

**TOWN OF HADDAM
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
TOWN HALL
21 FIELD PARK DRIVE, HADDAM, CT
MONDAY, 30 JULY 2018
SPECIAL MEETING
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
*Subject to Approval by the Commission***

ATTENDANCE

X	Paul Best, Secretary
A	Curt Chadwick
A	Jeremy DeCarli
X	Dan Iwanicki, Vice Chairman
X	Joe Stephens
X	Mark Stephens, Chairman
A	Tom Worthley
A	Dave Costa, Alternate
A	Gail Reynolds, Alternate
X	Jim Puska, Wetlands Enforcement Officer
X	Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk

1. Call to Order & Attendance/Seating of Alternates

Mr. M. Stephens, chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and all regular members were seated.

Mr. Iwanicki asked if the meeting had been advertised. Mr. M. Stephens stated yes.

2. Additions/Corrections to the Agenda

Commission approved.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. New Business

Proposed Pond Dredging at the Property Located at 89 McTigh Road, Map #55, Lot #7 1-1

James Rogers, applicant/owner, was present.

Mr. Puska distributed copies of photos Mr. Rogers had taken of the area for the Commission's review. Mr. Puska reported there's currently a large crew, contracted by the town, working on a reconstruction project (Phase 3) of McTigh Road and that a large box culvert will be installed in front of Mr. Rogers' house. Mr. Iwanicki asked if the box culvert will be installed in relation to the pond. Mr. Puska stated yes, and that's why the pond has been dewatered for some time. Mr. Iwanicki asked who dewatered the pond and if it was approved. Mr. Puska stated the town's contractor dewatered the pond and approval was given by the Commission (19 March 2018). Mr. Puska stated due to the town's project, he felt it was a good time to try to get Mr. Rogers proposal review and approved.

Mr. Rogers noted that the red boundary outline on the GIS map is inaccurate and that his property marker is approximately 15 feet further out from what the map is showing (goes beyond the pond). Mr. Rogers stated the bridge that's visible on the GIS map is his and that his property goes beyond it. Mr. Rogers also noted that the Haddam Land Trust (HLT) property is located on the other side of the road. Mr. M. Stephens stated the HLT has been notified of this proposal.

Mr. Iwanicki asked if there's a stream bed or a retention pond beyond the photo. Mr. Rogers stated as the pond/stream reach his bridge, the stream (Ponsett Brook) widens out. A brief discussion followed in regard to how the pond looks currently with Mr. Rogers stating there's nothing there but a big pit due to the construction work.

Mr. M. Stephens asked where the spoils will go. Using the photos, Mr. Rogers pointed out where he plans to place the spoils (in his backyard) and that they'll be spread out, topsoil placed on top, and grass seed spread. Mr. Rogers explained what the area looks like – brushes, shrubs, etc. Mr. Iwanicki asked how close to the stream he would be. Mr. Rogers stated approximately 30 to 40 feet away from the stream. Mr. M. Stephens explained that no dredged material should go back into a wetland. Mr. Puska advised Mr. Rogers to install silt fencing once the spoils have been dredged out and retained until the area is established.

Mr. M. Stephens asked Mr. Rogers how deep he plans to dredge the pond with Mr. Rogers responding 10 feet in the middle with grading. Mr. M. Stephens explained that the Commission would like to have more taken out in order for him to not have go back in more frequently and that creating different levels is more beneficial for the fish.

Mr. M. Stephens asked about trees getting in the way of the excavator. Mr. Rogers stated there will be plenty of room for the excavator to swing around.

Mr. M. Stephens stated the Commission encourages the retention of high grasses or native plantings to assist in taking the runoff and cleaning it before it enters a waterway.

Mr. Rogers stated if he's unable to hire the town's contractors to do the work, would the Commission object to another contractor who may want to take the spoils off site. Mr. M. Stephens stated there would be no problem so long as the spoils are dewatered prior to removal. Mr. Puska asked if Mr. Rogers was talking about excess material being removed. Mr. Rogers stated yes. Mr. Puska stated so long as there is more than 300 cubic yards of material being removed it would be fine as that would create another matter. Mr. Rogers stated he understood.

Mr. Best asked if the dark areas on the map are all wetlands. Mr. Rogers stated he wasn't sure as the area is all lawn.

Mr. Iwanicki asked when the house was constructed with Mr. Rogers responding 1972. Mr. M. Stephens stated 1972 was the beginning of wetlands regulations. Mr. Rogers noted that he has concerns about the shading of the pond as four large oak trees were removed due to the town's road project. Mr. M. Stephens agreed that having a canopy helps to keep the water cooler for the fish.

Mr. J. Stephens asked about the yard elevation in relation to the pond. Mr. Rogers stated approximately five to six feet. Mr. J. Stephens asked if any consideration had been given between the depth of the pond and the culvert height. Mr. Rogers stated it appears as if the culvert will be at the same height as it was previously noting some long stones a neighbor had installed are still in place. A brief discussion followed in regard to work that has been done to date on the town's project.

Mr. Iwanicki stated perhaps the town engineer (Jeff Jacobson, Nathan L. Jacobson and Associates) should look at this proposal in relation to the culvert as there may be parameters involved in the road design. Mr. Puska stated he's spoken to the town's engineer and the site inspector (a Jacobson employee) and everyone is o.k. with the proposal.

Mr. Rogers clarified that he had not spoken to the town's contractor in regard to his proposal as he wanted to make sure he had approval from the Commission to do the work and that he would be paying the contractor separately should he agree to do the work. Mr. Iwanicki stated he was under the impression that he had a mechanism in place. Mr. Rogers stated no, he would not do that until he had approval.

Discussion followed in regard to erosion and sediment controls (silt fencing and hay bales) and stabilization of the embankment (vegetation to be retained; only propose to reach out into the pond).

Mr. Iwanicki asked if the neighbors have been contacted in regard to the proposal. Mr. Rogers stated he had mentioned the work to Nick Barone, but would speak to Mr. and Mrs. Barone again. Mr. Puska stated a Notice of Decision will be posted in the newspaper.

MOTION: Dan Iwanicki moved to approve the removal of decomposed leaves and silt from pond by owner while the pond is currently dewatered due to installation of new culvert related to McTigh Road town project upgrade. See map on file in the Land Use Office. **Conditions:** 1. Standard Permit Conditions. 2. Special Conditions/Modifications – Yes. a. Properly installed erosion and sediment (e&s) controls for dewatering location. Joe Stephens second. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: Paul Best moved to adjourn. Joe Stephens second. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bunny Hall Batzner

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Recording Clerk

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 20 August 2018.