



**CITY OF GARDNER  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Minutes of the Meeting of  
January 22, 2018  
Hubbard Conference Room  
Gardner City Hall Annex Room 203**

**Members Present:**

David Beauregard (Acting Chariman), Duncan Burns, Michael Hermanson, Donna Lehtinen, and David Orwig. Also present was Conservation Agent Jeffrey Legros.

**Members Absent:**

Chairman Greg Dumas, Norman Beauregard.

**Guests & Visitors:**

Andrew Mansfield, The Gardner News; Jeffrey Malloy, BSC Group, representing MassDOT; Susan McArther, MassDOT.

**Public Hearings**

The Gardner Conservation Commission opened the joint Public Hearing under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance on the Notice of Intent filed by Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Highway Division for the activities associated with the replacement of the Pleasant Street Bridge superstructure over Pan Am Railways in Gardner, MA. The project will involve the replacement of the Pleasant Street Bridge superstructure over Pan Am Railways (Bridge No. G-01-008) and reconfigure the existing Pleasant Street/Greenwood Street/Greenwood Place intersection from its currently excessively wide and sprawling layout, to provide for intersection reconfiguration, safety improvements, and new pedestrian and greenspace. This project is being proposed as a Limited Project, per 310 CMR 10.53(3)(f) which allows for the maintenance and improvement of existing public roadways, but limited to widening less than a single lane, adding shoulders, correcting substandard intersections, and improving inadequate drainage systems. The project has been designed to comply with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's Stormwater Management Policy to the maximum extent practicable.

6:30 p.m., Meeting Room 203,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall Annex, on Monday, January 22, 2018  
David Beauregard, Acting Chairman

**6:32** Jeffrey Malloy, BSC Group described the proposed project including bridge replacement, culvert work, landscaping and sidewalk and open space improvements for pedestrian and traffic safety. He noted that the project would result in a decrease in impervious surface by approximately 2,270 square-feet and would include native wetland plantings within the Buffer Zone.

**6:46** Commission Member D. Burns asked the Agent if he had visited the site and if he thought the plan would be an improvement to existing conditions.

Agent Legros stated that he had visited the site on multiple occasions and reviewed the plan and that he felt the plan, as proposed, would be an improvement on existing conditions for both transportation safety and Wetlands Protection.

**6:50** Commission Member M. Hermanson asked Mr. Malloy the planned start date and duration of the project.

Ms. Susan McArther, MassDOT stated that she will provide that info to the Agent.

**6:52** D. Burns asked about the width of the proposed sidewalk.

Mr. Malloy stated that it would be a 5-foot sidewalk width throughout the project.

**6:57** A motion to close the hearing was made by D. Burns. The motion was seconded by M. Hermanson and voted unanimously, all in favor of closing the hearing.

### **Orders of Conditions**

**7:02** A motion was made by D. Orwig to issue an Order of Conditions with Standard Special Conditions. The motion was seconded by M. Hermanson and voted unanimously, all in favor.

### **Meeting**

Acting Chairman D. Beauregard called the meeting of January 22, 2018 to order.

### **Minutes**

**7:07** A motion was made by D. Burns to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of January 8, 2018. The motion was seconded by D. Lehtinen and voted unanimously, all in favor.

### **Request for Determination of Applicability**

None

### **Request for Certificate of Compliance**

None

**Request for Emergency Certification**

None

**Enforcement Order**

None

**Presentations**

None

**New Business**

None

**Old Business**

- **Bailey Brook Conservation Efforts – LAND & PARC Grant Status Update –** Agent Legros attended the PARC Grant Management Workshop in Amherst on January 16<sup>th</sup>. A letter will be submitted to the Mayor asking for his recommendation to City Council for the acceptance of both the LAND and PARC grant and for the authorization and allocation of funds necessary to purchase the Omealia property as two separate parcels under LAND and PARC grant programs for Conservation and Recreation purposes, respectively. Agent Legros will attend the upcoming Finance Committee meeting to present the letter and supporting information in hopes of a favorable vote by City Council at their February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- **Commission Office Supplies and Equipment –** M. Hermanson and D. Beauregard presented information from local vendors for jackets and boots. Agent Legros presented information from L.L. Bean for the same. The Commission will consider the various options and discuss at the next meeting.

At the Commission's request and authorization Agent Legros has ordered a soil auger and Munsell soil classification book/chart for wetland assessments and confirmation purposes.

**Motion to Adjourn**

**7:35** A motion to adjourn was made by M. Hermanson. The motion was seconded by D. Orwig and voted unanimously, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey D. Legros, Conservation Agent

All materials used at the meeting are available for viewing at the office of the Conservation Agent, Room 202 of the City Hall Annex.

*Minutes are available as follows:*

- Minutes are available on the City of Gardner website ([www.gardner-ma.gov](http://www.gardner-ma.gov)) under Conservation Commission.
- By appointment or request in Conservation Agent's office, Room 202 of the City Hall Annex
- Community Development & Planning office, Room 201 of the City Hall Annex