

## MINUTES OF JUNE 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 MEETING

A meeting of the Longmeadow Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:00 P.M. on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in the conference room at the Longmeadow Fire Station.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Al Laakso, Peter Bouvier, David Dumais, Wayne Ottani, James Ryan, Christopher Nolan. **Absent:** Andrea Chasen, Stephen Gazillo.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Matt Wzork from Tighe&Bond

**MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:** Chair Al Laakso made a motion to accept the minutes of May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 as presented and Jim Ryan seconded the motion. All in favor, minutes were accepted.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Salary Account \$4,548.62; Maintenance \$0; Office Supplies \$20.19; Misc. \$583.64; ConCom Trust Fund \$9,289.80; ConCom Wetland Protection Fund \$7,360.65. This is Peter Bouvier's last report as treasurer as he will retire starting July 1<sup>st</sup> with David Dumais taking over the treasurer's role. The commissioners thanked Mr. Bouvier for his years of service.

**REVIEW – LONGMEADOW WETLANDS REGULATIONS:** A public hearing was called to order at 7:15pm by Chair Al Laakso. The proposed changes aim for better alignment of the town bylaws with the state regulations and, therefore reduce ambiguity; it also updates the names of federal or state agencies mentioned throughout the document. An amendment was requested to reflect the following definition on page 2, "Who should submit" section: "Any person or persons intending to remove, fill, dredge, alter or build upon or within 200 feet of a perennial stream, brook or river or within 100 feet of any intermittent stream, brook, creek, or within 100 feet of any bank, fresh water wetland, beach, flat, marsh, wet meadow, bog, swamp, pond or lake, or upon or within 100 feet of any land under said waters or upon or within 100 feet of any land subject to flooding or inundation, or within 100 feet of the 100 year flood line. There were no resident comments as none were present.

Al Laakso made a motion to accept the proposed language for page 2, Section "Who should submit" as amended; David Dumais seconded the motion, all in favor 4-0, the motion passed. Furthermore, David Dumais made a motion to accept the rest of the proposed revisions as presented, Peter Bouvier seconded the motion, all in favor 4-0, motion passed. Public hearing was closed at 7:30pm.

*Documents presented: Longmeadow General Wetlands Bylaw, draft  
Commissioner John Bresnahan joined the meeting at 7:45pm.*

**NOI – BIRNIE RD. LANDFILL CAP PROJECT** – Matt Wzork from Tighe&Bond provided the following details:

1. The project location is on a historical landfill that operated from the 1950s to 1970s and is above the 100-year flood elevation. It currently stores the asbestos-containing material (ACM) that was recently discovered at the new DPW site; the material was transported in recent months per MassDEP guidelines and temporarily capped with 6" of soil. A small portion of the site was cleared with an Emergency Certification issued by this commission to allow for truck traffic.
2. The corrective action design will consist of a permanent cap built in two phases:
  - a. Phase 1: installation of a welded 40-mil HPDE membrane liner on top of the ACM and its surface will extend 25' beyond the total area of the ACM bed. The membrane will be covered with 12" of drainage layer (sand) and 9" of soil. A passive gas venting

- system will consist of a 6” gas vent layer under the HPDE membrane with PVC vent piping. The exact location of the ACM burial location will be marked above ground.
- b. Phase 2: site to be completely cleared and seeded; a 10’ buffer zone around the perimeter will be cleared of trees but stumps will remain in order to reduce the impact on nearby wetlands. It is recommended that the site be mowed once per year.
3. Per MassDEP guidelines environmental screenings will be conducted yearly. No Invasive Species Management Control plan in place.

A 2010 letter from MA’s Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program states that a portion of the site is within “Priority Habitat 1337”. Due to the frequency of map updates by this agency, there is concern that the letter may be outdated; the agency has yet to respond to the NOI copy sent in recent days.

Chair Al Laakso made a motion to approve the application for DEP 205-329 “Birnie Road Landfill Closure Project” dated June 2019 with the special conditions:

1. All of the permit conditions (items 1 thru 26) stated on MassDEP letter sent to Town Manager Stephen Crane on 05/30/2019 must be followed.
2. Copies of any environmental monitoring reports per section B of said DEP letter must be submitted to the commission.
3. The applicant shall develop and implement an Invasive Species Management Control Plan and provide the commission with yearly reports.
4. The Commission must receive a statement from MA’s Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program prior to the release of the Order of Conditions.

John Bresnahan seconded the motion, all in favor, 5-0, motion passed.

*Documents presented: complete NOI application and drawings.*

**DISCUSSION – MVP REPORT:** Fire Chief John Dearborn explained that the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness is based on national programs and sponsored by DCR, FEMA and the MA Governor. A 2-day workshop was created with representatives from all of the town’s public bodies and information was gathered in order to develop three major plans and apply for grants:

1. Infrastructure assessment to proactively address areas of concern.
2. Study/inventory of trees on town property using a software that allows for effective tracking and prioritization.
3. Engineering study for repairs at new DPW site.

The Commission thanked the Fire Chief for his comments and pledge full support for the program.

**OTHER BUSINESS** – The following items were discussed:

1. During a DCR inspection of Gasek Farm it was discovered that the old signage was deteriorated; the commission intends to replace it during the next fiscal year.
2. The emergence of Japanese Knotweed around various town locations is of great concern.
3. Al Laakso and James Ryan were appointed to 3-year terms starting July 1<sup>st</sup> with Mr. Laakso remaining as chair; commissioners Wayne Ottani and Peter Bouvier will retire after July 1<sup>st</sup> and the commissioners are grateful for their valuable input throughout their respective tenures.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bianca Damiano  
*Secretary*