

Conservation Commission
 One Liberty Lane
 Norfolk, MA 02056
February 12, 2020
 7:00 P.M.

Commission Members	Other
David Turi, Chairman ----- Present	Janet DeLonga – Agent ----- Present
Jim Wilson – Clerk ----- Present	Amy Brady–Administrative Assistant ---- Present
Alexandra Fraher – Member ----- Present	
Alex Weisheit – Member ----- Present	
Fred Laberge – Member ----- Present	
Allen Phinney – Member ----- Present	
VACANT – Member ----- VACANT	

The duly posted meeting of the Norfolk Conservation Commission convened at 7:04 P.M. in Room 124 at the Norfolk Town Hall. Mr. Turi opened the meeting and announced that the meeting was being audio- and videotaped.

ACTION ITEMS/ORDERS/EXTENSIONS:

19 Spring Street, #240-271 – COR

Mr. Weisheit made a motion to issue a Certificate of Release for 19 Spring Street, #240-271; Mr. Laberge seconded the motion; the vote on the motion was unanimous.

75 Cleveland Street, Right of First Refusal – after a brief discussion, the board voted. Ms. Brady will let the Town Administrator’s office know the outcome of the vote.

Ms. Fraher made a motion to decline initiating the right of first refusal for 75 Cleveland St; Mr. Weisheit seconded the motion; the vote on the motion was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

3 Cedar Road, NOI #240-625 – Plans presented and referred to were entitled “Septic Design, 3 Cedar Road, Norfolk, MA,” prepared by United Consultants, Inc. (UCI), dated 11/29/19. Present was Jim Susi, UCI.

Mr. Susi gave an overview of the project. Two existing cesspools will be abandoned and filled with sand. The new system will be a pump system, bordered by a block retaining wall, with 40mL erosion control material buried behind it. It is an 8,000 s.f. lot. The 184 contour, FEMA flood line, is highlighted. All permanent work will be outside of the flood zone; temporary erosion controls will be partly in it. Overdig from the septic system will be removed, and gravel will be brought in. Erosion control will consist of a compost sock. There is an area of 5’ between the overdig area and the retaining wall, and 5’ between the retaining wall and the erosion control sock. The wall will go up after top and sub soils are removed, and as the gravel is coming in. Top elevations will end up at 186.5 at the top of the system to 185.25 at the top of the wall. The wall will be 3’-3 ½ ‘ tall. The erosion controls will be moved to include area if they need to work on removal of a tree and its roots. Material being removed will be loaded directly into trucks.

Ms. Fraher made a motion to continue 3 Cedar Road to March 11, 2020, at 7:00 P.M.; Mr. Phinney seconded the motion; the vote on the motion was unanimous.

15 Lincoln Road, NOI #240-624 – applicant has asked for a continuance.

Ms. Fraher made a motion to continue 15 Lincoln Road to March 11, 2020, at 7:00 P.M.; Mr. Laberge seconded the motion; the vote on the motion was unanimous.

ACTION ITEMS/ORDERS/EXTENSIONS:

2 Old Pond Street, COC #240-611

Mr. Wilson made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 2 Old Pond Street, #240-611; Mr. Phinney seconded the motion; the vote on the motion was unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Norfolk County Registry of Deeds, Community Preservation Act (CPA) Surcharges for 2019 was reviewed.
- Eversource ROW Maintenance Notification – annual courtesy notification.
- Town Report Segment was reviewed and approved
- 360 Main Street, Comments to Planning Board NOH – Ms. DeLonga reviewed her comments to the PB

OLD BUSINESS:

- Conservation Signs – a “No Dumping” item will be added. Mr. Turi has received a proof; “Norfolk Conservation Commission” needs to be added; it will be priced out as 19” x 12” and 24” x 24”. DPW will be donating posts, they can be painted, hardware will be included.
- Wood Chips for Campbell Forest – DPW will provide and help spread them on the North Street side, and will also deliver to the Alice Street side for Sam Woodward.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: (cont'd)

Meetinghouse Road Solar Array, NOI #240- Plans presented and referred to were entitled “Ground Mounted Solar Array, 41 Meetinghouse Road, Norfolk Massachusetts,” prepared by CLC Design, pp EC-1, C-1, C-2, C-4, dated 1/3/2020, rev. through 2/7/20; pg CV-1 of same plan, rev through 1/24/20; Drainage Summary report, dated 9/23/19, re. through 2/7/20. Letter from abutter Barbara Collins to the Planning Board, dated 2/11/20; Present was Nathan Collins, CLC Design.

Mr. Collins said the proposal is for an approximately 250kW ground-mounted solar array, located on an existing undeveloped portion of the Townhouse property; part of the project requires work within the 100’ buffer zone to a wetland resource area; the area was originally constructed as a detention basin, but the homeowners association (HOA) could not provide adequate maintenance records; the Oliver website deems it a “human-altered shrub swamp.” Conditional approval from the Planning Board for the project has been obtained. The project will require the clearing of just over an acre; work within the 100’ buffer zone is just over 10,000 s.f.. No work is proposed within the 50’ buffer zone. A straw wattle is proposed around the limits of the clearing, as well as others along the slope to prevent sediment from traveling to the detention basin. There is a minimum no-clear 50’ buffer to the residences on Union Street. Gravel drive will provide access for maintenance and emergency vehicles; this has been reviewed with Fire Department. Maintaining existing grade to extent practicable; a swale will direct runoff to a proposed infiltration pond, which is 1'4" deep and accommodate a 100 year storm; there is an overflow for storms in excess of that. They have contacted Natural Heritage (NHESP) but have not heard back yet. Area of disturbance will be reseeded with a conservation mix, 2 seed types proposed in PB decision; additional evergreen will be added to provide screening for abutters along Union Street (outside of the chainlink fence,) although it is not yet shown on the plan.

Ms. DeLonga referred to her photos in her agenda notes, and pointed out an area where water currently goes that she would like double-checked, to be sure it is in the 50’ no-disturb area, and that the area will not be affected. Ms. DeLonga mentioned that the designation “41 Meetinghouse” is incorrect and should be corrected. The letter to NHESP did go Certified Mail. Ms. DeLonga asked about the 30’ wide easement; Mr. Collins said the HOA worked out that easement with the Norfolk Water Division; at some point in the future, the town will be able to access the water tower directly from the gravel drive that is part of this project.

Paul Burns, 32 Union Street, expressed concern about runoff, especially with regard to trees being cleared. He would like to understand how the limits of the swale were determined, and he would like to know what his recourse would

be if his property were impacted. Mr. Burns also asked about the compaction rate of the swale; Mr. Collins said no more than 90%.

Mr. Collins replied that is why they have the berms at the height they have them, as well as the detention pond, and explained how the stormwater flows to the various catchment areas. He noted that the stormwater report has been provided; and was peer reviewed. He said that there will be no increase in runoff from the site, up to and including a 100 year storm. In response to additional questions from Mr. Burns regarding details of the construction, Mr. Turi referred him to the Town Planner, Rich McCarthy.

Barbara Carter, 36 Union Street, referring to her letter, expressed concerns about drainage, and the fact that the original drainage basin was not maintained, and is now deemed a wetland. Mr. Collins said that the only water that would continue to go downhill was from the area they were not clearing (so-called Area 2B); Area 2B will not be impacted; water from cleared areas will go into the new drainage system, and there should be less overall runoff from the site. Ms. DeLonga showed Ms. Carter the plan in more detail. In response to Ms. Carter, Mr. Wilson said that clearing the area will allow more insects and such to flourish, creating a greater habitat for wildlife; hence the space that under the fencing. Mr. Turi added that NHESP will also create a plan for endangered species in the area.

Rob Stadolnik, 107 Meetinghouse Rd, asked about plans for landscaping on the west side of the property, abutting Meetinghouse Rd. Mr. Collins said all vegetation would remain; at its shallowest, it is 50' of wooded area. The black chainlink fence is around the entire perimeter, and will be gated and locked. ConCom is still waiting for a DEP # and communication from NHESP.

In response to Ms. DeLonga, Mr. Collins said they will be appearing before the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Ms. Fraher made a motion to continue the hearing for the Meetinghouse solar array to March 11, at 7:30 P.M. ; Mr. Laberge seconded the motion, the vote on the motion was unanimous.

UNANTICIPATED NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Wilson brought up the possibility of young volunteers (Eagle pledges, etc.) mapping all the trails in town, instead of cleaning them up. Mr. Turi suggested Lind Farm would be a good start. Commissioners were in favor of this plan.

Mr. Laberge asked about the status of 144 Seekonk Street. Mr. Turi said they are still with the ZBA, and would probably be before the Commission in April. Marta Nover's reviews have been forwarded to the Commissioners. This will be listed as an agenda item for the next meeting, with Ms. Nover invited to attend. Some Commissioners expressed an interest in a site walk in the spring.

Mr. Turi brought up the concerns of a resident regrading flooding at 89 Miller Street, that needs investigation. The resident would like to appear before the Commission in March.

Ms. DeLonga mentioned a letter received from DOT that she will research and report back.

Ms. Fraher made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Weisheit seconded the motion; the vote on the motion was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.



James Wilson, Clerk

In accordance with the requirements of G.L. 30A § 22 approval of these minutes by the Board constitutes its certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, the matters discussed, and the action taken by the Board with regard to those matters (if any). Any other information contained in these minutes is included for context only. Notes memorializing deliberation or discussion of any matter are in the summary form and may include inaccuracies or omissions. Where proof of the content of a statement is required, a tape recording or transcript should be consulted, if available.