

Tyringham Conservation Commission

Minutes: September 10, 2014 / 7:00 PM

Town Hall 116 Main Road, Tyringham

In Attendance: Matt Puntin, Bill Dilloff, Alan Wilcox, Noah Choquette, Mimi Crandall, Adam Reichle, Andrew Reichle, Shannon Boomsma, Matt Nowak (Hatch Mott MacDonald), Don Perkins, Adam Brown (Appalachian Trail Conservancy)

Chairman, Matt Puntin, opened the meeting with an introductory statement describing the proceedings to the audience.

1. NOI – Schulman, Sodom Pond – This Notice of Intent is a continued hearing. The applicant is represented by Shannon Boomsma of White Engineering. The site was visited again this evening by Shannon Boomsma and Matt Puntin. A permit was obtained from the Army Corp of Engineers. Shannon explained the process to the Commission. This pond has been dredged twice in the past. The same technique will be used, and the same caretakers will do the work. The material that is removed will be stockpiled near the house and used on the property. When the water level is drawn down there will be a channel maintained. Any wildlife found will be moved to the small pond. There will be erosion control. There will be no disturbance of vegetative wetlands. The work will take several weeks.

Matt Puntin moved to condition that a Representative (possibly from White Engineering) will make a weekly inspection to monitor the work. And make a monthly report to the Tyringham Conservation Commission (can be an e-mail). Matt made a motion to give an Order of Conditions with the last condition added. Motion was seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

2. RDA – 39 Cooper Creek Road – Dana Bixby representing Rhonna Goodman presented the Request for Determination on an addition to an existing one story dwelling. Ms. Bixby had done work previously at this location and delineation had been done at that time.

Matt Puntin stated that the work was not in the buffer zone. Therefore a Negative 1 determination would be given. Motion to grant a Determination of Applicability with a Negative 1 determination was made, and seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. NOI – Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, Exposed Pipe Remediation Project – At the time of this meeting no DEP File number had been assigned to this NOI. Therefore, the hearing would be continued.

Don Perkins of Kinder Morgan Inc. (Tennessee Gas Pipeline) and Matthew Nowak of Hatch Mott MacDonald presented the NOI to the Commission. There is approximately 15' section of exposed natural gas pipeline on the tributary "Hop Brook". Tennessee Gas Pipeline needs to uncover the pipe and inspect it. Then recoat the pipe and stabilize it. The pipe normally lies 3-4 feet deep in the ground. The pipe was installed in the 1950's, and over time the surface has eroded. The plan is to use an existing access road. All work will be done within TGP's existing right-of-way. This will not impact wetlands. There will be temporary sandbag cofferdam placed on each side of the pipe to do the work. The water will be pumped around the work area. An articulating concrete block mat system will be installed over the affected pipe. The area will then be back filled. All activities will incorporate erosion and sediment controls. Over time the concrete mats will fill in with gravel and sand washing over. This is considered a

limited project because it is a maintenance project. Once construction starts it should be 1-2 weeks to complete, unless they find something more when they uncover the pipe.

Matt Puntin noted that some information was missing on the application. There was no book or page number for the property. How would the Order of Conditions be recorded? Is the project located within the jurisdiction of MA NHESP? Matt Puntin asked Matt Nowak to address these questions for the next hearing.

There was concern about excavation. This project cannot be done without excavating on both sides of the pipe. After discussion, it was noted that there is no need to restrict excavation if NHESP approves.

The members discussed a special meeting be held so that the work can begin soon. It was voted unanimously that the Conservation Commission will hold a special meeting on September 24, 2014 at 7 PM. Mimi will contact Mike McCauley about the meeting.

At the conclusion of the meeting Matt informed the commission about some pending activity at 2 Jerusalem Road. He had been contacted by the owner who was interested in renovating the property.

Meeting Adjourned 7:55 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Mimi Crandall, Clerk