



**CITY OF GARDNER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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

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MEETING

Monday, March 9, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

CITY HALL ANNEX

SECOND FLOOR MEETING ROOM 203

Members Present:

Chairman Greg Dumas, David Beaugard, David Orwig, Duncan Burns, Donna Lehtinen, and Associate Non-Voting Member Martin Bowers. Also present was Conservation Agent Lyndsy Butler, and Kris Singer (Administrative Minute-Taker)

Members Absent:

Norman Beaugard and Michael Hermanson

Guests & Visitors:

Rob Oliva – Assist. Director, DPW; Courtney Semlow & Bryan Vachon – Green Int'l Affiliates, Inc; Lynda LaHaye – resident; Steve Lemmo – Mass DOC; James Basile – Hannigan Engineering

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

Minutes

Vote to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of February 24, 2020

- A Motion was made by D. Burns to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by D. Beaugard, and voted in favor, with D. Orwig abstaining.

Request for Determination of Applicability

2020-02

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 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by City of Gardner Department of Public Works. Proposed work is located at 235 Willis Road (W27-20-4) and is for the rehabilitation of an existing sewer pump station building

and installation of a generator, driveway and fence. Project is bordering a vegetated wetland.

2020-03

- This is an existing sewage pump station that needs to be re-habbed as it was built in the 1980's. The improvements will consist of a new roof, new doors, new pumps, and new control equipment. The current generator is under-sized, and the proposed new generator will be located outside the structure within the buffer zone. A new fence with barbed wire at the top is also proposed.
 - G. Dumas asked for details about the new generator – it is diesel fuel, with a tank underneath and if a spill kit will be kept on site.
 - The generator will get a new pad with an approximate depth of 18". R. Oliva doesn't know the size of the new generator, and there are plans to have it monitored by a contractor for spills, malfunctions, etc.
 - There is no elevation change.
 - The DPW to remove and replace paving for the driveway.
 - Erosion control will be installed
- D. Beauregard motioned to close the hearing. D. Orwig seconded, all in favor.
D. Beauregard moved to approve a Negative 3 Determination with the condition that a spill kit be on site. D. Orwig seconded, unanimously voted 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 Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Massachusetts Department of Corrections, 50 Maple Street, Milford, MA, for work located on the portion of Chapel Street located on the east side of Route 140, and Colony Road. The project is for the installation of a new water main to the North Central Correctional Institution.

- C. Semlow from Green Int'l Affiliates, Inc described the proposed project to install a new waterline to feed the prison. There are a couple of resource areas located along the water line just inside the 100' buffer. One area in question may possibly be a small depressional wetland. L. Butler visited the site and noted that the area had minimal wetland vegetation and was upland and the area is isolated from other resources.
- C. Semlow advised that the plan is to keep the old water main in place. S. Lemmo from the Mass Department of Corrections explained that the old line is only 8" and put in place in 1929. There is not enough flow for fire prevention, so it doesn't make sense to restore the pipe. The new pipe is a 12" line.
- The railroad is aware of the project, but not currently involved.
- The proposed work to start in the summer, with a duration of 6 months to a year.
- L. Butler's only concern is the area near Chapel St that has a small part near the 100' buffer. D. Burns stated that the work is necessary, and L. Butler agrees and is ok with having erosion controls in place. L. Butler further stated that wattles would be efficient.
- A Motion to close the hearing was made by D. Burns, seconded by D. Beauregard, and unanimously voted all in favor.

- A Motion to approve the Negative 3 Determination was made by D. Beauregard, seconded by D. Orwig, and unanimously voted all in favor.

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.

Continued from 2-24-20

- L. LaHaye presented new drawings to the Commission that include erosion control.
- G. Dumas approved of the erosion control placement.
- D. Orwig asked if the property was steep, and L. Butler confirmed that it was not.
- A Motion was made to close the hearing by D. Burns, seconded by D. Lehtinen, and unanimously voted all in favor.
- A Motion was made to issue a Standard Order of Conditions by D. Burns, seconded by D. Orwig, and unanimously voted all in favor.

DEP#160-

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.

Continued from 2-24-20

- J. Basile from Hannigan Engineering distributed handouts of the plans for the drainage re-construction. He reiterated the drainage failures, collapses, collected sediments, etc of the existing drainage system.
- The DEP file number has been received and there are no comments from the DEP.
- G. Dumas expressed concern about past and future Maintenance Plans, specifically about the availability of a contact person in the case of an emergency and the Commission's ability to receive reports and updates after the work is completed. The existing Maintenance Plan needs to be more robust. D. Orwig suggests all of those concerns can be met by applying Conditions. It was suggested that a Maintenance Plan could be tied to the deed, giving the Commission a tool to achieve satisfactory goals from the property owner.
- D. Burns inquired about the duration of the project and was told "a couple of weeks."
- A Motion to close the hearing by D. Orwig. Seconded by D. Burns, and unanimously voted in favor.

- D. Orwig moved to issue an Order of Conditions with the following conditions, seconded by D. Burns, and unanimously voted all in favor:

Operation and Maintenance Plan must be updated prior to the start of work identifying a 24 hour on-call designee in the event issues arise.

List of fertilizers to be used must be identified within the O&M plan and approved by the commission prior to use.

Monthly inspections must occur and reported to the commission for a duration of 6 month once work has commenced.

Date in which work will commence will need to be assessed and approved with local officials.

Old Business

Appraisal information from Pultorak property

- The property was appraised in 2015 for \$270,000.
- The Commission paid for an appraisal at the cost of \$2,800
- The property sold for \$375,000

New Business

Letter of Support for Gardner Elementary School from Fire Chief, Richard Ares

- The Commission accepted the letter from Fire Chief Ares.

Account Balances to date

- G. Dumas reviewed the current account balances

Conservation Restriction Plan for Gardner Fish & Gun Club

- The Fish & Gun Club is looking for approval of Conservation Plan
- A local company is doing the tree cutting
- L. Butler walked the site and it “looked great,” noting it was marked well.

L. Butler advised that solar project at the Fish & Gun Club is requesting a need to bring in sheep to graze to keep the ground growth down. The Commission expressed their liking of the idea.

L. Butler advised costs for new rain jackets. They ranged from \$1276.03 to \$2016.53. The Commission agreed to go with the green, fleece-lined ones with the logo for \$1276.03 for all members.

Motion to Adjourn

7:34 A motion to adjourn was made by D. Beauregard. The motion was seconded by D. Lehtinen, and voted unanimously, all in favor.

NOTICE: These Agenda items consist of items that are reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting and are specifically allowed to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Agent of the Conservation Commission