



**Town of Groveland**  
**Economic Development, Planning &**  
**Conservation Department**  
**Conservation Commission**  
183 Main St  
Groveland, MA 01834

*Michael Dempsey, Chair*  
*John Gebauer, Vice-Chair*  
*Stephanie Bartelt*  
*Bill Formosi*  
*Terry Grimm*  
*Fredrick O'Connor*  
*Thomas Schaefer*

<b>BOARD:</b>	Conservation Commission
<b>TOPIC:</b>	Monthly Meeting
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	<b>May 11, 2022</b>
<b>MEETING PLACE:</b>	Town Hall and Zoom
<b>TIME:</b>	7:00 PM
<b>COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:</b>	M. Dempsey, S. Bartelt, T. Schaefer, F. O'Connor, T. Grim, J. Gebauer
<b>COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:</b>	B. Formosi
<b>GUESTS:</b>	Annie Schindler (Environmental Program Coordinator (EPC)), Matt Connors (142 King St), Greg Wick (6 Merrimack River Road)

TOWN OF GROVELAND  
2022 JUN 23 AM 11:16  
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TOWN CLERK

**MOTION:** Gebauer motioned to open the meeting at 7:05 PM on May 11, 2022. Grim seconds. Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Gebauer, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. O'Connor, aye. The motion passes.

**Approval of April 13, 2022 Minutes**

**MOTION:** Dempsey moves to table the April 13, 2022 minutes to the June 8, 2022 meeting, Bartelt seconds. Voted: Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Gebauer, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. O'Connor, abstains. The motion passes.

**142 King Street – Discussion regarding erosion**

Matt Connors, property owner of 142 King Street present to discuss.

**Connors:** I would like to modify the erosion controls on the plan to be silt sock on the down gradient portions of the lot, and silt fencing on the up gradient portions.

**Dempsey:** I would like to point out that some tree work has already taken place on the site without a preconstruction meeting taking place.

**Connors:** That was due to a miscommunication with my forester, they said they wanted to bring equipment to the site, which he thought just meant equipment, not tree work as well.

**Commission:** Discusses the amount of work done, how much time it took the EPC to inspect the site and handle calls from abutters, and what the inspection fee be for it.

**MOTION:** Grim makes a motion to assess \$300 in inspection fees from 142 King Street due to the work that took place before the preconstruction meeting. Schaefer seconds the motion.

Voted: Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Gebauer, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. O'Connor, aye. The motion passes.

Conversation moves back to the erosion controls.

**Commission:** We would like to see the erosion controls in place before the trees come down.



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Connors: I have all of the erosion control materials ready on site, I was planning on adding them as the tree guy gets out so that they don't get destroyed as the trees are coming down.

Schaefer: How long will the tree guy be on site?

Connors: Probably about a week. Stumping will take place after the erosion controls go in, then once the earth work is done he will come back to do the mill work.

Dempsey: My concern is down by the bottom of the driveway, what if we get a big rain storm and things wash into the street?

Connors: I can add the erosion controls for the first 500 feet of the of the site on the down gradient prior to all site work.

**MOTION**: Grim moves to accept Exhibit B (plan showing the new erosion controls), with the first 500 feet of straw waddle to be installed prior to the preconstruction meeting, with the remaining to be put in as tree work is done. Schaefer seconds. Voted: Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Gebauer, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. O'Connor, aye. The motion passes.

**MOTION**: Dempsey motions to open the hearing portion of the meeting at 7:33 PM. Grim seconds.

**6 Merrimack River Road – GRDA Tree Removal**

Greg Wick, homeowner of 6 Merrimack River Road, present to discuss tree removal.

Wick: I would like to cut down two trees along the edge of my property and the Merrimack River to preserve the shore. I have spoken with Kevin from Northern Tree about the project. There is one falling in the direction of my house due to a storm, which Kevin recommends taking down now as it won't need any heavy equipment. With this tree we would also just cut it as the base and push the stump back into the round with the hopes it will stabilize the shore line. The other tree is dead and leaning over the river. Kevin recommends waiting to remove this tree until the winter so that the ground is frozen and the large equipment that is necessary wont disrupt the ground.

Grim: I'm worried about the seasonal restriction, which is when Kevin recommends the tree over the water be taken down. I would suggest looking into taking it down in the summer when it's dry, and try to get it done by October 31.

**Commission**: Discusses the seasonal restriction and waiver of tree removal.

**MOTION**: Dempsey makes a motion to approve of the application to remove the trees at any time, and if it is after October 31, a seasonal waiver but be acquired. Bartelt seconds the motion. Voted: Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Gebauer, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. O'Connor, aye. The motion passes.

**55 Main Street – GRDA Replace Siding**

Schindler explains that the applicant would like to replace the siding of their home which is within 200 feet of the Merrimack River. There would be no heavy equipment used, just workers on ladders.

**MOTION**: Grim moves to approve the work to replace the siding with the stipulation that the old siding be stored away from the river to minimize debris blowing into the river. Schaefer adds



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a friendly amendment to also do daily cleanups of the site. Grim accepts the amendment. Schaefer seconds the motion. Voted: Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Gebauer, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. O'Connor, aye. The motion passes.

**MOTION:** Dempsey makes a motion to close the hearing portion of the meeting at 7:54. Grim seconds. Voted: Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Gebauer, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. O'Connor, aye. The motion passes.

**833 Salem Street – Discussion Regarding a Conservation Restriction (CR)**

Schindler explains that there is potential buyer for the property who is curious as to whether or not the Commission would accept a CR on two acres of land so that they could build their proposed project, as the Natural Heritage of Endangered Species Program (NHESP) is requiring they have two acres be put in a CR for turtle habitat.

**Commission:** Discusses the pros and cons of holding the CR. What is the incentive for the Town? What would the management plan look like? Yearly inspections must be done on the property; would the landowner pay us to do these? Etc.

**Commission:** We need more information before any decision can be made.

**Expiration of OoCs That Have Monitoring Required**

Schindler explains that she was talking with a property owner who had monitoring work that would need to be done and that a CoC would be issued after the monitoring work, which would sometimes, depending on the project, be after the OoC has been expired for more than 1 year, which would cause a fine for the CoC. Schindler is looking for advise on this type of issue.

**Commission:** This is a good point to bring up, and most likely something we will have to amend in OoCs moving forward to have something specifically mentioning monitoring work. We will have to evaluate the current OoCs as we move forward.

**Correspondence with DEP**

Commission discusses how to issue letters to Applicants/residents. Discussion on what should go on letterhead and that the Commission should show the vote on letters.

**Veasey Park – Washington Street Parking**

**Dempsey:** I brought this up at the last meeting, and I have since thought of some ideas to address the parking issue at the bottom of Nuns Hill. We could add boulders, a fence, no parking signs, put up signs directing people to park in the parking lots.

**Commission:** Discusses alternatives and weighs the pros and cons for each option. Want to make sure to keep the Board of Selectmen involved in the process.

**MOTION:** Dempsey made a motion to place boulders by the Highway Department at the bottom of Nuns Hill. Bartelt seconds the motion. Voted: Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Gebauer, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. O'Connor, aye. The motion passes.

**Environmental Program Coordinator Update**



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Schindler says things have been quiet in the office, no new projects appear to be getting ready to apply. The Economic Development, Planning & Conservation Department and Highway Department will be switching offices soon, and Schindler invites the Commission to assist in helping clean out our files. Schindler also notes that there will be two more Comprehensive Plan Workshops May 12 and May 14<sup>th</sup> and she encourages Commissioners to attend. Dempsey also notes that the Keep Groveland Green and Clean is going on for one more week.

**Calls, meetings, and upcoming projects**

Bartelt notes that she has seen an increasing amount of invasive Japanese Knotweed throughout Town and thinks the Commission should put together some form of plan to educate residents on how to eradicate it so it can be put on the website and distributed.

**Open Discussion**

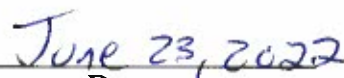
Discussed 106 King Street invasive management plan. Discussed 104 King Street conversation with Damon Burt and what the Commission would like them to file. Discussed 38 Benjamin and the knotweed in the sedimentation pond which has grown back.

**Next Meeting**

Next meeting is on June 8, 2022 at 7:00pm.

**MOTION:** Grim motions to adjourn the meeting. Schaefer seconds the motions. Voted: Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Gebauer, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. O'Connor, aye. The motion passes.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date