



Medfield Conservation Commission

Town Hall · 459 Main Street · Medfield, Massachusetts 02052-2009

Medfield Conservation Commission

PUBLIC MEETING

Zoom

Minutes of Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 7:00pm

Members Present: Chair Deborah Bero, Mary McCarthy, Michael Perloff, Bobby Kennedy, Cat Scott

Members Absent: Kirsten Poler,

Staff Present: Interim Agent Bob Hartzel; Town Planner, Sarah Raposa

Others Present: Director of Medfield Department of Public Works, Maurice Goulet; Town's Consultant (Woodard and Curran), Peter Lyons

At approximately 7:00pm, Chair Deb Bero called the Conservation Commission meeting to order and performed a roll call for attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- George Darrell has resigned from the Conservation Commission. If you know of anyone who would like to be on the Commission, they can submit a letter of interest.
- All Conservation Commission meetings are remote, however the office is still open. Please call ahead if you need to come in.
- The Zoom link for the Conservation Commission Meetings for the remainder of the year will be the same.
- For environmental updates please check the Town or Government websites.

Hearings:

Notice of Intent.

- **Applicant: Joanne Delapa**
Project Location: 26-30 Millbrook Road. Construction of a single-family dwelling. Filing under Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Medfield Wetlands Bylaw. DEP File No. 214-0690. *This hearing (after re-notice) last opened on August 4, 2022, at which time the Commission, after a substantive hearing, by motion voted to continue the hearing at the applicant's request to September 15. Upon the applicant's requests, this hearing was successively continued without the applicant's appearance and without discussion to October 6 then again to October 20 and then to November 17, 2022. Due to the unexpected cancellation of the November 17 meeting as a result of technical difficulties with public access to the town website and a zoom link to the Conservation Commission meeting, this hearing was expected to formally re-open on December 1 for the first time since August 4, 2022. The hearing was continued on December 1 and then*

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again on December 15 at the applicant's request and without discussion. The hearing was expected to open on January 19, 2023, but the January 19 meeting was canceled because the zoom link to the public meeting was inadvertently omitted from the posted agenda. The applicant has requested a further continuance to a date in March to be determined.

Ms. McCarthy made a motion to continue the public hearing at the applicant's request to March 2, 2023 without discussion.

Mr. Kennedy second the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4-0-1. 5-0 (Ms. Scott, abstain; Ms. McCarthy, aye; Mr. Perloff, aye; Mr. Kennedy, aye; Ms. Bero, aye)

Continued Hearings:

Request for Determination of Applicability

Applicant: Town of Medfield (Sewer Rehabilitation Project)

Project Location: *Land areas within existing town sewer easements at: 63, 67, 73, 75, 81, 83, 112 Harding St., 0 Harding St. and Harding St. Right of Way; Paddock Lane Right of Way; and 7 Surrey Run. Applicant proposes sewer rehabilitation work in the areas identified. The hearing was expected to open on January 19, 2023, but the January 19 meeting was canceled because the zoom link to the public meeting was inadvertently omitted from the posted agenda.*

Mr. Lyons shared his screen and discussed the RDA that was submitted, and went over trenchless sewer repair. He showed before and after pictures of existing sewers in Medfield that have already gone through this repair process. The big-picture goal is to have the wastewater treatment plant not have to clean already clean water. Manholes that are leaking are going to be replaced/fixed with cement, and sewer lines are going to be lined with a resin that will help the water flow smoothly and efficiently. Also, manholes that are buried underground will be lifted to above ground for easier access. What the final features/looks of above ground manholes remains to be determined.

Mr. Hartzel shared his screen and did a presentation on exemptions for sewer repair/maintenance through the Wetlands Protection Act. He found, out of the list presented, two parcels (related to one sewer rehabilitation area) that were not exempt. Mr. Hartzel showed in detail why these are not exempt and his suggestions for the areas. Mr. Perloff inquired if there should be a condition made as to how the outside/weather conditions should be during the repairs to reduce ground breaking. Mr. Lyons explained they have worked in all conditions but agreed that it should be during a non-growth season and dry conditions. Mr. Hartzel made the point that any conditions made would only apply to the two parcels that are not exempt out of the others listed.

Ms. Bero moved to make a motion for negative determination applicability.

Ms. Scott second the motion.

ROLL CALL: Ms. McCarthy, aye; Ms. Scott, aye; Mr. Perloff, aye; Mr. Kennedy, abstain; Ms. Bero, aye (4-0-1)

Minutes

December 15 & 20, 2022 & January 5, 2023

Ms. McCarthy made a motion to approve the December 15 & 20, 2022 minutes and the January 5, 2023 minutes.

Ms. Scott seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Ms. McCarthy, aye; Ms. Scott, aye; Mr. Kennedy, aye; Mr. Perloff, aye; Ms. Bero, aye. (5-0)

Administration

1. Commission Follow Up – Drafting, Signing, Recording

- Ms. Bero is going to be drafting an email to send to the DEP regarding Elm Street. She wants to draw attention to the matter and make sure that they are aware that the Commission is standing by the Medfield ByLaws should an appeal take place. Mr. Perloff mentioned that this may be irrelevant to do as DEP is going to stick to their regulations, regardless. Ms. Bero is going to send the email out to the commission to review before she sends it to the DEP.
- Ms. Bero went over the Lincoln Court file. She was unable to find a partial certificate of compliance for the first property that was presented. Ms. Bero is going to go to the ConComm office and try to find the partial certificate before closing/moving forward on this item.
- Ms. Bero discussed 50 Peter Kristoff Way; they have drafted the amended order of conditions but have not submitted the final plan. The Commission is waiting for a final plan with the location of the dog park, the putting green/artificial turf and the fence. Ms. Bero is going to send out another reminder to let them know the Commission is waiting for the final plan at 50 Peter Kristoff Way. (Mr. Hartzel did find that he did send an email on January 9, 2023 requesting the final plan and has not heard back from them yet.)
- Ms. Bero announced that there is a Planning Board meeting on February 6, 2023 with Trinity at 7:45 PM regarding Redevelopment of Medfield State Hospital. The Planning Board requested a letter from all the Commissions and Boards with any questions, concerns and comments. Ms. Bero had drafted a letter for Mr. Hartzel to review for submission. Mr. Hartzel noted that due to the lack of information at this time, the Conservation Commission wishes to be copied on any further submissions to the Planning Board to ensure the Conservation Commission is notified for any concerns that come up within their jurisdiction. Ms. Bero reiterated that this email would go out on February 3, 2023.

2. Commission Follow Up – Inspection, Enforcement, Monitoring

- Ms. Bero mentioned that Mr. Kennedy was supposed to go out to the Norfolk Hunt Club and observe to see if the work that was supposed to be done up there had actually been completed and done properly.
- Mr. Kennedy stated that the company Solitude, has a Notice of Intent on doing the maintenance for the pond to a certain point. Mr. Kennedy referenced Solitude putting together a presentation for the Commission. Ms. Bero confirmed that there is a meeting scheduled with them on February 9, 2023 at 10AM. Ms. Bero encouraged everyone to attend to help understand the needs for the ponds.
- Mr. Hartzel weighed out the pros and cons of different herbicides and amounts needed for the ponds.
- Mr. Hartzel updated the commission on incoming cases.

3. Commission Authority, Organization, Finances

- Ms. Bero discussed the request for a Letter of Support for the Medfield Energy Committee to support the town in the Climate Action Plan. Ms. Bero suggested having someone draft a letter to circulate from the Commission or from individual Commissioners.

4. Land Management

- Ms. Bero mentioned that the New England Orienteering Club should be returning in April for their event. She asked if anyone in the Commission would be interested in handling the paperwork, inspections and possible licensing for this upcoming event.
- Ms. Bero discussed the need to certify Vernal Pools in the Springtime. She would like everyone on the Commission to come up with at least one or two vernal pools to make it more manageable to certify. Ms. Bero believes this is an opportunity for the Commissioners to be in the field to certify vernal pools.
- Ms. Bero stated that a liaison from Scout Troop 89 had reached out to the Conservation Commission seeking to strengthen the working relationship between the Scout Troop and the Conservation Commission. The liaison felt that the Scouts could provide valuable assistance to the Commission and that the Scout's work could also support Eagle Scout projects and assist with earning Merit Badges.

5. Reports

- Ms. Bero received an email from Ms. Raposa in regards to the Annual Report. Ms. Bero put together information and had the Commissioners review it. She will have the Annual Report submitted on February 3, 2023.
- Ms. Bero made aware the pond permitting does not expire until August, however, she would like to have something drafted pertaining to this sooner rather than later.

6. Other

- Wayne Carlson has put together a plan regarding Hinkley Pond Property Research. Ms. Bero is going to obtain a copy to get to everyone on the Commission to review.
- Charles River Watershed and Neponset Watershed will be on the agenda for the March 2nd meeting.
- There were discussions on grant money availability for dams in MA. Ms. Bero discussed whether it could apply to us regarding the dam in Medfield.
- Ms. Bero is proposing that there should be recruitment for associate members as well as a Conservation Commission vacancy.
- Ms. Bero discussed land inventory and the possibilities that ConComm will have to take part in when the inventory is presented.
- Mr. Perloff wanted the commission to be aware that February 2nd is World Wetland Day.

Adjournment – At approximately 8:30 PM, Ms. Scott motion to adjourn the meeting.
Mr. Kennedy second.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 5-0 (Ms. Scott, aye; Ms. McCarthy, aye; Mr. Perloff, aye; Mr. Kennedy, aye; Ms. Bero, aye)

Respectfully submitted,
Cara Wise, Administrative Assistant