

## **Inland Wetlands and Watercourses**

### **Minutes of Public Hearing and Regular Meeting held June 18, 2014**

The Inland Wetland Commission held a regularly scheduled Public Hearing and meeting on June 18, 2014 in Council Chambers, Stratford Town Hall, Stratford, CT.

**Members Present:** R. Hojdich, J. Tucciarone, D. Blake, R. Connolly, Alternate J. Waite, A. Schlager

**Members Absent:** Alternate T. Capuano, T. Fahy

**Others Present:** B. Carey, Conservation Administrator, M. McCarthy, Director of Public Works

**Call to Order:** Chairman Hojdich called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 p.m.

**A. IWWA Application #2014-7** - Construction of a three (3) lane entrance drive and soccer field at Bunnell High School along the corner of Connors Lane and Weaver Drive. Site Address: 200 Connors Lane. Assessor's Reference: Map 30.14, Block 5, Lot 2. Applicant: Town of Stratford – Mr. McCarthy, representing the Town of Stratford, noted there is an increase in traffic at that location before and after school hours and after school sponsored sporting events. The Town would like to straighten and widen the driveway. Noted existing wetlands would have to be moved to the east approximately 700'.

Mr. Carey discussed the minor surface runoff and possible formation of this wetland. He also noted that a small amount of fill would be required which would be mitigated by expanding the wetlands. He entered into record:

- a. Notice of Certified Mailings to abutting property owners.
- b. Notice of Public Hearing that was posted in the Connecticut Post on June 9<sup>th</sup> and June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- c. Copy of Stratford Inland Wetland Application
- d. Soil Report prepared by Steven Danzer, PhD & Associates, LLC for Weaver Drive dated April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

- e. Site plan of Weaver Drive and Connors Lane prepared by the Town of Stratford dated April 2014
- f. Draft copy of the Agency Findings and Conditions for approval for Stratford Inland Wetland Application No. 2014-7

Commissioner Blake discussed the necessity of the driveway vs. the preservation of the wetland. He is concerned this will cause down grade flooding. Chairman Hojdich noted concerns can be addressed with stipulations if the application is approved. Mr. Carey discussed the grading and planting with native species which would take place. Noted an invasive species management plan could be implemented which would also improve the area for better maintenance. In lieu of project, discussion ensued on installing traffic light on Huntington Road.

Residents in opposition included a resident of Deerfield Drive who discussed storm drain issue and fear of flooding. Resident of Connors Lane who discussed traffic issues and impact to the wetlands. K. Rodia, member of the Conservation Commission, who suggested as an alternative, making Huntington Road an entrance and Connors Lane an exit. Resident of Salvia Street discussed the water runoff in his area and the lack of maintenance on existing storm water drainage.

Chairman Hojdich noted the Commissioners need more research done by the Town and a more detailed plan.

**Mr. Tucciarone made a motion to extend the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blake. The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Hojdich called the regular meeting of the Inland/Wetland Commission to order at 7:58 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** May 21<sup>st</sup> minutes will be approved at next meeting.

## **Old Business:**

- A. IWWA Application #2014-7** - Construction of a three (3) lane entrance drive and soccer field at Bunnell High School along the corner of Connors Lane and Weaver Drive. Site Address: 200 Connors Lane. Assessor's Reference: Map 30.14, Block 5, Lot 2. Applicant: Town of Stratford – A Special Meeting will be called on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall Chambers to continue the Public Hearing. A notice will be posted in the office of the Town Clerk. Mr. Connolly would like a maintenance schedule to be submitted by the Town at the June 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**New Business – None**

## **Staff Report/Administrative Permits:**

- a. Avalon Bay Construction Project Update:** Mr. Carey reported scheduled completion is due by early October. Retention basin, planting and seeding is scheduled to be complete by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Commissioners Forum:** no discussion

**Adjournment:** There being no other items to discuss, Mr. Tucciarone made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schlager. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Gail DeCilio