

Freetown Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Monday, May 8, 2017 Meeting
Town Hall – Assonet, Mass.

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JAB

Present: Keven Desmarais, Janine Robidoux, and Charles Sullivan.
Absent: Christopher Mather and Maria Ternullo.
Call to order: Keven Desmarais called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Notice of Intent – 3 Cameron's Way, East Freetown

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

Steve Gioiosa of SITEC was present to discuss the filing, as was property owner David Vermette. Mr. Desmarais reviewed the history of the site, noting that it was issued an Order of Conditions previously but now the plans had changed and a new filing was required. Mr. Desmarais further noted that the current proposal matches what was proposed originally but had subsequently been altered. Mr. Gioiosa stated the property had changed hands a few times, and now that a final potential buyer has been located, they wished to follow what had been the original plans for the property. Mr. Gioiosa stated that these plans, while altering the house, septic, and utilities, would also provide a larger yard area. He also noted that post and rail fences had been proposed in certain areas to the northeast and northwest where the site work comes nearest to the wetlands.

Mr. Desmarais asked if anyone from the public had questions or comments, and there were none. A motion was then made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Desmarais noted that under the existing Order of Conditions, work had begun without posting the D.E.P. file number or installing siltation control. While these items had been corrected once the property owner was informed, the siltation control was not installed correctly. He also noted that the proposed post and rail fence is less than what was originally approved, and stated that the Conservation Commission asks for these fences as a safeguard against future owners encroaching on the wetlands. Mr. Gioiosa stated that the limits of clearing had changed, so the fence had been shortened, but said that it could be put back to what it had been previously or longer. Mr. Desmarais asked that it be extended without blocking the existing woods road/cart path so as not to prevent use of something that the owner still has the ability to use. It was noted that the fence should have the buffer zone placards, and Mr. Vermette stated that he would put up as many as he is asked. Four placards were provided.

Mr. Desmarais asked if SITEC would be with the project for its duration, and Mr. Gioiosa stated that they would. Mr. Desmarais asked if biweekly construction reports could be provided throughout the project, and Mr. Gioiosa stated that would not be a problem.

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to approve the plans as submitted with the following conditions:

1. The western post and rail fence should begin near to the southwest corner of the garage (roughly in line with flag A4) and continue north to connect with the proposed fence as shown, ending at the existing cart path. The eastern post and rail fence should commence at the east side of the cart path (roughly in line with flag B12) and continue to connect with the proposed fence as shown.

2. Biweekly construction reports shall be provided to the Conservation Commission by SITEC for the duration of the project.

The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability – 0 South Main St. (Greany's Pit/Briggs Neck), Assonet

Steve Wiehe of Weston & Sampson was present representing the applicant, Eversource Energy, and Jim Rezendes was present representing the property owners, Rezendes Family Limited Partnership No. 2. The applicant proposes to install a solar farm of approximately 22 acres atop the former fly ash pit, which will involve approximately three acres of clearing, all outside the resource area. Mr. Desmarais noted that the flood maps show a small area, in the vicinity of the turnaround, is within the flood zone. Mr. Rezendes believed the flood map to be in error, and felt that the elevation was too high to be within a flood zone. Mr. Rezendes also stated that the area was protected by a berm and that the turnaround is existing and will not require any new construction.

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to issue a negative determination #3, with the stipulations that there can be no stockpiling in the flood zone or below elevation 15, and that construction debris is cleaned daily. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability – 0 & 9 Copicut Road, Assonet

Mr. Wiehe of Weston & Sampson was present representing the applicant, Eversource Energy, and Mr. Rezendes along with Peter Borges were present representing the property owners, R Five Limited, Inc., and Copicut Management Corp. The applicant again proposes to install a solar farm. Mr. Wiehe stated that the only wetlands were off-site, more than 100 feet away. Mr. Desmarais asked if any work would be performed in a buffer zone, and Mr. Wiehe stated it would not.

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

Reissue Certificate of Compliance – 49 Howland Road (Town Dump), Assonet

The original Certificate of Compliance has never been recorded at the Registry of Deeds and is thought lost. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to re-issue the complete Certificate of Compliance for capping the landfill. The motion carried unanimously.

Certificate of Compliance – 21 Water Street (Hathaway Park), Assonet

This was noted to be for the reconstruction of the boat ramp approximately fifteen years ago. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to re-issue the complete Certificate of Compliance for capping the landfill. The motion carried unanimously.

Bills

Bills paid since the previous meeting were recounted.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of April 24th were reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to approve the minutes as received with one spelling correction. The motion carried unanimously.


Any Other Business Properly Before the Commission

None.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: 
Michael T. McCue, Senior Clerk