Freetown Conservation Commission

Minutes of the Monday, November 5, 2018 Meeting Town Hall – Assonet, Mass.

RECEIVED FREETOWN TOWN CLERK

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

Absent: Christopher Mather and Janine Robidoux.

Call to order: Keven Desmarais called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

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Continued Notice of Intent - 15 Memorial Drive, East Freetown

Mr. Desmarais called the public hearing back to order and recapped the previous meeting's events. Nathan Ketchel was again present from Garcia, Galuska, DeSousa, the engineering firm representing the Town of Freetown for the proposed new police station at the corner of Chace Road and Memorial Drive. Along with Mr. Ketchel were Taylor MacDonald of Pomeroy Associates, Andy DiGiammo of Compass Group Architecture, LLC; and Town Administrator David DeManche.

Mr. Ketchel addressed impacts within the 100-foot buffer zone, as well as plans for drainage systems on the site. Much of the proposed drainage will eventually filter into the country drainage ditches on Chace Road, as the water runoff from the site currently does naturally. A drainage system from the Freetown Elementary School that discharges onto the site currently will be redirected so as not to impact the police station site.

Mr. Desmarais asked about the proposed crossing for the driveway exiting to Chace Road. Mr. Ketchel replied that the crossing would have winged headwalls on both sides, with two fifteen-inch pipes. The existing bottom of invert for the existing country drainage ditch would be maintained. The two fifteen-inch pipes will maintain the existing flow for the ditch. Mr. Desmarais noted the need to dig down and find or provide suitable base material, and Mr. Ketchel concurred. Mr. Desmarais asked if the headwalls would be formed in place, and Mr. Ketchel replied that they would be formed in advance.

Mr. Sullivan noted that the drainage ditch has been there "forever" and has historically been dug out to maintain flow; he felt that the proposed work was not detrimental, but in keeping with past practice. Mr. Desmarais agreed and stated that while the ditch may appear to have taken on the characteristics of a bordering vegetated wetland, and may even have begun to transition to being a bordering vegetated wetland, it was not a perennial stream and no replication should be needed.

Mr. Ketchel continued describing the drainage system, noting that it was designed to ensure runoff was isolated and away from the proposed drinking-water well.

Mr. Desmarais asked for bars or cages to be added to outlets and pipes where the potential existed for children or animals to get inside.

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was then made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to approve the plans as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Update on Enforcement Order - 41 Water Street (Cudworth's Wharf), Assonet

It was noted that the property owner had not responded to the subsequent request for filing a Notice of Intent; specifically, the post office tracking number showed the letter had not been picked up. A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting that the matter be turned over to Town Counsel. The motion carried unanimously.

Bills & Minutes

Bills paid since the previous meeting were recounted. The minutes of October 22, 2018 were received. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to accept the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Other Business Properly Before the Commission

None.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to adjourn at 4:46 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: McCue, Senior Clerk