

Town of East Haven, CT
Inland Wetland and Watercourse Commission
East Haven Senior Center
91 Taylor Ave.
Minutes
March 11, 2020

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jerry Jaffe called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Jerry Jaffe-present
Rick Raffone-present
Robert Cubellotti-present
Richard Poulton-present
Matt Gallagher-present (arrived at 7:04)
Wendy Bellmore-absent
Vin Corso- absent

Also in attendance was Attorney Jennifer Coppola

4. Approval of Minutes from January 8, 2020

Mr. Jaffe noted there should be an addition to the February 12, 2020 minutes. On page 2, line 2, it should say "after a discussion, the Chairman called for a motion to accept for review or accept and approve said application. A motion was made by Mr. Cubellotti to approve the minutes with correction from February 12, 2020. Said motion was seconded by Mr. Raffone. All were in favor.

5. Public Comment:

Ms. Niki Whitehead wanted to speak, Mr. Jaffe inquired if this was regarding an agenda item. Ms. Whitehead stated that it could possibly be. Mr. Poulton noted point of order and stated that as a general rule, items on the agenda are not eligible for public comment unless there is a public hearing. Mr. Jaffe indicated that this commission has encouraged public comment provided it addresses an item on the agenda and limited comments to five minutes.

6. New Business

- A. Permit to request for 101 Frontage Road: Test pits for sampling purposes.

Mr. John Kleinfelder was in attendance to inform the commission of the work on this property. There would be 4 test pits to finish an environmental assessment. They would use a mini excavator and dig pits 2' x 4' x 6' for soil sampling. It was noted that nothing else would be moved or destroyed and that the work would take place in 1 day. This work is needed for future remediation. Mr. Poulton noted that this was temporary work in a non-regulated area and that no application was needed as there is no impact to the wetlands. Mr. Jaffe noted it would be prudent to have the work documented. Mr. Raffone made a motion to grant the activity without a permit. Said motion was seconded by Mr. Poulton, all were in favor.

B. Motion to designate alternate Wendy Bellmore as a continuing stand in when the commission is down a commissioner (s).

Attorney Coppola noted that alternate participation was essential so that they would be fully apprised of all commission business in the event they needed to sit in as a full commissioner. They would have all the information they needed to make an informed vote. This item was tabled.

C. Action Item: Vote to authorize fines to Danielle Verderame regarding violations of East Haven's Inland Wetland and Watercourse Commission's regulation specifically, regarding work performed within the 50-foot buffer area of the Farm River

Mr. Jaffe asked for a motion to move this item to 8 under enforcement. Said motion was made by Mr. Cubellotti and seconded by Mr. Poulton. All were in favor.

D. Call for any other new business- None

7. Old Business-

Engineering report on any work performed (if any) since application 20-01 (Cleaning of brooks and streams) was approved.

There was no update on this as Mr. White was not in attendance due to illness.

8. Enforcement-

A. Update from Town Attorney(s) on status of pending legal wetland matters

Attorney Coppola has been reviewing general wetlands files. She noted that changes need to be made to forms being use. She is working on forms for enforcement matters that are statutorily compliant. She also noted that any investigation of alleged violations needs to be done by staff. Information and updates need to be brought TO the commission.

7C: Action Item: Vote to authorize fines to Danielle Verderame regarding violations of East Haven's Inland Wetland and Watercourse Commission's regulation specifically, regarding work performed within the 50-foot buffer area of the Farm River.

Attorney Coppola has not had a chance to speak with Mr. White regarding this and recommended this item be continued to the next meeting. There was discussion on the proper procedures and time frames that need to be followed with violations. Attorney Coppola will be making recommendations for proper agenda wording in the near future.

9. Other Business –
Election of Vice Chairperson.

Mr. Jaffe called for nominations for Vice Chairperson. Mr. Raffone nominated Mr. Cubellotti. Said motion was seconded by Mr. Poulton. There were no further nominations. All were in favor.

10. Communications/Correspondence- None

11. Comments from members – None

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Raffone to adjourn the meeting at 8:10. Said motion was seconded by Mr. Cubellotti. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Vineyard, Clerk