

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
August 24, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Henry Kozloski  
Jill Ward  
Sheryl Becker  
Keven Brown  
Magda Galiatsos  
Frank Meagher

MEMBERS ABSENT:

S. Page Fallon

ALSO PRESENT:

Taryn Egerton  
Stefanie Kesecker  
Pam Kerr

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

1. 6:00PM REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION-1225 Springfield Street-Grimaldi

Jason Grimaldi, 1279 Springfield Street was present for this agenda item. He stated he would like to add a 33'3" x 32'7" addition to the east side of his mother's home as well as a 16' deck. He stated the Building Inspection advised him to present this to the Commission as Philo Brook runs through the property. Mr. Meagher stated the Commission performed an onsite and it is far from the bank and stream. Mr. Meagher reminded the petitioner to keep fill and dirt away from the wetlands.

Motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability for 1225 Springfield Street-Grimaldi.

VOTE 6-0-0

2. 6:05PM REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION-824 Suffield Street-Southgate Properties, LLC

Danny Hannoush with DDM Property Group was present for this agenda item. He stated they are requesting to construct a loading dock on the southeast corner of the property, which would require repaving an existing paved area that abuts the brook. Mr. Hannoush stated no impervious area is being added. Mr. Kozloski asked if they were proposing to pave over top or to

grind. Mr. Hannoush stated grinding. Mr. Kozloski reminded him to keep the grindings out of the brook.

Motion was made by Mr. Meagher and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability 824 Suffield Street-Southgate Properties, LLC.

VOTE 6-0-0

Motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Ward to amend the order of agenda to take items number 7 and number 9 next.

VOTE 6-0-0

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-August 10, 2023

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Ms. Becker to approve the August 10, 2023 minutes.

VOTE 6-0-0

9. Request for Certificate of Compliance-43 Hunter Green Circle

Mr. Kozloski stated the Commission performed an onsite and everything at the location was in compliance.

Motion was made by Ms. Becker and seconded by Mr. Meagher to issue a Certificate of Compliance-43 Hunter Green Circle.

VOTE 6-0-0

3. 6:10PM REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION-277 Silver Street, LLC

Danny Hannoush, with DDM Property Group was present for this agenda item. He stated the Commission had performed a site visit. They want to install a precast concrete 10' x 50' ramp up to the loading dock.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to issue a Negative Determination-277 Silver Street, LLC.

VOTE 6-0-0

4. 6:15PM PUBLIC HEARING-NOTICE OF INTENT-384 Shoemaker Lane-Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative.

Zachary Wallin and Jamie Fair with Weston & Sampson were present for this agenda item, as well as Anna Bishop with the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative. Mr. Wallin stated the property is currently a bus maintenance and parking area that is a mixture of pavement and gravel. He informed the Commission that LPVEC was recently awarded funding from an EPA grant and MassCEC to buy electric buses. The buses will require charging stations, which will be protected by bollards. 13 charging stations are proposed on the site. LPVEC is also closing their Southwick bus storage facility and those 38 buses/vans will be stored at this location. A new above ground fuel station is proposed, which will have two 5,000 gallon tanks for gasoline and diesel. The plan proposes a restricted angled parking to allow for more buses and easier entrance and egress. New pavement is proposed over existing gravel. Mr. Wallin stated there will be new catch basins that lead into a large underground detention system with an isolator row, and a hydrodynamic separator. The work will occur within the 100' wetland buffer only. There will be approximately 18,748 sf. of impact from paving, grading, fencing, fueling, and electrical infrastructure. Mr. Wallin stated the work will be occurring on an already altered area and erosion controls will be used around the entirety of the project area for the duration of work to prevent unnecessary impacts to the wetland areas.

Mr. Kozloski stated DEP had responded with several comments. Mr. Wallin stated they had just received DEP comments today and he stated they can be addressed. Mr. Kozloski stated Mr. Wallin would need to have a written response to DEP comments, and Conservation would need to do an onsite. Mr. Kozloski asked Mr. Wallin to find when this area was first built on and the plan. Ms. Kerr asked Mr. Wallin if he had received Engineering comments. Mr. Wallin stated yes and all the comments were addressable. Mr. Brown asked if the existing tanks were above ground. Mr. Wallin stated yes. Mr. Kozloski asked what year this site was first used. Anna Bishop with LPVEC stated it is her understanding that Five Star was the first to use the property, and LPVEC purchased the property from them in the early 2000's. Mr. Kozloski stated the petitioner needs to provide written responses to both DEP and Engineering.

Mr. Kozloski opened the meeting to the public.

Kenneth Blair, 373 Shoemaker Lane, an abutter stated he has lived here several years when the property was Zielinski, Five Star, and now LPVEC and numerous changes have occurred. He stated he would attend upcoming meetings and present any concerns he had to the Commission as he wanted to make sure things were done correctly.

Mr. Wallin requested to continue the public hearing to the September 14, 2023 meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the PUBLIC HEARING-NOTICE OF INTENT-384 Shoemaker Lane-LPEVC to the September 14, 2023 meeting.

VOTE 6-0-0

5. PUBLIC HEARING CONT.-NOTICE OF INTENT-North Westfield Street over May Hollow Brook-Town of Agawam

Francis Cameron with Woordard & Curran was present for this agenda item. Mr. Kozloski indicated that there may not be enough erosion controls as shown. Ms. Cameron stated erosion controls were not added in certain areas if it was up hill and that area is not to be disturbed. Mr. Kozloski stated on the lower end of the project the northern side the line of erosion controls need to be extended. Mr. Kozloski also stated the silt socks need to be staked 5ft. apart. Mr. Kozloski asked what protects the stream when the swale is being worked on, if there is erosion. Ms. Cameron stated there is a coffer dam and turbidity curtain. Mr. Meagher stated from the swale to the water there is a downward slope and asked if silt socks would be enough. Ms. Cameron stated there will be erosion control matting. Ms. Ward asked for an explanation of the coffer dam. Ms. Cameron explained the coffer dam creates a dam to stop the flow from entering the work area, and an impenetrable membrane will be placed over it so no water can seep into it, and a dewatering pump will be there for any residual water. She stated the contractor would submit a dewatering plan on how the water will be diverted. Mr. Kozloski stated in the Order of Conditions, the Commission would specify when the swale is construction additional erosion controls may be needed based on the sequential plan. Mr. Kozloski state the Order will also ask for a staging area location.

Motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Becker to close the PUBLIC HEARING CONT.-NOTICE OF INTENT-North Westfield Street over May Hollow Brook-Town of Agawam.

VOTE 6-0-0

The Commission wrote the Order of Condition for North Westfield Street over May Hollow Brook.

Motion was made by Mr. Meagher and seconded by Mr. Brown to issue the Order of Conditions-North Westfield Street over May Hollow, as written.

VOTE 6-0-0

6. PUBLIC HEARING CCONT.-NOTICE OF INTENT-1014 North St Ext-VIP Homes & Associates, LLC

The Commission received a request to continue this agenda item to the September 14, 2023 meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the PUBLIC HEARING CONT.-NOTICE OF INTENT-1014 North St Ext- VIP Homes & Associates, LLC. to the September 14, 2023 meeting.

VOTE 6-0-0

8. CORRESPONDENCE & COMPLAINTS

Francis Cameron with Woodard & Curran was present to update the Commission on the Tuckahoe restoration plan. She stated Andrea Kendall with LEC Environmental Consultants, Inc. had on August 6, 2023 observed a section of erosion controls installed within the Bordering Vegetative Wetland (BVW) instead of in the surrounding wetland replication area as intended. She stated a 1,900 sf portion of the BVW was inadvertently mowed. Since that time, Ms. Cameron stated a row of snow fencing has been added to this area to prevent further alteration. On August 21, 2023 Ms. Kendall performed an onsite and observed minimal regrowth of vegetation. Ms. Kendall recommends maintaining the compost filter tubes and snow fencing until the area is fully revegetated. Ms. Kendall's memo indicates minor grading within the impacted area may be required during construction and she recommends planting wetland restoration area plants. The memo also states LEC proposes to monitor reestablishment of vegetation consistent with monitoring requirements in both the Order of Conditions and Water Quality Certification. Mr. Kozloski asked if DEP has accepted this plan. Ms. Cameron stated she is waiting on a response from DEP, and will follow-up.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to accept the Tuckahoe Wetland Restoration B-Series BVW Plan for Tuckahoe, pending approval from Mike McHugh with DEP.

VOTE 6-0-0

Ms. Egerton informed the Commission that Engineering had reached out to her in regards to Tower Terrace where there is a drainage outlet issue and they would like the Commission to perform an onsite to see if a filing is necessary.

Ms. Egerton stated the Commission had issued an Enforcement Order several months ago for 61 Valley Street and no response has been received. The Commission will schedule an onsite.

Mr. Kosloski stated he and Mr. Meagher had went onsite at Beaver Camper and nothing has been done. He stated the property adjacent at 69 Franklin Street cut a tree down that is on the bank so an Enforcement Order is needed. Ms. Ward asked if the Commission had sent a letter previously. Mr. Kozloski stated yes for a different issue.

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to issue an Enforcement Order to the property located at 69 Franklin Street, the respondent will be given 30 days and will notify the Commission once the area has been restored.

VOTE 6-0-0

Motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mr. Meagher to adjourn the meeting.

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August 24, 2023

VOTE 6-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.