

**TOWN OF HADDAM
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
TOWN HALL
21 FIELD PARK DRIVE, HADDAM, CT 06438
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2023
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
*Subject to Approval by the Commission***

ATTENDANCE

A	Paul Best
X	Curt Chadwick
X	Jeremy DeCarli, Chairman
X	Gail Reynolds
X	Joe Stephens
X	Mark Stephens, Secretary
X	Tom Worthley, Vice Chairman
X	David Costa, Alternate - Seated
X	Leon Mularski, Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer
X	Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk

1. Call to Order & Attendance/Seating of Alternates

Mr. DeCarli, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

All regular and alternate members were seated.

2. Additions/Corrections to the Agenda

Add: Under New Business – b. Review and Approval of Wetlands Commission Operational Guidelines (By-Laws).

MOTION: Mark Stephens motioned to approve the 16 October 2023 agenda as amended. Curt Chadwick second. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comment

There was no public present.

4. Executive Session

No executive session was scheduled.

5. New Business

a. Timber Harvest for Roughly 27,220 Board Feet or 45 Cords of Wood at 110 Parmelee Road between Walkley Hill Road and Saybrook Road Across from the Town Dump (Transfer Station)

Neither the property owners, Thomas Sandock and Kristen Van Saun-Sandock, nor a representative from Hull Forest Products, Inc., were present.

Mr. Mularski distributed/reviewed copies of the aerial map plotting out the proposed timber harvest (Exhibit A; copy on file with the minutes in the Town Clerk's Office and Land Use Office) to

the Commissioners. The proposed harvest area (shown in yellow cross hatching) is located up against the property line close to Saybrook Road (Route 154) and no wetlands or wetlands crossings will be affected by this project. Mr. DeCarli stated two landings are shown (one by Saybrook Road and the other further up on the property) and that there are some steep slopes on site.

Mr. Worthley stated Saybrook Road is a state highway; and unless there's already a driveway at that location, they might have to get a permit from the state to come out onto a state highway.

For clarification, Mr. J. Stephens asked if the harvest is only being asked for within the yellow cross hatched area indicated on the map. Mr. Mularski stated yes.

Mr. DeCarli noted there are some old skid trails indicated on the map.

Mrs. Reynolds asked if the access roads already exist. Mr. Mularski stated from what he could see there's an existing access road off of Saybrook Road (Route 154) that sits at the corner of the property just across the street from the Transfer Station.

Mr. M. Stephens asked if there was a reason why they were proposing the cut. Mr. Mularski stated just managing diseased and declining trees. Mr. Worthley stated there is a patch cut that appears to be about two (2) acres. It looks as though where the green dot lines are located there will be a partial harvest and where the black cross hatch lines are shown there will be no harvesting. Mr. M. Stephens asked if the clearing is for a future house. Mrs. Reynolds, Mr. Worthley, and Mr. Mularski stated a house already exists. Mr. M. Stephens asked why they would be doing a clear cut. Mr. Worthley stated probably for habitat purposes and there may be nothing worth leaving. Mr. Worthley explained in places where there has been oak mortality from the spongy moth a few years ago, everything died except the junky stuff; and where there is oak regeneration on the ground, it is better to get rid of the junky stuff and let the oak and hickory thrive.

Mr. M. Stephens asked about mailing receipts (notification to abutters). Mr. Mularski stated he did not get them. Mr. M. Stephens stated it can be a condition of approval.

MOTION: Curt Chadwick motioned to approve an application for a timber harvest for roughly 27,220 board feet or 45 cords of wood at 110 Parmelee Road between Walkley Hill Road and Saybrook Road across from the town dump (Transfer Station). **Condition:** Certificates of Mailing to be submitted to the Land Use Department. Mark Stephens second. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Review and Approval of Wetlands Commission Operational Guidelines (By-Laws)

Copies of the updated by-laws (Exhibit B; copy on file with the minutes in the Town Clerk's Office and the Land Use Office) were distributed for review. Mr. DeCarli stated he made the changes as discussed at the 21 August 2023 meeting. Mrs. Reynolds asked about the addition of previous revision dates. Mr. DeCarli will add that. A brief discussion followed regarding wording under Article 5, Section 5 pertaining to the circulation area of the newspaper where legal notices and decisions would be published. Mr. DeCarli stated "*having circulation in the Town of Haddam*" is more or less what the Statute says. Typo indicated on page 2, Article 5, Section 3, end of sentence – change "matter" to "matters".

MOTION: Mark Stephens motioned to approve the Wetlands Commission Operational Guidelines (By-Laws) as revised. Gail Reynolds second. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Wetland Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Mularski gave a brief overview of his report dated 07/22/2023 – 10/12/2023 (Exhibit C; copy on file with the minutes in the Town Clerk's Office and the Land Use Office).

142 Injun Hollow Road – DEEP has agreed to let the property owners retain the wall, must remove all the floating wood in front of his property and the adjacent property owner's dock, and have been issued a fine. Property owner to contact WEO when he begins to clear debris; have not heard from him yet.

7. Approval/Correction of Minutes

MOTION: Mark Stephens motioned to approve the 21 August 2023 minutes as submitted. Gail Reynolds second. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Mark Stephens motioned to adjourn. Gail Reynolds second. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bunny Hall Batzner

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Recording Clerk

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, 20 November 2023.