under Arbor Day

Margus Laan stated he sent out the letter to SLR Consulting, noting that currently they do not have any visuals prepared for the public to show what they are doing.

Anthony Roveto stated that the Veteran Memorial, located in Baldwin Park, is near and dear to his heart, noting that his father and brother both were Veterans and further, that his mother helped make airplanes for World War II. Anthony Roveto stated that he would like to see the money given to the Beautification Committee to landscape the Veteran's Memorial with flowers and bushes to honor our fallen Veterans.

Corey Finke stated that previously the Inland-Wetlands Commission purchased trees and had them planted in different locations in Town. He further stated Anthony Roveto's recommendation was fine with him.

Anthony Roveto made a motion, seconded by Jacob Hoadley, to approve spending the \$500.00 Arbor Day money for beautifying the Veteran's Memorial in Baldwin Park. This motion was approved unanimously.

Membership Status

Margus Laan stated he had spoken to the Mayor's Office and was informed that he needed to get a formal Resignation letter with a fresh ink signature from Dean Ferrante.

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Membership Status Cont'd.

Margus Laan stated that he will telephone Dean Ferrante and make the request before the next Town Council meeting being held in June. Margus Laan stated until Dean Ferrante resigns formally the Inland-Wetlands Commission membership remains as is.

When questioned by Corey Finke, Margus Laan stated he was not aware of any interest in the open positions on the Inland-Wetlands Commission.

When questioned by Corey Finke, Anthony Roveto stated the Boards and Commissions vacancies are shown on the Town website. He further stated the website is being updated. Anthony Roveto stated once Dean Ferrante's resignation is accepted the Inland-Wetlands Commission will need at least one Regular member and one Alternate member.

Commissioner Discussion

No report.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Inland-Wetlands Conservation Commission, Inland-Wetlands Commissioner Jacob Hoadley made a motion, seconded by Inland-Wetlands Commissioner Nate Brown, to adjourn at 7:24 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Hale

Patricia A. Hale
Recording Secretary