Minutes of the Regular Meeting (via ZOOM) of the Inland Wetlands Agency on August 19, 2020.

A. Roll Call

Present:

Brendan Magnan, Daniel Bedeker, Jim Connors, Scott Marlow, Steve Munson and Jason

Zammiello.

Absent:

Ranjit Bhave, Matthew Connors, Ken Cowden and Dave DeFlumeri.

Also Present: MaryRose Palumbo and Lisa Streit

Magnan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and reviewed the guidelines in hosting remote meetings to ensure business runs efficiently and that all statutory and administrative rules are followed:

- 1. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and Governor Lamont's executive orders, this meeting is being recorded and will be made available on the City of Milford website.
- 2. During this meeting, if members of the Inland Wetlands Commission would like to speak, please utilize the "raise your hand" feature via Zoom. All participants will be muted during the meeting unless recognized by the Chair.
- 3. After being recognized to speak, please state your name and address prior to making a statement.

B. Pledge

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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C. Public Comments

MILFORD INLAND WETLANDS

None.

D. New Business

1. **IW-PA-20-054:** City of Milford – proposed road widening with work in and within 150' of wetlands and watercourses in the Wepawaug River Watershed.

MaryRose reported that this is a pre-application proposal by the City of Milford for safety improvements and road widening of a portion of Flax Mill Lane in the Wepawaug River Watershed. The City is proposing to pipe 170 linear feet of Flax Mill Brook accommodate the road widening and safely transition to the side of the road. Wetlands were flagged on the site on 8/3/20 by Scott Stevens, Professional Wetland Scientist at Soil Science and Environmental Services. The survey was created by the Milford Engineering Division. The applicant has submitted plans showing 170 l. ft. of 48" pipe for Flax Mill Brook to widen the road due to the slopes adjacent to the road and depth of the Brook. The Engineer is recommending piping as opposed to relocating the Brook.

MaryRose reviewed the plans and showed photos of the site. 2 trees and a pole are to be removed. Portions of the road are breaking up and it is an unsafe shoulder. There is a lot of poison ivy, knotweed and invasives. The proposed work would be done in the fall. The piped area and flow were reviewed.

As this is pre-application is before us for the first time this evening the Agency can:

- Ask questions
- Ask for further information

- Suggest possible modifications to the plan that could possibly be approved by the Agency as an application
- Take no action

Presenting this evening is Chris Saley, Public Works Director for the City. Chris stated that there have been quite a few safety issue complaints in the area.

Connors stated that he is 100% in favor of this project stating that 2 cars cannot pass at the same time at this location; he drives it every day. Chris stated that he is looking at doing this within the next year.

Marlow asked if the pipe will be buried. Chris stated that that is the goal. Marlow questioned if the pipe would get higher velocity. MaryRose stated that it is an RCP pipe verses PVC pipe. Marlow asked if anything could be done to control the flow of water or if there is a need for that. MaryRose stated that per the City Engineer, he wanted to put riprap in the ends and this can be discussed. This is a pre-application and they are looking for guidance. MaryRose stated that the stream dries up in the fall and in the summer, there are more plants verses fish. It is a 48" pipe which allows a larger flow, so it won't back up.

Munson asked about flooding and if there is a possibility for the pipe to get clogged when dry. MaryRose stated that a clean out is proposed per the City Engineer if needed for access. MaryRose further stated that the river is in the flood zone. In a 100-year storm the road is under water and this can't be controlled. This project will not make it worse.

Magnan asked about mitigation. MaryRose stated that the stream would be piped so there is not an opportunity for mitigation here; could possibly be opportunity off site.

Chris stated that they are just trying to keep the pipe in its present location.

Magnan stated that minimized disturbance in the area is the focus. Connors asked if an oval or squash pipe were considered.

Bedecker questioned if the pipe is to be buried if the roadway is to go over it. Chris stated that the roadway would be widened, and the pipe will be outside the roadway; slightly in the roadway and flared at each end. MaryRose reviewed the proposed widening area on the plan.

Magnan asked if there was any need for a guardrail. Chris stated that the plan will eliminate the need for a guardrail; this area has been unsafe for some time.

MaryRose summarized that the IWA is looking for:

- Mitigation
- Limits of disturbance outlined
- Squash pipe
- Slowing water flow or keep at the same rate

No action taken.

E. Minutes

A motion was made by Munson, seconded by Connors to accept the minutes of both the 07/15/2020 Site Walk and Regular Meeting as presented. The motion carried with Connors abstaining.

F. Staff Report

- The office continues to be busy with tree damage from the storm in the wetlands and minor reviews for pools, sheds, decks, and minor addition reviews.
- The DPLU recently went through some technology changes and received new computers with update Microsoft software and the new Municity System for permitting which will also be used by several other City Departments. We are working with the software developers to eventually have the wetland portion of the program be fully functional. That will allow wetland permits to be entered online.
- Please let the office know what each IWA members preferred method of plan review is. If you would like paper sets of plans on all applications or just larger applications so that what you need to review the proposals is received.
- MaryRose has spoken to several people about proposed projects or modifications of old projects that will be coming in over the next several months.

Site Status:

- Flax Mill Lane Bridge is ongoing; they are waiting on RWA's contractor to remove the temp service line so that they can complete the improvements.
- 0 Tanglewood Circle –mitigation monitoring is ongoing we have received 4/10 reports (monitoring anticipated through 2023). Minor work to remove invasives was required from the June 20 monitoring report. Next report is due in Fall 2020. A neighbor has called to say that they have not removed the invasives or replaced a dead tree. MaryRose explained that the tree should not be replaced in the summer and she would remind the permittee.
- 24 Cooper Ave released.
- Ford St / Bailey Ln -released.
- Terrace Rd is ongoing.
- Wheelers Woods ongoing.
- Beaver Brook Boardwalk the phase 2 project has been awarded and they plan to mobilize on 8/31/2020.
- 63 Chester St is ongoing.
- Westmoor Rd is ongoing. One house is complete and the other is nearing completion.
- Sailor's Lane pump station has some stabilization and will be re-seeding in the fall.
- Daniels St (Stonebridge patio) waiting on asbuilt.
- Florence Av is ongoing stone swale and galleys are installed, waiting on asbuilt.
- Platt Lane is ongoing.
- Live Oaks School parking area is nearly complete, manhole was found and brought up to grade and will be on the asbuilt.

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

G. Chair Report

The next meeting will be September 02, 2020 via ZOOM. Please let the office know if you cannot attend.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Munson, seconded by Connors to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit

These minutes have not been accepted or approved.