

Freetown Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Monday, August 5, 2021
Held Remotely via Zoom.us

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK
2022 MAY 27 PM 5:55

Present: Keven Desmarais, Charlie Sullivan, and Chris Mather participated remotely via Zoom.

Absent: Keith Mello

Call to Order: Keven Desmarais called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Note: As this meeting was conducted remotely, all votes taken were by roll call.

At this time, Mr. Desmarais advised anyone listening along that all plans, files, etc., to be reviewed would be available on the Town's website during the meeting. He then reviewed the public hearing process.

Continued Notice of Intent – 41 Water Street

Mr. Desmarais called the hearing back to order. John DeSousa, of North County Group, was present. Mr. DeSousa stated that the contractor that was doing the work on the wall removed extra trees and made a mess of the site. An Enforcement Order was issued, and this Notice of Intent was filed as a result. Red cedar trees and a couple of maple trees are being proposed to mitigate what was removed. Mr. Desmarais stated that the neighbors reached out and said they were comfortable with the revised plans. Mr. Sullivan asked if there was a proposed timeline for the restoration to take place. Mr. DeSousa replied they would like to start within the next couple weeks. Mr. Mather stated that if the work is not completed within 45 days of approval then they should be fined. Mr. Desmarais responded that he agrees the work should be completed within 45 days after the permit is signed and after the 45 days, they will start to be fined. Mr. DeSousa stated that 45 days should be plenty of time.

A motion was made by Chris Mather, seconded by Charlie Sullivan, to close the public hearing. The motion carries unanimously.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, that the work on the plan be completed within 45 days of the time that the permit is issued. The motion carries unanimously.

Continued Notice of Intent – 67 Chace Road

Continued Notice of Intent – Off Chipaway Road

Mr. Desmarais called the hearings back to order. The applicants have asked to be continued.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to continue the public hearing to August 23, 2021. The motion carries unanimously.

Continued Notice of Intent – 4 Huron Avenue

Mr. Desmarais called the hearing back to order. Gregory Drake, of Outback Engineering, explained that the applicant is looking to upgrade their septic system to meet Title 5 requirements. This will be an improvement of the existing situation they have on their property.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to approve the plans as submitted pending certification that the DEP file number is received. The motion carries unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability – 6 Short Street

Tim Pillarella, the applicant, stated they are proposing an addition to the house and all work is located within existing lawn area. Mr. Desmarais asked where the construction will be coming in from. Mr. Pillarella replied that it will be coming in from Short Street.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to issue a negative determination #3. The motion carries unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability – South Main Street

Amanda Houle, from Tighe & Bond and James Clansy, was present. Ms. Houle explained the proposal includes the installation of an underground line on south main street and that they are largely exempt from filing an NOI. Mr. Desmarais asked if they derivate from the paved way, they will have to file with Conservation. Ms. Houle replied yes that is correct.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to issue a negative determination #3. The motion carries unanimously.

Continued Notice of Intent – 0 Rear Simmons Street

Jon Connell, of SITEC, stated that they are still going through the peer review process and will be addressing the comments.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to continue the public hearing to August 23, 2021. The motion carries unanimously.

Continued Notice of Intent – 23-25 Gurney Road

Jon Connell, of SITEC, stated that they are going through peer review and will be addressing comments. Ms. Desmarais asked if they are addressing the concerns of the easement to the Conservation property in the back. Mr. Connell replied yes, they put in a 6-foot path around the perimeter of the fence. Mr. Desmarais if they could look into what the width of the path is now and make the proposed path similar.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to continue the public hearing to August 23, 2021. The motion carries unanimously.

Discussion on the condition list for the 32 Middleboro Road Solar project

Mr. Desmarais stated he looked at the conditions and does not take any issues with it.

A motion was made by to accept and approve the conditions list for the solar project at 32 Middleboro Road. The motion carries unanimously.

Vote to appoint Craig Butler as part-time gate keeper

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Keven Desmarais, to appoint Craig Butler as the part-time gate keeper pending reference checks by the Selectmen's office. The motion carries unanimously.

Discussion on Open Space Consultant's Correspondence

Mike McCue, Open Space Consultant, explained that it was approved to have two alternate members due to quorum issues. The alternate members would be able to vote in the absence of a member. There are three potential warrant articles that can go on to Special Town Meeting. There is an 8.75-acre parcel of primarily wetland, in East Freetown that could be added to open space if the Commission wanted to acquire it. Mr. Sullivan asked how much of that land is upland. Mr. McCue replied that most of the parcel is wetlands and there are portions of the parcel that are not wetlands but are in the flood zone. Mr. Desmarais stated the consensus is to move forward on this. Mr. McCue stated the next article is appropriating money to the land fund from roll back taxes but recommended to hold off on that due to the taxes not being paid yet. The next article was an update to the zoning map that gets done periodically. There have been a few more parcels acquired into open space.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to send the first and third article to the Selectmen for the Special Town Meeting.

Minutes

A motion was made by Chris Mather, seconded by Keven Desmarais, to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. The motion carries unanimously.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Chris Mather, seconded by Charlie Sullivan, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: _____
Victoria D'Antoni, Senior Clerk