

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
781-982-2100

Minutes
November 26, 2013
Buckley Room
7:00 p.m.

Members present: Denis Bergin, Chairman, Kathy Creighton, Jerry Kelliher, Bill Stone, Russ Forsythe, Mike Noonan
Absent: Joe Feeney

Mr. Bergin informed everyone that we were fortunate to have Boy Scout Jason Kinniburgh from Troop 41 filming the meeting this evening.

7:00 p.m. **Continued hearings #84-473 and #84-474, Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation and Notice of Intent filed by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Highway Division, for the widening and reconstruction of a 1.2 mile section of Route 18 in Abington, from the northerly limit at the Weymouth town line to a point just north of the intersection with Randolph Street (Route 139) at the southerly limit.**

Mark Fobert, Tetra Tech, Tim Dexter, Mass.DOT and Beth Parent gave the presentation. Project total is for 4.2 miles from Weymouth to Abington. There have been five projects done already. The goal is to relieve congestion, reduce cut-throughs, improve intersection safety, improve pedestrian accommodations, bicycle accommodations, replace bridge over the MBTA commuter rail, which is structurally obsolete and reduce flooding. They want to store storm water and move it off site. Showed what road would look like after complete – two 5foot 6 inch sidewalks, 5' shoulders on either side which also accommodate bicycle traffic, and four 11' 6 inch travel lanes.

The project needs to get a variance because they will have more than 5,000 s.f. of bordering vegetated wetlands impact in the Town of Abington and Weymouth. The process is to file NOI, which the board has to deny because it's over 5,000 s.f. After denying the project, the board issues its finding. The applicant then files for a Superseding Order with DEP. DEP has to deny the Superseding Order for the same reason (over 5,000 s.f. of impact to BVW), and they file for a request for a variance. There will be a lot of communication from DEP to Weymouth and Abington.

They will be permanently impacting three wetlands in Abington and showed the location on slides. There will also be temporary impacts to construct the roadway. There is no way to avoid the wetlands impact to Route 18 because you're widening a roadway that is in place. They are minimizing and mitigating and reviewed the project sheet by sheet.

The wetlands mitigation for the impacts – they needed to find a place that was wetlands before and then remove the fill and restore a wetlands. The only place they found that could meet that criteria was located at the South Weymouth Naval Air Station, and the mitigation area was pointed out – proposed 30,800 s.f. of mitigation. The temporary wetlands are restored in place. The mitigation would be under the jurisdiction of the South Shore Tri Town. They have 15 outfalls that are being repaved, going into three separate water sheds.

The storm water management systems are a major upgrade compared to what is out there today. They are putting in curb lines to direct the storm water into deep sub-catch basins. They are going to replace some storm water basins, detention basins, sediment fore bays, riprap aprons to protect the new outlets that are being built. System is maintained every year. Reviewed what was being done following slides being shown. They meet all the standards except for recharge, due to high ground water. This will be worked into the variances. They are going to have to find an off-site computation for that lost storm water function. They are currently looking at other locations. DEP will let them know if they can consolidate this at one location or multiple sites. Kathy asked how they would mitigate at another site. It was explained that there would be brand new storm water structures, designed to meet the standards to provide water quality treatment and recharge. The major things are TSS removal, water quality and recharge, which is the biggest challenge due to the ground water. They will have to do test pits to see what ground water looks like to see if they can get recharge.

Kathy wondered if Weymouth-Abington meeting had been on cable yet. It is on the Weymouth website. Kathy asked if there was an outfall by the fire station. They originally thought there was one there, but on researching it, according to Beth, it is on the other side of Route 18. Illicit discharges were brought up. People will be notified, and it won't be an automatic shut off; they will work with property owner to bring property to compliance as far as storm water. The State will work with the property owners. Kathy just wanted to make sure that the public is aware.

Kathy was interested in the test pit locations on Oak Street as to ground water. Besides the 10' work zone, will there be lay down areas and areas for construction equipment; how will they manage the materials and equipment, how will they move the dirt? There are temporary easements, and if contractors need additional area, it is on them to secure those areas. Kathy wanted to know how far away everything would be from the wetlands. They couldn't give a specific distance, but a condition can be placed that all stockpiled areas must be properly contained. There will be erosion controls and orange snow fence installed. DEP will add conditions about where they can stock pile materials. The test pits on Oak Street are #101 and 102 and were done in May 2013. The ground water is a foot below the bottom of the basin there. The bottom elevation is 126 and ground water is at 125. There is an operation and maintenance plan. Project won't start for a year and a half.

Kathy asked when the people impacted would be notified. They weren't sure. Denis showed photos from site walk, Outfall 5. The plans show drainage area horizontal to the road. One part is filled in and the other part was blocked by the land owner. Address is 1477 Bedford Street (pull file for next meeting). Kathy asked about the detention basin there with the long pipe, a couple of hundred feet long. She was concerned that it would work properly.

Denis felt the ANRAD should be approved at the next meeting, but due to regulations, NOI should be denied at next meeting.

Motion to close hearings and make recommendations at next meeting made by Bill, seconded by Russ, unanimous.

Request for Certificate of Compliance on #84-467, 470 Linwood Street, Paul Crowley. As-builts had shown that there were some changes – new driveway and deck. Jerry and Denis went out and looked at it and felt it improved the drainage. Kathy – would like contractors to let the board know about changes before they make them.

Motion by Jerry to approve the Certificate of Compliance on #84-467, seconded by Mike, unanimous.

Denis updated the board on an enforcement order that was issued today at 267 N. Quincy Street.

Jerry and Denis had gone out at the request of Chief Nuttall due to a fire by Ames Nowell. They met with the property owner and Fire Chief, people from DCR. There was a big fire about a mile in. There are a lot of businesses back there. There are utility wires out there. At the end of this, there were tree stumps on fire. Fire went in to Ames Nowell State Park about 200 yards. The stone wall was pushed in. Denis wrote up a report. There is a culvert, and either an isolated wetland or a wetlands on the side of the fence. Copy of report attached. They spoke with the contractor, Manny Bugginga, who thought kids had set the fire. He agreed to cease and desist order that there would be no more stockpiling wood at this time until they find out exactly how they can contain this. Denis drafted a cease and desist for the board's consideration and for him to come to the next meeting. The work site itself was not in the wetlands, but when it caught fire, it encroached on the wetlands. This property hasn't had to go before Commission; it has gone before DEP Solid Waste.

Motion to approve enforcement order made by Kathy, seconded by Mike, unanimous.

Correspondence:

DEP has issued Superseding Order of Conditions on 84-462, which has been appealed by the home owner. This goes to an administrative hearing, in which the Commission may be represented. Kathy felt that since most of the board hadn't been on the board at that time, she didn't feel the board needed to be represented and have the town go to that expense. Board agreed.

Minutes – Motion to approve November 12, 2013 minutes made by Russ, seconded by Jerry, unanimous.

Motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. made by Mike, seconded by Bill, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hurst