

SOUTHINGTON INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY  
 Regular Meeting  
 Thursday, June 3, 2010  
 7:00 pm - Town Hall Council Chambers  
 75 Main Street, Southington, Connecticut

MINUTES

The Southington Inland Wetlands Agency held a public hearing & regular meeting on Thursday, June 3, 2010. Chairperson Theresa Albanese called the meeting to order at 7:00 o'clock, p.m.

The following Councilpersons were present, viz:

James Sullivan, Ted Cabata, Kevin Conroy, Dennis Palmieri and John DeMello

Alternates:

William Camp & Richard Post

Ex-officio members present were as follows, viz:

David Lavallee, Assistant Town Planner

Absent: Christopher Borowy, Commissioner  
 Louis Martocchio, Ass't Town Attorney

The Chair seated William Camp for Christopher Borowy. A quorum was determined.

THERESA ALBANESE, Chair, presiding:

4. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting of May 6, 2010

Mr. DeMello made a motion to approve as printed. Mr. Palmieri seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

- Special Meeting of May 13, 2010

Mr. Palmieri made a motion to approve. Mr. Cabata seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

5. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Cabata gave the Treasurer's Report to date. Mr. Sullivan made a motion to approve as read. Mr. Post seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

6. Reports from Public, Press and Ex-Officio Members regarding items scheduled for action.

No response.

7. Inland Wetland/Floodplain Filling Applications:

A. Information/Action - IW #1172, application of Scott Lucian seeking to keep a retaining wall within the upland review area/Conservation Easement for property located at 50 Monarch Drive.

The Ass't Town Planner reviewed the application to-date. The Ass't Town Engineer did look at the wall on site and the plans and he believes it can stay the way it is. He asked for fill to the base of it. The bottom was seeded and it is growing in now. It's stabilized. As far as the bamboo goes, I don't think it is all taken out, yet.

Ms. Kristin Lucian, 50 Monarch Drive. She said her husband is in the process right now to remove the bamboo.

Discussion.

Restoration is still up in the air; however Mr. Lavallee commented they will supplement some plantings.

Discussion of the drawing submitted in response to comments by Mr. Conroy.

Mr. Conroy asked if structural calculations were submitted and reviewed by the engineering department or the building department. If the wall is structurally sound, Mr. Conroy has no issue with it remaining.

Mr. Conroy brought up the height of the wall and discussion followed as compared to the drawing. Comments were made as to the suitability of the wall as to the height as these walls do have a risk of overturning.

Discussion.

Mr. Cabata made a motion to table IW #1172. Mr. Palmieri seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Information- IW #1173, application of the Town of Southington seeking to replace a bridge on Old Mountain Road which will include filling of wetlands and stream re-alignment.

Dennis Garco, Project Manager on the project for WMC Consulting Engineers. I'm a professional engineer licensed in the State of Connecticut.

He introduced the application. We were hired by the town to design this project. It is a state and local bridge program project. There is 30% state funding and 70% town funds. The engineer's estimate at this time is \$1.1 million overall.

It's on Old Mountain Road, Bridge # 131018 over an un-named tributary to Humiston Brook.

The wetlands were flagged by a soil scientist in May of 2009. The wetland flags were located by a registered LS, Harry E. Cole & Sons.

We are currently at a 90% design phase. Permitting has been initiated with the town. There are no state FMC requirements for this project and it falls under the Army Corp Category 1, nonreporting.

He explained the project plan in detail. The stream flows in the south to north direction and then from west to east as it just gets past the bridge.

The project involves reconstruction of about 400 lf of roadway. We are flattening this curve to improve speed issues.

Based on the amount of ADTs that is out here, we are also required to widen this road. Currently it's at 22' and we needed to widen it to 30'. To do that we are actually going to have to do some filling and putting in a large retaining wall. (Indicated)

There is going to be some drainage improvement included in the project. We had designed for the frequency of a 25 year storm. We did some modifications to the existing system and added a new system to catch some of the runoff that's coming off the hill before it goes further down where there are substantial drainage issues down the road.

As far as the bridge itself, it will be a complete replacement of the bridge existing today, which was built in the 1900's and consists of stone masonry, cement masonry abutments with a concrete reinforced slab that spans over the stream. It's a little less than an 8' span.

We're proposing to replace this with a single precast concrete box, 8' by 5'. And, buried a foot to enhance the fisheries. Also,

there'll be baffles added to the bottom of the box to keep the material within the box.

The rise for the 50 year and the 100 year event is well contained within the existing stream upstream. It impacts an area of about 10' off the public right of way but because the channel is so defined, it is limited to about a 50 sf area of impact.

The proposed structure also does increase some of the velocities thus the reason for the baffle enhancement. We are also adding rip rap protection.

Discussion.

We are anticipating bidding the project in the fall of this year and start construction in this spring of 2011. We expect the project to last about one season, six to ten months. We are proposing to close the road and the bridge and detour traffic locally. The project will be built in four stages which were explained.

Requirements of the contractor were articulated.

Wetland impacts are noted on the application and were discussed. The total wetland impact overall is 3400 sf which is just under .1 acres of impact.

I'll answer questions at this point.

Discussion of this project having to be done during the low flow period.

Mr. Conroy said from an environmental impact, he felt a three sided box is the preferred method.

Discussion.

Extensive back and forth followed between the project engineer and Mr. Conroy on various issues related to the project.

E & S controls were discussed.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to table which was seconded by Mr. Camp. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Site walk set for June 9, 2010.

## 8. Communications

Reports from Public, Press and Ex-Officio members regarding items other than those scheduled for action.

(No response)

9. Conservation Issues / Unfinished Business / Miscellaneous

- 80 Monarch Drive - Unpermitted fill in wetlands/upland review area.

Mr. Lavallee indicated a proposed restoration plan was received by the town.

Stephen Giudice, Harry Cole & Son, presented the restoration plan for the homeowner. He noted the homeowner is ready to get this underway to correct the mistakes that have been made out there.

He explained the plan and the color scheme. He noted that the restoration plan takes the contours back to what they were pre-development of the subdivision. We do have a small area of impact on an abutting lot over the property line. The homeowner is relatively a good neighbor and we don't believe he will have a problem obtaining permission to restore that area.

Discussion followed regarding the final grades to be achieved.

Discussion of the plantings the town would like to see. Wetlands seed mix was discussed.

It was the consensus for the restoration plan to be approved by an agent approval and continued oversight and inspection by the Ass't Town Planner.

Mr. Lavelle brought up one other small item. On the Rails to Trails, there was a small area of wetlands that had to be restored and they are in the process of doing that.

Discussion.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Conroy made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mr. Cabata. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

(Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 o'clock, p.m.)