

INLAND WETLANDS/CONSERVATION COMMISSION

EAST GRANBY, CONNECTICUT

Wednesday, October 2, 2024
Regular Meeting
Town Hall Meeting Room
7:00 pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER** ~ 7:00 pm meeting called to order. Members present when Chairperson Jennifer Frank called the meeting to order were: Dan Methot, David Tobin, James Marquis, Ron Hunt & Alternate Lisa Griffin. John Rusnock arrived at 7:02 pm. Member absent: Trisha Rondeau
2. **MINUTES** ~ David Tobin made a motion to accept the minutes from 06.05.2024, Dan Methot seconded the motion, votes in favor: all but Lisa Griffin abstained, motion passed.

Jennifer Frank made a motion to accept the minutes from the Special Meeting on 06.20.2024, James Marquis seconded it, votes in favor: Jennifer, James, Ron who were at this meeting, motion passed. Lisa, David & Dan abstained as they were not present at the special meeting.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS** ~
 - a. Chairperson Frank discussed some letters received regarding a solar battery storage facility being built in Granby on Salmon Brook Street. There will be an online hearing for any interested.
 - b. Letter received from RTC, Todd Zessin, referring resident Colby Laviana to fill a vacancy on the commission, to be considered at next BOS meeting on October 9, 2024.
 - c. Brian Cosker, alternate member, resigned in August.
 - d. Vice Chairman Dan Methot submitted his letter of resignation, effective the end of this year.
 - e. Colby Laviana attended tonight with his wife as member of the public and introductions were made.

4. **OLD BUSINESS** ~ None

5. **REPORTS & OTHER BUSINESS** ~

- a. Update provided by Robin Newton, Town Planner, on Hatchet Hill violation. They are complying thus far with requests and Robin will follow up later this month.
- b. Report was shared from Mark Goderre, IWWEQ, regarding 118 Petersen Road. An administrative approval to create a farm pond was granted in January 2021. An inspection on 9.30.2024 was conducted and the pond and surrounding area have grown in to complete the pond. Pictures were provided.

6. **NEW BUSINESS** ~ Citation Ordinance: Chairperson Frank discussed the information Robin Newton provided for review. The procedures for establishing a citation for inland wetlands violations are state mandated with set rules to follow. The commission, with Robin Newton's guidance, will draft the ordinance, present to the Board of Selectmen and then it would go to a town meeting. Jennifer opened for discussion among the members. Members were generally receptive to this idea.

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The East Windsor Schedule of Fines is a nice example. The flow chart was a helpful visual for the timelines.

Dan Methot questioned whether it would be a commission policy or town ordinance, Chairperson Frank explained it would become an ordinance.

John Rusnock thought this is required by the state, but Jennifer explained it is up to the commission to voluntarily institute an ordinance.

Members felt it reasonable to provide 30 days to resolve the issue before implementing a fine, unless the violation is severe. Would have to set some parameters of severity, time sensitive v. not time sensitive. This would provide some clarity for whether to send a second Notice of Violation.

Jim Marquis questioned why we would implement this? Jennifer said to help enforce violations & Ron agreed that fines will help discourage violations. David said there is an option to appeal if violators feel they were fined in error.

Lisa Griffin questioned how the fine money would be allocated? Attorney fees? Could remediation of issues be a consideration of how money is spent? This is something Chairperson Frank will discuss with Robin Newton when drafting the ordinance.

Also, Jennifer pointed out that this fine can stay in effect for 12 months to ensure compliance with the agreement to remediate the offense.

Chairperson Frank asked for a show of hands of who thinks we should have Robin draft this up for a future meeting & consideration. All members were in favor, so Jennifer will confer with Robin.

- 7. ADJOURNMENT** ~ 7:32 pm ~ Dan Methot made a motion to adjourn, David Tobin seconded the motion. Votes in favor were unanimous, motion passed.

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