

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
June 23, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Henry Kozloski
Keven Brown
Sheryl Becker
S. Page Fallon

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Frank Meagher
Magda Galiatsos
Jill Ward

ALSO PRESENT:

Taryn Egerton
Hope Goff

Mr. Kozloski called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

1. 6:00 PM - PUBLIC HEARING – NOTICE OF INTENT – 40 Allison Lane - Tirone

Mr. Tirone was present along with Filipe Cravo of R. Levesque Associates who presented the NOI for a proposed single family home. He said that a site visit was done today with members of the Commission and some minor revisions were made including narrowing the width of the driveway by one foot and adding shrubs and trees around the pond. Mr. Cravo explained that the driveway connects to the Allison Lane cul-de-sac. He said some grading will need to be done to level the site. The buffer zone and BVW will be impacted. He went on to say that there is a culvert on the property across the access path. There is a retaining wall of railroad ties with a 1:1riprap slope. There is some concern with the degrading of the ties but he noted that the top of the wall is not supporting the road. He added that sugar maples and gray dogwoods will be planted around the pond. Mr. Kozloski noted that the Order of Conditions will include replacing some of the railroad ties.

Motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Becker to close the Public Hearing – Notice of Intent – 40 Allison Lane – Tirone.

VOTE 4 – 0

The Order of Conditions will be written at the end of the meeting.

2. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – NOTICE OF INTENT – 497 South Westfield St. –
DePalma & Tirone

Mr. Tirone was present along with Filipe Cravo of R. Levesque Associates. Mr. Cravo provided the Commission with a current update of the NOI for a proposed condominium complex. It was suggested that the wetlands be peer reviewed by Emily Stockman. Mr. Cravo received a letter from Ms. Stockman today listing her concerns with the current plan. He stated that he is looking to establish the BVW boundary to continue working on the plans. Ms. Stockman said she went on site on Tuesday and completed her field review. Today she submitted her comments to RLA. She said some BVW boundary adjustments were done in the field as agreed upon by Ms. Stockman and Ryan Nelson of RLA. Taylor Brook and the associated BVW have been flagged. Taylor Pond meets the criteria for a protected pond. Ms. Stockman noted that this area is actively farmed. It is presenting as isolated wetlands which are not protected by state regs. Rob Levesque said that there is relic hydric soil, no longer wetland vegetation, but cannot confirm because of the drought status. He feels a water quality certification may be required. Ms. Stockman said that on a May site visit it was noted that the agricultural road had recently been improved using wood chips which were into the shrub swamp, on the bank of the tributary and into the wetland. There was recent cutting and clearing of the wetland area and some trenching had been done. She noted that these are unpermitted activities and suggested that an Enforcement Order be issued. Ms. Stockman said she concurs with the BVW boundaries on the current plan with few adjustments. She does not concur on the intermittent stream or the designation of relic soil. Mr. Levesque noted that the area is constantly being changed by the active farming being done. He said they will work with the Army Corp. of Engineers. He then requested to be continued for 2 weeks to clean up the plan.

Motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the Public Hearing – Notice of Intent – 497 South Westfield Street – DePalma & Tirone to July 14, 2022.

VOTE 4 - 0

3. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – 0 South West Street & 0 Pine Street –
Town of Agawam

A request was received from Rich Niles to continue to July 28, 2022.

Motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the Public Hearing - Notice of Intent – 0 South West Street & 0 Pine Street – Town of Agawam to July 28, 2022.

VOTE 4 - 0

4. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Notice of Intent – Main Street – Westfield River
Interceptor Sewer Relocation Project – Agawam DPW (Continued to September 22,
2022)

The Public Hearing was previously continued to September 22, 2022.

5. Correspondence and Complaints

- The shed at School Street Park has been moved and seeding will be done
- 1014 N. Street Ext. – buildings being built. A letter was sent, no response to set up site visit.

Motion was made by Mr. Fallon and seconded by Mr. Brown to issue an Enforcement Order which will require a restoration plan for any wetlands, resource area, and buffer zone affected and an NOI must be filed within 3 weeks to be approved by the Commission.

VOTE 4 – 0

- 1710 Main Street – presumably extending paved area and dumping into the wetlands on Six Flags property.

Motion was made by Mr. Fallon and seconded by Ms. Becker to issue an Enforcement Order to require and NOI to address all activities being done under the Wetlands Protection Act by the next Commission meeting.

VOTE 4 – 0

- Southwick Street – Nicole Terrace – want to start planting but should wait until early September due to the drought.

- Corey Street – erosion controls are working

- 0 Shoemaker Lane – proposed single family home. The Commission will do an on-site tomorrow.

- 32 Shoemaker Lane – Order of Conditions on site.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 9, 2022

Motion was made by Ms. Becker and seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the minutes of June 9, 2022 as written.

VOTE 2 – 0 – 2 (Becker, Fallon)

The Order of Conditions was written for 40 Allison Lane. Included were replacing beams in retaining wall as needed with the replacement beams containing no chemicals harmful to vegetation or wildlife, and the DPW must inspect the culvert before construction begins.

Motion was made by Mr. Fallon and seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the Order of Conditions for 40 Allison Lane as written.

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VOTE 4 - 0

Motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Becker to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE 4 – 0

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.