

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
September 22, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Sheryl Becker
Magda Galiatsos
Jill Messick
Mark Soticheck

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Fred Harpin

ALSO PRESENT:

Deborah S. Dachos
Pamela R. Kerr

Mr. Kozloski called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

1. PUBLIC HEARING – Notice of Intent – Garden Street – Russo

Rob Levesque and Gary Weiner of R. Levesque Associates were in attendance along with the property owner, Thomas Russo. Mr. Levesque explained that this is a 6.68 acre site on the south side of Garden Street on which Mr. Russo is proposing 36 units (five buildings) of condominiums. He stated that a wetlands delineation was approved in June of 2010 and that this site contains bordering vegetated wetland with riverfront area being off this site. He stated that buildings four and five have buffer zone work associated with them. He went on to say that there will be a single car garage for each unit and some units will have patios, some will have decks. A subsurface infiltration system is being proposed to handle the drainage and will also contain a Stormceptor. Mr. Levesque brought up the DEP comment regarding overflows and responded that the system will overflow all water to the wetland. The plan shows riprap aprons, however, DEP wants level spreaders, which he stated will be accommodated. He then went over the DEP comments and Engineering Department comments. The first DEP comment was in regards to the infiltration chambers and the need to register them with DEP. Mr. Levesque stated that he will register the drainage system with DEP. The second comment pointed out that the filing is for buffer zone work only which Mr. Levesque stated is correct. The third comment was regarding the level spreaders which he has addressed and will revise the plan accordingly. He then stated that he will be requesting as continuation this evening as they will go before the Planning Board next week and he will have the plans revised. The Engineering Department comments were reviewed next. The first comment requests a copy of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) when filed with EPA. Mr. Levesque stated he will provide that. The next comment was that the Operation and Maintenance Plan should include instructions for erosion and sediment control. Mr. Levesque stated that the Operation and Maintenance Plan will be

revised to change the detail of the riprap outfall. The next comment was the Engineering Department's concern over the areas that are proposed to be graded with a 2.5:1 slope and the need to prevent short and long term erosion. Mr. Levesque stated that is addressed in the Erosion Control Plan. Mr. Kozloski pointed out that the Commission did not receive a copy of that plan which is very important for their review, however he had the Engineering Department scan this plan and had it for tonight's meeting. The NOI filing consisted of sheets C4 and D4 only. Mr. Levesque apologized that thought they had submitted a full set to the Commission. The next three Engineering Department comments were the need for cleanouts at bends and ends of the proposed roof drains, a clean out at the 90 degree bend at the overflow in guest parking lot; a detail labeled Foundation Drain be renamed to Roof Drains. Mr. Levesque stated that he will address these comments as well. Gary Weiner then explained that soil evaluations were done and it was determined that the soils are loamy sand and well-drained. He stated that the infiltration beds were oversized which allows for a smaller overflow pipe (4") and that this should be non-erosive. Mr. Kozloski asked what the slope is at the outfall. Mr. Weiner stated that at the outfall it is an approximately 5% slope and the rectangular infiltration bed near the roadway has a 12% or 8:1 slope. Ms. Messick stated that a 2.5:1 slope is not preferable as there are areas in town with such slopes that have had severe washouts. She asked if the slope could be less. Mr. Levesque stated that would require major changes to the design and pointed out that the 2.5:1 slope is between buildings 4 and 5. Mr. Weiner stated that the basin in that area was doubled and that portion of the site will drain to the roadway and they have also provided for American green erosion control fabric to be placed in that location. Mr. Levesque went on to say that during construction the site must be opened up methodically and not all at once; the slopes won't be touched until the buildings are constructed; slopes disturbed during road construction will be "buttoned up" until work takes place on the buildings in that area. Mr. Kozloski asked if they have submitted a phased plan. Mr. Levesque stated no but that the buildings will be constructed according to the market. Ms. Messick asked that a timeline be submitted, her concern being that when the slope is stripped that it remain open for as little time as possible. She stated that this is a sensitive area and this drainage will eventually reach Silver Lake where there is an existing problem with sediment.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the public hearing for Russo on Garden Street to the Commission's October 13th meeting.

VOTE 5-0

Members discussed a site visit and agreed that one be scheduled for the week of October 3rd.

2. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – Wright Street – Nardi

The applicant's representative requested a continuance of this hearing to the next meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to continue the public hearing for Wright Street to the Commission's October 13th meeting.

VOTE 5-0

3. CHAPTER 61B – Corey Street – Agawam Sportsman's Club

Correspondence was received from the Town Solicitor and Town Assessor stating that this property is no longer under Chapter 61B, therefore no action is required. Mr. Kozloski expressed his dissatisfaction that the Conservation Commission was not notified of this until September when the Town received the written notification from the seller's attorney in July. Ms. Dachos explained the process that is followed when a Chapter 61A or 61B notice is received and stated that this notice was sent to the Law Department with a memo asking how this office should proceed.

4. RATIFY EMERGENCY ORDER – Shelley Lane

Mr. Kozloski stated that he issued this Emergency Order for the removal of trees adjacent to a pond on Shelley Lane. The owner had notified the Commission that these trees were damaged during the recent storms. The Emergency Order allows for the removal of the damaged trees.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Soticheck to ratify the Emergency Order issued by Mr. Kozloski to Mr. and Mrs. Reed on Shelley Lane for the removal of trees that were damaged by the recent heavy storms.

VOTE 5-0

5. ENFORCEMENT ORDER UPDATES – Robin Ridge

Members have conducted a site visit since the last meeting. Ms. Messick suggested that a letter be sent to the owners of lot 2 instructing them to re-set their silt fences and provide a timetable to the Commission for the installation of the culvert under the driveway. She is concerned that this work should be done before winter.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to send a letter to the owners of lot 2 Robin Ridge Estates instructing them to re-set their silt fences and provide a timetable to the Commission on the installation of the culvert under the driveway.

VOTE 5-0

Optasite – Main Street

Mr. Kozloski stated that VHB sent an email stating that SBA Towers is currently working with their staff to put together the information that has been requested and will comply with DEP's timeline that was set.

6. CORRESPONDENCES

The Commission received copies of an email regarding a project change on the Main Street plans. The Commission had previously issued a Negative Determination for the Main Street project. The change involves a new sidewalk which the members feel is outside of the roadway and adjacent to a stream and would therefore necessitate a Notice of Intent.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Soticheck that the sidewalk change at Location 1 on the Main Street project plans would necessitate the filing of a Notice of Intent as the work will take place adjacent to a stream.

VOTE 5-0

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 8, 2011

Motion was made by Mr. Soticheck and seconded by Ms. Messick to approve the minutes of September 8, 2011 as written.

VOTE 5-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.