

Freetown Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Monday, October 5, 2015 Meeting
Town Hall – Assonet, Mass.

Present: Keven Desmarais, Christopher Mather, Charles Sullivan, and Maria Ternullo.

Absent: Janine Robidoux.

Call to order: Keven Desmarais called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of October 20, 2014, and September 14, 2015, were received. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to accept the minutes as presented with one correction on 9/14/15. The motion carried unanimously.

Notice of Intent – 126 Richmond Road, Assonet

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to waive the reading of the public hearing notice. The motion carried unanimously.

Mike Moreshead was present to discuss the proposal. They are proposing to replace an existing septic system that has failed. The property is very tight due to wetlands, proximity to the river, and the shape of the lot. They will have hay bales and silt fence as necessary. The new septic system will be a gravity-driven system.

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to approve the plans dated September 29th. The motion carried unanimously.

Notice of Intent – 22 Keene Road, East Freetown

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to waive the reading of the public hearing notice. The motion carried unanimously.

Nathan Dellecese and Rick Charon were present to discuss the proposal. Mr. Dellecese is proposing to construct an engineered steel storage building to the rear of the property at 22 Keene Road. Mr. Desmarais noted the plan shows a gravel driveway as an extension of the existing asphalt driveway, and he reminded the applicant that if the plan is approved the driveway will have to remain gravel and cannot ever thereafter be paved. Mr. Desmarais asked about the southwest corner of the property, whether there is a boundary marker of any sort. Mr. Charon stated there was not, and that he had to shoot off a marker that was several hundred feet away in the cranberry bogs. Mr. Desmarais noted that the neighbors at 24 Keene Road had been in to review the plans and were concerned about encroachment onto their property. He advised Mr. Charon and Mr. Dellecese to be mindful of the property line during construction. Mr. Charon stated he would be staking out the footprint of the building to ensure compliance.

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Mather asked what would become of the spoils, and Mr. Charon stated most of the spoils would be used to level the driveway area. Mr. Desmarais asked about the trees, and Mr. Charon said there would be some more cutting but not much. A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to approve the plans as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination – 200 Chace Road (East Lot), East Freetown

Bob Kelliher was present to discuss the proposal. The current grade rises about twelve feet toward the east, and the applicant would like to build an earthen berm for noise reduction, to help dull the noise of the grinder.

They propose silt fencing along the north and south sides of the berm. Mr. Desmarais asked the applicant to be mindful of the drainage swale that Letourneau had in place – keep it clean and in good order.

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to issue a negative determination #3. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination – 200 Chace Road (West Lot), East Freetown

Mr. Kelliher explained that on this lot, they will be sinking a new well to meet current code (existing well is on the east lot). They have applied only because of the trench to get the well pipes to the existing building, and propose siltation control around the trench.

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to issue a negative determination #3. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination – 8 Evans Street, Assonet

Lou Ellis was present to discuss the proposal. This project was approved some time ago but the Order of Conditions has since expired. No major changes were proposed. The foundation and septic system are already there. The site was previously disturbed and the current proposal will improve the site.

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to issue a negative determination #3 with the condition that adequate siltation control be used in the low-lying areas. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination – 170 South Main Street, Assonet (“Algonquin” / “Riverfront Bus. Pk.”)

Sue Courtemanche and Jeff Peterson of VHB were present to discuss the project, which is mitigation of industrial pollution from the old Algonquin S.N.G. plant. Mrs. Courtemanche explained that Algonquin had developed a three-chambered system for disposing of effluent, which system was properly permitted in the early 1970s, but no longer meets any current standards. There are currently high levels of nickel and zinc in the ground. Two of the three effluent chambers have been removed, and the middle one is what’s left. Since the much is being trucked off, they will replace it with a compost of yard waste and sand. They will also use a seed mix to provide ground cover. Their original plan was to be finished by February, but they have moved this up to Thanksgiving.

Mr. Mather stated he appreciated the thoroughness of their application, and asked why only six to ten inches were proposed for removal. Mr. Peterson stated tests have been done and that is all that is needed to be removed. Mrs. Courtemanche stated that groundwater quality has improved dramatically since the process began.

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to issue a negative determination #2. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Certificate of Compliance – 5 & 7 Lang Road

Mr. Desmarais reported he had visited the site and the project is compliant. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance. The motion carried unanimously. The certificate will be held until the original Order of Conditions is recorded.

Request for Certificate of Compliance – Kendyl Lane

Mr. Desmarais reported he had visited the site and the project is compliant. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Certificate of Compliance – 25 Hemlock Point

Mr. Desmarais reported he had visited the site and the project is compliant. A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance. The motion carried unanimously.

Continued Public Hearing – Lamb's Village

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to continue the hearing to Monday, November 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Certificate of Compliance – 27-R Locust Street, Assonet

Mr. Desmarais reported he had visited the site and the project is compliant. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance. The motion carried unanimously.

Bills

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to pay bills as listed on the bill sheet. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to adjourn at 8:39 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: Michael T. McCue
Michael T. McCue, Senior Clerk

