

TOWN OF COLUMBIA  
INLAND WETLANDS AND COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AND MOTIONS  
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room  
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT 06237  
Monday, August 3, 2015

Members present: Chairman, John Allen, Vice-Chair Tom Archambault, Tip Garritt, Carol Ann Jaswinski, William Ross, and Ian Dann

Staff Present: Wetlands Agent John Valente and acting clerk Millie Ramsey

Others Present: James Blair, John Wilkinson and John Jamieson

Call to order: J. Allen called the regular meeting to order at 7:00p.m

Roll Call: Chairman, John Allen, Vice-Chair Tom Archambault, Tip Garritt, Carol Ann Jaswinski, William Ross and Ian Dann

Changes/Additions to the Agenda: There were none.

Audience of Citizens: No audience of citizens

1. Old Business

1.1 IWW-1415-21: Application of Kevin McKnerney to fill in wetlands behind house to increase lawn area at 65 Erdoni Rd., Columbia, Ct, Assessor's map 15, lot 6 and assessor's map 14, lot 8 in the LAR zone. Application will require an extension of time.

J. Valente said activity at this site is a violation. Property owners have received his letter. Aerial photos were provided. Home owners has been advised that an engineer's plan and a soil scientist's evaluation is needed to determine the best plan for the removal of the material Mr. McKnerney has already filled in.

William Ross MOVED TO APPROVE an extension of the permit for 35 days. T. Garritt , SECONDED. Motion carried 6:0:0

1. IWW-1415-27: Application of James Blair landscape and Design LLC to tear down and rebuild existing Lake wall and build permeable patio at 70 Route 87, Columbia, CT, assessor's map 13A. Lot 9, property of Sharon and Ronald Young.

James Blair provided a brief overview of his plans for work at this site. The existing fallen wall will be rebuilt with stones already on site. Cut back will be only what is needed to build a secure footing for the new wall. The goal is to save as much of the existing vegetation and trees as possible. Stairs in the wall will provide access to the water. Permeable pavers will be used for the patio. A mini excavator will be used for some of the stone work.

J.Valente commented that this is a difficulty site. The BOS and LMAC have approved the use of machinery on the lake bed. He has concerns about the possibility of removing and denuding the sloped area where part of the wall will be built.

J.Blair indicated that the intent is to retain and maintain the vegetation. A large-excavator----- will be used to reach over the junipers passing material to the mini excavator. Some cutting of the bank is needed.

J. Valenti outlined his concerns with the need to protect the infiltrators located under the access drive on the side of the house. Storm water will need to be diverted with hay bale corrals. John also reviewed with the Commission his conditions to add to the plan.

W. Ross raised concerns about what the Commission is actually approving. He wondered why BOS and LMAC have less concern over this plan than they have had for other plans of lesser magnitude. W. Ross expressed concerns with the middle section of the wall which will require regrading and a lot of material being brought in." In places its very steep and almost vertical." W. Ross would like to know finished grades and exactly where the the wall will be on the plan.

J.Valenti stated either a very detailed engineer's plan would be needed OR the Commission could go with a narrative as they have done. J. Valente stated that the existing wall will be triangulated at several points , this will enable the Town to verify that there has been no intrusion into the lake beyond the high water line.

J. Blair indicated that goods points were made by Commission members. The big machine will be used only in one spot for excavating from above. This area is located directly above the dock. Work will be accomplished by the leveling off of a spot to maintain as much vegetation as possible. Some will be removed and the area refilled with stone. He also indicated that the elevation of the wall would be the height of the existing dock. Common egress stairs will be maintained.

J. Valente added conditions needed for surface drainage.

Tip Garritt MOVED TO APPROVE the application, with conditions outlined by J. Valente. William Ross SECONDED. Motion carried 6:0:0.

#### 1. New Business

1. IWW 1516-01: Application of John Jamieson and John Wilkinson aka John's Scrap Metal, owner OSWA-LLC, 14 Grand Place, Newtown, CT. Location of activity 223 (209) Route 6. Assessor's map 6,lot 35. Activity, conduct a scrap metal business within the Upland Review Area, correct violations related to activities within the Upland Review Area.

The application is incomplete as of this date. J.Valente advised that the Commission could receive the application but not act on it. J. Valenti also showed photos taken within the last 3 weeks which show improvements the operators have made since the last meeting. All needed improvements that J. Valenti has asked for have been completed.

Fuss and O'Neill have completed their work and the operators are waiting for the updated site map. This map and additional information on the canopy will be available at the next meeting.

J. Valenti assured Commision members that no flow from the retention ponds reaches the Hop River. He would like to see sheet flow diverted to the flat area that was cleaned out.

Operators have taken immediate actions based on J. Valenti's recommendations to mitigate run off into the pond and wetland areas.

J.Valenti indicated that to proceed with the application some missing information is needed. The application is minus the owner's signature. He advised the Commission that they could receive the application but not act on it until all needed information and the owner's signature is provided.

Tip Garritt MOVED TO RECIEVE the application. Tom Archambault SECONDED. Motion carried 6:0:0

William Ross commented that the applicants are to be commended for clean-up work done so far.

3. Audience of Citizens: There were no citizens present.

4. Commission Open Discussion:

5. Administrative Report:

J. Valenti indicated that he works only 8 hours per week. He has taken some time off recently and some work items have been delayed.

- A complaint was received concerning filling of a flood plain area at the end of Commerce Dr. They are selling the business. A dumpster is on site and they have\_\_60\_\_\_\_ days to clean up the debris. There is approximately 60-85 yards of landscape block and fill to be removed.
- Rose's Bridge is going in . The area is very secure.
- Baker Hill Bridge is almost done. J. Valenti recommended that water be diverted from the bridgeto a silt fence corral to the side of the road. No sediment has gotten into the river.
- A complaint was lodged concerning activity by Mr. Angelo Sposito of 29 Woodland Terrace. A shed was moved and stone was placed under and around it. J. Valente visited the site and has not seen any violations. J. Valente had met with the Spositos a couple months ago and approved the the maintenance of existing landscape features and the addition of stone in an existing town drainage swale and stone under and around the shed.
- J. Valenti is working with a forester on Property on Pine Street. Forester is proceeding with work using "best practices". John has encouraged him to come to the Commission for a jurisdiction decision.
- A 40 acre parcel on the corner of Hunt Rd. and Wellswood Rd. is being forested.
- There have been standard inspections around the lake for nutrient allocation plans.
- Four applicants have been interviewed for the clerk position. None have prior experience.
- Municipal Training is available

6. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of July 6,2015

C. Jaswinski MOVED TO APPROVE the minutes of 7/6/15 meeting W. Ross SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 6:0:0

C. Jaswinski MOVED TO ADJOURN the meeting at 8:25. T. Archambault SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 6:0:0

Minutes respectfully submitted by Millie K. Ramsey; acting clerk