

TOWN OF SHERBORN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes

Conservation Commission Virtual Meeting

January 5, 2023

Commissioners Present: Co-Chair Michael Lesser (ML – left at 7:36 PM and re-joined at 8:00 PM), Co-Chair Courtney Ek (CE), Carol McGarry (CM), Steve Scrimshaw (SS), Kurt Stiegel (KS), Matthew Oleyer (MO), Jacob Strauss (JS)

Staff Present: Joyce Hastings (Interim Agent), Debra Takacs (Administrative Assistant)

Guests: Dan McIntyre, Eli Adams and Amy Rabideau

Meeting Called to Order

ML opened the Conservation Commission meeting at 7:15 PM.

Roll Call: JS-present, ML-present, KS-present, SS-present, CE-present, MO-present, CM-present, JS-present

Review Agenda (add topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in advance)

None added.

Site Issues None presented.

Conservation Commission Minutes - 10/6/22

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to approve the 10/6/22 Conservation Commission Minutes, as amended. ML-aye, CM-aye, CE-aye, KS-aye, JS-aye, SS-aye, MO-aye. APPROVED 7-0 by roll call vote.

New Public Hearing: Notice of Intent for DEP #283-439: 18 Lake Street (Map 10, Lot 39) for the proposed replacement of a failed septic system. – McIntyre Engineering & Septic Services, Inc., representing Gisela Perkins.

ML opened the NOI hearing at 7:25 PM.

Mr. McIntyre reviewed the site plan and location of the proposed septic system in proximity to wetlands. He noted the wetlands had been previously disturbed.

JH mentioned that the proposed septic location will be an improvement on the current failed system.

Mr. McIntyre referenced the site plan and noted that the driveway would be used for construction access. He addressed erosion control in the back yard, with all work to be contained away from the wetlands.

JH confirmed that proposed conditions included a pre-construction meeting, erosion control inspection, and the stabilization of the area.

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to close the hearing. ML-aye, CM-aye, CE-aye, KS-aye, JS-aye, SS-aye, MO-aye. APPROVED 7-0 by roll call vote.

ML presented the findings, which included the decommission of the existing septic system, installation of two wetland markers, confirmation that work would occur in the outer buffer zone (already altered). He stated that the work proposed would not be of further detriment to the wetlands, would be an improvement as it would replace the failed septic system, and would be installed further away from wetlands, with markers in place.

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to approve the project to replace a failed septic system with conditions as discussed. ML-aye, CM-aye, CE-aye, KS-aye, JS-aye, SS-aye, MO-aye. APPROVED 7-0 by roll call vote.

At 7:36 PM, ML left the meeting.

Warrant

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to approve the Warrant as presented, which included the BSC Group invoice and three certified mailers. CM-aye, CE-aye, KS-aye, JS-aye, SS-aye, MO-aye. APPROVED 6-0 by roll call vote.

Administrative Approvals - all outside jurisdiction

52 Brush Hill Road – septic installation

226 Western Avenue – single-family home addition

Bylaw Regulations Changes – Discussion on how to move forward

CE noted that the Commission would begin discussions on potential regulations changes at an upcoming meeting. CE would like the Commission to review ANRAD fees. CM acknowledged that reviewing buffer zone standards would take some time. JH stated that soil testing within the buffer zone on an existing lawn could be amended to facilitate failed septic replacement.

JH mentioned that a regulations refresher prior to starting a hearing might facilitate the review process. CM suggested the BSC consultant present his recommendations to the Commission.

New Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability: 18 Peckham Hill Road (Map 11, Lot 112) for the proposed replacement of a failed septic system. – McIntyre Engineering & Septic Services, Inc.- representing Mary Ann Metrakas.

At 7:50 PM, CE opened the RDA hearing for 18 Peckham Hill Road.

Mr. McIntyre presented the proposed septic plan, noting that the site included vegetated wetlands and a perennial stream with a drainage easement. Mr. McIntyre confirmed that the septic system would be outside of the 100-foot buffer zone, and five trees are proposed to be removed. Mr. McIntyre explained that some grading in the 100-foot buffer zone would occur and given the age of the lot, riverfront area regulations did not apply.

Mr. McIntyre confirmed that erosion controls would be in place. He confirmed that a neighbor would provide construction access outside of jurisdiction.

CM inquired about vegetation to replicate the 5 trees being removed. CE stated that the tree removal would be occurring outside of jurisdiction, therefore tree replacement was not required. JH confirmed the work would not take place in the inner riparian area, nor within the buffer.

JH confirmed she would be preparing a list of special conditions to include erosion control, notifying the Agent when controls are installed, inclusion of two wetland monuments, and no stockpiling within jurisdiction.

ML joined the meeting at approximately 8:00 PM.

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to approve the project with a Negative 3 determination with conditions as discussed. ML-abstain, CM-aye, SS-aye, JS-aye, KS-aye, CE-aye, MO-aye. APPROVED 6-0-1 by roll call vote.

New Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability: 25 Bear Hill Road (Map 2, Lot 90) for the proposal to install a ground source (geothermal) HVAC system. – Eli Adams

At 8:10 PM, ML opened the RDA hearing for 25 Bear Hill Road.

JH confirmed that a landscape plan was submitted as requested.

JH detailed that the special conditions included wetland markers, no stockpiling of materials within jurisdiction, and a final inspection by the agent upon project completion.

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to approve the project for 25 Bear Hill Road, with a Negative 3 determination with conditions as discussed. ML-aye, CM-aye, SS-aye, JS-aye, KS-aye, CE-aye, MO-aye. APPROVED 7-0 by roll call vote.

Adjourn

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 PM. ML-aye, CM-aye, SS-aye, JS-aye, KS-aye, CE-aye, MO-aye. APPROVED 7-0 by roll call vote.