



**CITY OF GARDNER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Gardner City Hall – Manca Annex
115 Pleasant St., Room 202

978-630-4014

Gardner, MA 01440

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MEETING

Monday, February 24, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

CITY HALL ANNEX

SECOND FLOOR MEETING ROOM 203

Members Present:

Chairman Greg Dumas, David Beauregard, David Orwig, Duncan Burns, Donna Lehtinen, Norman Beauregard, and Michael Hermanson. Also present was Conservation Agent Lyndsy Butler, and Kris Singer (Administrative Minute-Taker)

Members Absent:

Associate, non-voting Member Martin Bowers

Guests & Visitors:

Mike Collette – 172 Fernwood Dr; Ronald Scinski – 171 Fernwood Dr; Charles LaHaye – 163 Fernwood Dr; Alan Rousseau – resident, Amy ‘Lily’ Hope – resident, Steve Rockwood – resident, James Basile – Hannigan Engineering Inc; Bill Hannigan – Hannigan Engineering Inc; Janet Morrison – LAND Conservation Consulting

MEETING – brought to Order by Chairman G. Dumas at 6:30 pm

Minutes

Vote to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of February 10, 2020

- A Motion was made by D. Burns to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by N. Beauregard, and unanimously voted in favor.

Request for Determination of Applicability

None

Request for Amended Order of Conditions

None

Notice of Intent

DEP#160-0632

The Gardner Conservation Commission will hold a joint Public Meeting under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance (City Code Ch. 650) on the Notice of Intent filed by Charles & Lynda Lahaye, for property located at 163 Fernwood Drive (H-37-15-4). The proposed project is for the construction of a garage located within the Riverfront Area.

DEP#160-

- C. LaHaye explained his intentions to build a 22x36 foot garage with an in-law apartment above attached to the house, after the partial removal of the current breezeway.
- L. Butler advised that proposed garage will be 140 to 150 feet from Wilder Brook. D. Orwig observed on the plans that the garage will not be any closer to the stream than the house currently stands. L. Butler also advised that the DEP has no further comment. Since the entire property is in the riverfront, there is no way to avoid it. Erosion controls will need to be put into place. L. Butler is not concerned with site runoff entering the brook.
- M. Hermanson has no issue with the project as long as erosion controls are in place.
- G. Dumas wants stamped plans with everything noted. L. Butler can draft an order of conditions, and would like to be notified prior to work commencing.
- C. LaHaye thinks that work can start in April, if given the go-ahead now. He advised that Mark Dymek is the excavator, G. Dumas noted that Mr. Dymek will know what the Commission requires in terms of erosion controls.
- A motion to continue the case to March 9, 2020 was made by D. Burns. The motion was seconded by M. Hermanson, and voted unanimously, all in favor.

The Gardner Conservation Commission will hold a joint Public Meeting under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance (City Code Ch. 650) on the Notice of Intent filed by Related Affordable, 60 Columbus Circle, New York, New York 10023, for property located at Manca Drive (R-17-19-2). The proposed project is for the partial reconstruction of a drainage system located within the Riverfront Area.

- Mr. Jim Basile from Hannigan Engineering was present to discuss the matter and summarized the project as DEP has yet to comment or issue a # to the project. J. Basile explained that the drainage system is failing along the road and some manholes along Manca Dr. are flooded with water and some are properly draining.
- D. Burns questioned the discharge from the original culvert which was built in the 1970's, and although it's 'held up,' sediment is moving through and there are areas of a potential collapse, as explained by Mr. Bill Hannigan. He further explained that the plan will be to remove all of the existing materials, bring in catch basins, and bring everything up to code.

- G. Dumas questioned when they will start, and B. Hannigan said July or August would be ideal because it will be drier and less vehicular traffic (ie. no school buses). Also, it will be easier to coordinate with all city services (Fire, Police, Schools, etc) during the summer months. G. Dumas agreed. B. Hannigan also confirmed that the duration of work should be 1 week, 2 weeks at most. D. Beauregard mentioned that the Commission could put in a condition for the need to do work in a dry period.
- G. Dumas questioned a maintenance plan for going forward, and B. Hannigan said that it is a part of the storm water reports, and it can be put in the order of conditions.
- A motion to continue the case to March 9, 2020 was made by D. Beauregard. The motion was seconded by D. Lehtinen, and voted unanimously, all in favor.

Request for Extension of Order of Conditions

None

Request for Certificate of Compliance

Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP#160-101

- L. Butler explained that this Certificate of Compliance is for part of an older complex on Stephanie Dr where a new house was just built. There is a small sliver of wetlands on the land that was part of the subdivision. L. Butler has no issue.
- A motion to approve the Certificate of Compliance was made by D. Beauregard. The motion was seconded by M. Hermanson, and voted unanimously, all in favor.

Enforcement Order

None

Emergency Certification

None

Presentations

Janet Morrison to discuss possible LAND grant application and possible conservation of 20 acres on City land on Bridge St.

- J. Morrison inquired about extending the grant, but G. Dumas pointed out that nothing can move forward with an interim mayor. Even an extension of 6 months would not be long enough to finalize any plans or decisions. J. Morrison suggests putting the \$17 – 20,000 towards stewardship.
- The LAND grant plans will need to be finalized in June. The Pultorek, Rosenblatt, and Guertin properties were all briefly discussed. G. Dumas is concerned about potential conservative spending of a first-year mayor and the city needing to come up with 30% of the cost to purchase, per the grant conditions.
- J. Morrison will do research on the Pultorak property to 1) check the current value, 2) check the original appraisal, and 3) contact Pultorek and talk about purchasing it at the current appraised value.

Old Business

New Business

- Hidden Treasures May 2020
 - L. Butler mentioned that former Conservation Agent Jeff Legros stated that this event has been done in past years.
 - Resident Amy ‘Lily’ Hope commented that the ‘News Page’ on the City site is inadequate to promote upcoming events.
 - L. Butler advised that she will need to know if we want to participate by March 22nd, and G. Dumas suggested asking J. Legros for some ideas.
- Arbor Day Seedling program
 - L. Butler received a flyer for this event and in the past, the city has usually purchased 400 seedlings. N. Beauregard would rather put the time and money toward large trees.
- FY21 Budget
 - Briefly discussed the proposed budget, which L. Butler thinks looks satisfactory.

Motion to Adjourn

7:32 A motion to adjourn was made by D. Orwig. The motion was seconded by N. Beauregard and voted unanimously, all in favor.

Agent of the Conservation Commission