

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Inland Wetlands Agency on August 20, 2008.

**A. Roll Call**

Present: Barbara Bell, Jim Connors, Ken Cowden, Joel Levitz, Lynne McNamee and Phil Fulco.

Absent: Allan Cegan, John Ludtke, Steve Munson and Jim Richard.

Fulco called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and deemed Bell the voting alternate.

**B. Public Comments**

None.

**C. New Business**

1. **Application IW-PA-08-040: 137 Ford Street, Frank O'Neil and Sharon Cappetta** – proposal to put fill within 25' of a wetland for the stabilization of a cracking foundation and leveling of a yard area within 150' of a wetland or watercourse in the Wepawaug River Watershed.  
MaryRose reported that this was removed from the agenda this afternoon.

**D. Old Business**

1. **Application IW-A-08-038: Magnolia Road, Iroquois Gas Transmission System** – proposal for the mitigation and stabilization of an eroded steep slope in and within 100' of a wetland or watercourse in the Housatonic River Watershed.

MaryRose reported that this is a proposal by Iroquois Gas to stabilize an area of cover over their line adjacent to Magnolia Road. As is shown in the report and pictures submitted at our last meeting a portion of the hillside has eroded away and needs to be maintained and repaired. The proposed work will require a total site disturbance of approximately 0.04 acres, with a wetland disturbance of approximately 0.001 acres. Christa Fine of Iroquois is here this evening to present and answer any questions.

William Tessier, Pipeline Integrity Technologist, Kirit Modha, PE, Sr. Engineer and Christa Fine Environmental Analyst were present from Iroquois Gas Transmission System. William Tessier reviewed the plan and stated that they are experiencing some erosion that is not compromising the integrity of the line at this time, but they would like to be pre-emptive. They propose to fill the erosion with clean fill and put rip rap in – the wetland area was reviewed. MaryRose stated that the portion of the wetland that was reviewed was washed away from the erosion. Tessier stated that they are also proposing the beveled area by the catch basin as a holding cell to allow run off down stream. Rip rap and geotextile fabric is proposed. They have conferred with the Homeowners Association, the State and Federal regulatory bodies and have their support.

Fulco stated that it appears that the erosion is due to the outflow of drainage from the housing project. Tessier stated that Milford has experienced a 100 year storm twice in four years. Levitz asked about the quality of the wetlands. Tessier stated that there is no quality due to the erosion. Fine reviewed on the plan the delineated wetland and stated that during the site walk the area was re-evaluated and the erosion occurred after the drainage was put in and the wetlands were delineated. They are working with the Corps of Engineers and have sent the site information to the DEP as well as an archeological survey and the Long Island Sound group is ok with the project as well. Fulco questioned the elevations. Tessier reviewed them on the plans and stated that they hoped to stop the erosion.

Kirit Modha, PE reviewed the flow on site and that the objective is to contain the energy of the fast flowing water and this is standard procedure. The flow on site was reviewed on the plans. Bell asked about the existing rip rap and if it is to be left. Tessier stated that they will add to it. Modha reviewed the existing conditions verses the proposed conditions. Tessier reviewed pictures of the area and referenced photo 4 and compared this to the plans. Bell questioned the Milford Hunt project approval. MaryRose stated that she is not sure why there is no swale and just rip rap as the engineering plan was changed in the field. MaryRose stated that normally any fill requires a Public Hearing, but this application is to stabilize an area that needs to be fixed and there have been a lot of storms. Fulco asked about the downstream impact and if this application would help. Tessier stated that this would absolutely help and that it is best to leave the silt for nature to wash away. MaryRose stated that the stream goes to Baldwin Station, to the Housatonic and effects the Railroad and they are very aware of the problems and will be appreciative of this.

The following motion was made by Connors, seconded by Levitz:  
Mr. Chairman, after duly considering all relevant factors, I move to approve application IW-A-08-038: Magnolia Road, Map 95, Block 925 based on the plans entitled "Magnolia Rd Erosion Remediation, City of Milford, New Haven County, Connecticut" by Iroquois, 1 sheet dated 8/1/08, the information in the file and presented this evening, for the following reasons:

- The applicant has presented convincing evidence that the erosion of material into the wetland will continue until the washout is stabilized.
- The applicant has proposed a solution to the problem that provides for a minimum impact to the area.
- This temporary impact to approximately 0.001 acres of wetland is for the conservation of soil and the prevention of future degradation of the downstream wetland area.

*This action will have a temporary impact on the wetland, which will protect the physical characteristics of the adjacent wetlands and watercourses from future erosion and degradation. That is my motion.*

The motion carried unanimously.

**E. Minutes**

McNamee noted on the 6/4/08 minutes, page 3, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph should read brothers verses bothers. A motion was made by Connors, seconded by McNamee to approve the minutes of 6/4/08 and 8/6/08 as amended and carried unanimously.

**F. Subcommittee Reports**

None.

**G. Staff Report**

- The office has been quiet we have had some small additions, sheds, decks and pools within the review area but greater then 50' away from the wetlands. I have met with several developers on larger proposals and expect that they will be in with applications in the fall.
- Bell asked about the outcome of the project on Plains Road; that staff was to request a possible reduction in parking. MaryRose stated that the Attorney was to speak to Planning & Zoning about shared parking and she is not sure of that outcome. She will look into this.
- Levitz asked about the dog run from the last meeting. MaryRose stated that she was on vacation and is catching up on things and she has not looked at this yet.

**H. Chairman's Report**

- Please review the material distributed and anyone that would like to attend the seminar, please let the office know as it is worthwhile and at no cost.

The next regular meeting is on 9/3/08.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit