



TOWN OF GROVELAND

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TOWN CLERK
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**TOWN OF GROVELAND
MASSACHUSETTS 01834**

BOARD: Conservation Commission
TOPIC: Monthly Meeting
MEETING DATE: **December 8, 2021**
MEETING PLACE: Town Hall and Zoom Meeting
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Dempsey, S. Bartelt, B. Formosi, F. O'Connor, J. Gebauer
MEMBERS ABSENT: T. Schaefer, T. Grim
GUESTS: A. Schindler (Conservation Agent). Jim Scanlan, Greg Hochmuth, Seth LaJoie, Anthony Yemma, Nathan Duclos, Scott Anderson, George (from Atlantic Engineering), John Paulson

Dempsey motioned to open the meeting at 7:05 p.m. on December 8, 2021.
Second by Bartelt. Voted: 4-0.

4 Yemma Rd Seasonal Waiver and BoH Update

Seth LaJoie explains the change in the shape of the leach field, which was done to better comply with Board of Health requests. The new leach field is now longer and more narrow than the previous plan and has been moved further away from the house. They still need to get approval from the Board of Health for the variances they have requested. Mr. Yemma asks about the deadline of the work to be able to give them flexibility.

Gebauer moves to allow the new plans, pending Board of Health approval, and to extend the seasonal waiver for up to 15 days of work at \$40/day, with an update by the next meeting of what work has been completed. Bartelt seconds. Voted 4-0.

6 Merritt Ave Seasonal Waiver Update

Jim Scanlan updated the Commission on the replacement septic system at this site. Hoping to be completed on December 17 with a total of ten days worked.

Gebauer moved to extend the seasonal waiver until December 31, 2021 with the same terms as the previous seasonal waiver. Bartelt seconds. Voted: 4-0.

O'Connor joined the meeting at 7:20pm via Zoom.

12 Pleasant St Seasonal Waiver Update

Nathan Duclos explains what work had been done, which includes excavation of the new foundation. Backfill will most likely take 1 day, foundation 3 days, framing 25 days, siding 20 days, and roofing 3 days. These are all estimates he received from his contractor. Dempsey moves to extend the seasonal waiver for up to 60 days until February 28, 2022 with the same terms as the previous waiver. Gebauer seconds. Voted 5-0.

139 King St Seasonal Waiver Update

Schindler heard from the applicant, they are still waiting on a contract from an installer but they hope to do the work as soon as possible.

Gebauer moves to extend the seasonal waiver until February 28, 2021 with the same terms as the previous seasonal waiver, as well as fixing the typo of \$50 per day to the correct \$40 per day.

Bartelt seconds. Voted 5-0.

10 Byfield Rd Seasonal Waiver Update

Schindler states that the septic system is completed, but that the seeding will be done in the spring because it is too late in the season now.

Dempsey moves to open the hearing portion of the meeting at 7:30pm. Formosi seconds. Voted 5-0.

268 Washington St NOI/GNOI

Greg Hochmuth presents an update on the work he has done at 268 Washington St. DEP returned comments on the project. The reason for the delay in filing was because the survey and property records are very old and referenced a perennial stream which has changed with time. While surveying it was discovered that a good deal of activity was actually done of Town of Groveland property. The bridge that had been constructed was on Town land and is not up to the standards so it will be removed, the fill that was spread in wetland areas will also be removed.

The existing crossing will be difficult to remove, will be done during the low flow season and a sump pump will be installed to move water around where the crossing is. New erosion controls will be put in place to protect existing wetlands and new wetlands. The new crossing will be a box culvert and the entire bank and land under the water will be preserved, one maple tree will have to be taken down. Hochmuth explains that the checks Schindler will receive with the filing will have the previous fees deducted from them.

The Commission scheduled a site visit on January 8, 2022 at 9:00am.

Gebauer moved to continue the hearing until the January 12, 2022 meeting. Bartelt seconds.

Voted: 5-0.

85 Main St GNOI

George from Atlantic Engineering presents the plans for a new house on the lot of an existing house on the 85 Main St lot. George explains that there will be minor grading done for the lawn area, and that the clearing done in the buffer zone is 5,100 sqft of the total 16,500 sqft of the lot, which is 31.2% of the total area. Schindler says she has received calls from abutters stating that they are worried about potential run off. George says it should be minimal or no issues. He also says the existing driveway will be removed and very few sqft of impervious surface will be added.

The Commission scheduled a site visit on January 8, 2022 at 10:00am.

Dempsey moves to continue the hearing until the January 12, 2022 meeting. Bartelt seconds. Voted 5-0.

769 Salem St RDA/GRDA

Jim Scanlan presents on behalf of the applicant. Scanlan explains that the system is in failure and needs to be replaced, and that the system will be the same size as the existing one which has been approved by the Board of Health. Schindler explains she requested the applicant apply because this portion of Meadow Pond flows like a river, which makes it Conservation Commission jurisdiction. Dempsey agrees that this should be considered river front area because it most likely would be flowing like a river if it was not dammed.

Dempsey moves to make a positive determination, that the replacement septic system is within Conservation Commission jurisdiction, and that the plans presented to the Commission are accepted as submitted and to issue a 15-day seasonal waiver of \$40/day until January 31, 2022. Bartelt seconds. Voted 4-0-1, O'Connor abstains.

868 Salem St GRDA

Schindler presents on behalf of the applicant. A dead tree fell from a brook area along the applicant's property, hitting their pool. Would like permission to remove the tree, done by a professional. The applicant also asked if the Commission would like the wood kept at or removed from the property, and for a fee waiver due to hardship. Formosi says to remove it from the property.

Gebauer moves to allow removal of the tree and wood from the property, and grant a one-day seasonal waiver for the work, also to waive all fees. Bartelt seconds. Voted 4-0-1, O'Connor abstains.

Dempsey moves to close the hearing portion of the hearing at 8:30 PM. Gebauer seconds. Voted 4-0-1, O'Connor abstains.

Groveland Water and Sewer Improvements Mailing Waiver Request

Schindler presents the Mailing Waiver Request from Lucas Environmental regarding the requirement in our bylaws stating notices must be given by certified return receipt mailing. Because of the size of this project, there are ~800 abutters which need to be notified, which would be incredibly costly. They propose to do certificates of mailing instead, which is what MassDEP requires.

Dempsey moves to waive the certified mail, return receipt regulation and allow certificates of mailing. Bartelt seconds. Voted: 4-0-1, O'Connor abstains.

Groveland Community Trail Seasonal Waiver Request

Schindler presents the Seasonal Waiver Request letter from the MassDOT to the Commission, which asks for a waiver for the whole season as they are also under seasonal restrictions from NHESP.

Dempsey moves to grant the seasonal waiver from November 1st, 2021 to April 15th, 2022 for the Groveland Community Trail. Gebauer seconds. Voted: 4-0-1, O'Connor abstains.

Pentucket High School Native Plantings Support

West Newbury Wild Natives reached out to the Commission regarding the scheduled planting for the new school, pointing out that there were very few native species selected for planting. They ask the Commission to write a letter in support of more native plantings. Formosi says we should send a strongly worded letter to the Superintendent. Bartelt recommends reaching out to King Nursery to ask if they have a large quantity of native trees. Bartelt moves to write a strongly worded letter in support of WN2 to the Superintendent and look into King Nursery inventory to recommend their use. Gebauer seconds. Voted 4-0-1, O'Connor abstains.

38 Benjamin St

Schindler presents the email with the restoration plan the applicant submitted on November 30, 2021 via email. Commission then discussed proposed restoration plan.

The Commission believe the wording is too generic and not a solid plan. Bartelt mentions spraying the invasive with chemicals or having the applicant excavate the detention pond. Formosi asks if the Commission has the authority to make them clean this up. Bartelt says they should hire someone to tell them how to get rid of the invasive. Formosi says it must be cleared out or significantly less by next year.

Tell the applicant the plan is inadequate and we want a better plan, preferable by a professional.

4 Berrywood Circle CoC

Replacement septic system completed in the summer. Schindler visited the site and it is stabilized. Dempsey, Bartelt, and Gebauer signed the CoC, Formosi and O'Connor said they will come to Town Hall to sign to get the required amount of signatures.

Environmental Program Coordinator Updates

Schindler shares with the Commission her activities at both Veasey Memorial Park and Town Hall. This included site visits that took place, office work and organization. Also the seasonal waiver research done. Gebauer says that the reduced fee of \$40/\$50 is too low for projects, should make an emergency amount for things like failing septic systems. Seasonal restriction waivers will be on the next meeting agenda; Schindler will send out information beforehand.

Calls, meetings, and upcoming projects

Received reports of hunting in Meadow Pond reservation too close to houses, will be contacting MassDEP Department of Fish and Game. The Commission's Order of Conditions for Sewell St was appealed by DEP. Received a couple calls regarding 895 Salem St due to their turtle habitat signs, which is not within our jurisdiction.

Open Discussion

929 Salem St contacted the Commission about doing some tree work on the property to help improve the sight lines leaving the property. Dempsey went to the site with the tree company to see what was to be done – nothing too involved.

Dempsey moves to add one day for the tree trimming to the seasonal waiver they currently hold for paving, giving the same terms. Bartelt seconds. Voted 4-0-1, O'Connor abstains.

Minutes for October 2021 and November 2021