

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Inland Wetlands Agency on February 06, 2019.

**A. Roll Call**

Present: Brendan Magnan, Daniel Bedeker, Rajit Bhawe, Matthew Connors, Ken Cowden, Carol Dunn and Steve Munson.

Absent: Jim Connors, Dave DeFlumeri and Lily Flannigan.

Also Present: MaryRose Palumbo, Joe Griffith, DPLU Director and Lisa Streit

Magnan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and deemed Bhawe and Connors the voting alternates.

**B. Pledge**

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. Public Comments**

None.

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MILFORD INLAND WETLANDS

**E. Old Business**

- 1. IW-A-19-004: 420 West River Street, The Milford Cemetery** – proposed construction of a new cemetery with a columbaria and ceremonial area with grading and filling of 1200 sq. ft. of wetlands for access in the Wepawaug River Watershed.

MaryRose reviewed that this is an application by the Milford Cemetery Association for a cemetery at 420 West River St. The Cemetery Association currently has an MIWA approval in place for this site from 2005. That approval will expire in April of this year. The Association received the approval in 2005 in anticipation of needing the cemetery space. They have not found a need to construct the project yet. Under the Statute there are no more extensions available for the permit and it will expire in April. The Association has decided that they would reapply with essentially the same layout. As more than 10 years has passed since the last flagging the soils were reflagged by Scott Stevens. The farming activity and associated buildings were removed from the site in 2005 / 2006. Mr. Stevens extended the wetland flagging into the area formerly occupied by farm structures. The site is currently mowed fields. The applicant is proposing to move the plantings that the Agency required in 2005 to the new wetland line. At the last meeting the Agency questioned the need for catch basins and concentrated drainage and suggested a planting screen would prevent material from entering the wetlands adjacent to the storage bins.

At the last meeting the Agency had questions on:

- Grading / necessity of the storm water system

- Potential for excess fill to migrate into the wetland in the storage area, possible additional plantings in that area
- Status of any contamination on the property

Attorney Joe Kubic submitted the Delta Environmental reports from when the property was purchased. The executive summary of the report is in your mail this evening. Ron Wassmer has submitted revised plans for review.

Attorney Kubic, Engineer Ron Wassmer and Cemetery Board members Jim Beard and Ray Oliver were in attendance to answer questions.

Wassmer submitted the existing conditions survey with Scott Stevens signature. He proceeded to review sheet SP1 and reviewed the plot layout dated 2/1/19, the revised grading and drainage with the rain garden. The grading/utility plan was reviewed; the finished grade has been adjusted, the cut was eliminated and the columbaria raised 6". Water is to run down grass swales and catch basins have been added. Overflow will go to another drywell/basin and then to the rain garden/level spreader which is 50' x 10' and 2' deep, which will catch any sediment. A picket fence will be put behind the columbaria to minimize any pedestrian traffic. PVC posts with wetlands placards will be along the wetlands boundary. Silt fencing will be added around the level spreaders for erosion control.

Sheet D1 was reviewed; rain garden detail. Magnan asked about modifying the landscaping as discussed at the last meeting. Wassmer referred to Sheet L1 that showed moving plantings along the newly flagged wetland line; a 15 – 20' swath.

Bhave asked about staging of construction. Wassmer stated that they would prepare the site and road, install the drainage and prepare the building area within the next year or so to satisfy the permit. Bhave stated that he was satisfied with the changes. Commissioners agreed.

It was discussed that bins were a concern. Wassmer stated that they moved the plantings up to the wetlands line and any excess material can be spread upland which is a large area.

Magnan referenced the Delta Environmental Report of 8/27/04; the conclusion is in support of this application.

The following motion was made by Munson and seconded by M. Connors:

Based on the plans entitled "*Milford Cemetery Association, 420 West River St, Milford, Connecticut*" BY CCG 5 sheets dated 1/3/19 revised 2/1/19 and "*West River Street Cemetery, Milford, Connecticut*" by Architectural Services, 3 sheets dated 12/9/04, the information in the file and presented this evening,

This action will not have an impact or effect on the physical characteristics of the adjacent wetlands and watercourses.

A feasible and prudent alternative does not exist because:

- The applicant has provided convincing documentation that no change in the size or location of the footprint of the access drive on the northern portion of the site would decrease the impact.
- No alternative proposed is feasible in that there is no other access to the upland area on the northern portion of the site.
- The applicant has decreased the proposed number of graves by 267 from the 2005 approval due to additional wetlands being located on site where farm buildings were previously located

With conditions including:

- The Permittee must submit a construction plan *prior* to taking out the permit.
- The 15-20' swath of plantings on sheet L-1 be moved to the 2018 Wetland Line.
- Soil Erosion and Sedimentation controls as outlined on the plans and in the CT DEP "2002 Erosion and Sedimentation Control Guidelines" must be installed and maintained on the site until the property is stabilized.
- Wetland notification to be placed on the asbuilt and in the property deed to give notification to property owners that permits are required from the MIWA to work on the site. Documentation to be submitted to the MIWA office prior to bond release.
- A construction bond to be calculated must be posted with the MIWA for S&E controls, border plantings, wetland boundary markers and an asbuilt showing finished 2' contours and locating all site structures.
- A mitigation and monitoring bond to be calculated for the grading, planting and monitoring of the mitigation areas for a period of 3 years. The monitoring will include supervision and reports by a Biologist or professional Wetland Scientist of the plant installation and twice a year for a period of 3 years to ensure the survival of the plantings and that the mitigation meets the goals of the design.
- The Permittee must submit a certification by the Project Engineer that the completed project meets the design intent of the approval prior to bonds being released.
- The pond located in the wetland must be identified on the plans as a pond and those plans submitted prior to the start of construction on the site.
- Only natural pesticides and fertilizers may be used on the property.
- There will be no snowplowing or stockpiling of snow in the wetlands.
- No gravel from the gravel roads can enter the wetlands as a result of snowplowing.
- The permit is issued 2/6/19 expires 2/6/2024 unless otherwise provided by Statute.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### **E. Minutes**

No action taken.

#### **F. Staff Report**

MaryRose distributed Commissioner Synopsis sheets at the last meeting and asked if commissioners could mark them up and return them or email any changes.

She also distributed a notice last month about the CT Bar Associations all day land use seminar on Saturday, March 23 at Wesleyan. This is a good education on both Zoning and Wetland Law. There are not sufficient funds to send the entire Agency but several members can be sent. If interested, please let the office know as soon as possible as a voucher would have to be submitted by this Friday in order to have the payment processed in time for the conference.

Site Status:

- 33 Schoolhouse Rd, Original Ecosystems is doing the invasive management and basin plantings and monitoring for the site.
- Welch's Point Rd Pump Station is ongoing. The area is stabilized for the winter and will be seeded in the spring.
- Rock Lane Pump Station is ongoing. The area was seeded in the fall and will be reseeded in the spring.
- Forest Rd –waiting asbuilt.
- Great River Golf Course – waiting to receive the revised mitigation plan for planting.
- 0 Tanglewood Circle –construction bonds released. The mitigation monitoring will continue per the conditions.
- 24 Cooper Ave - ongoing
- 74 Surf Av – asbuilt received.
- Ford St / Bailey Ln – ongoing.
- Wheelers Woods – ongoing.
- Eastern Steel Rd – Rail Road Culvert – Tree clearing meeting was last week.

Please remember to call or email if you are unable to attend a meeting.

**G. Chair's Report**

There next meeting will be a Regular meeting in Conference Room B on February 20, 2019. Please let the office know if you are unable to attend.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. was made by Munson and seconded by Bhav. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit

These minutes have not been accepted or approved.