

Inland Wetlands and Watercourses

Minutes Continuation of Public Hearing held June 26, 2014

The Inland Wetland Commission held a continuation of the Public Hearing held on June 18, 2014 in Council Chambers, Stratford Town Hall, Stratford, CT.

Members Present: R. Hojdich, J. Tucciarone, D. Blake, R. Connolly, A. Schlager, T. Fahy, E. Scinto

Members Absent: Alternate T. Capuano, Alternate J. Waite

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

Call to Order: Chairman Hojdich called the Public Hearing to order at 7:02 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 - Edward Hart, from Milone & MacBroom, Inc., on behalf of the Town of Stratford distributed Weaver Drive Drainage Analysis and reviewed the impact it would have on the area. Mitigation area would be approximately 5,900 sq. ft.

Matt Sanford, Environmental Scientist, discussed vegetation, existing hydrology, and performance of the drainage swale. Mitigation basin will have storm water drained into it whereas water will not sit longer than five (5) days. Basin will be oversized compared to what is there now. Wetland plantings will be incorporated in the area.

Mr. Carey entered exhibits A through L as follows:

- a. Notice of Certified Mailings to abutting property owners.
- b. Notice of Public Hearing that was posted in the Connecticut Post on June 9th and June 13th, 2014.
- c. Copy of Stratford Inland Wetland Application

- d. Soil Report prepared by Steven Danzer, PhD & Associates, LLC for Weaver Drive dated April 28, 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 #2014-7
- g. Technical Memorandum – Town of Stratford Weaver Drive Expansion and Realignment Project. Wetland Communities and Functional Evaluation – Prepared by Milone and Macbroom dated June 26, 2015
- h. Public Notice Hearing for Thursday June 26, 2014
- i. Memorandum from Director of Public Works (Maurice McCarthy) to the Stratford Inland Wetlands Commission regarding Motor Vehicle Accidents on Connors Lane dated June 26, 2014
- j. Weaver Drive Drainage Analysis – Milone & Macbroom dated June 26, 2014
- k. Inland Wetland letter from Joe Dimenno
- l. Ben Rabell – site plan alternative

Concerns of the Commissioners included: down grade flooding, wildlife habitats, drainage, maintenance of existing wetland. Mr. Carey noted existing wetlands are impossible to maintain. Chairman Hojdich noted concerns can be addressed with stipulations if the application is approved. Mr. Carey distributed traffic report from Police Department on issues in the area.

Residents in opposition included:

Mr. Rabell, 115 Deerfield Drive, who discussed the lack of maintenance and current flow of water. Submitted site alternative plan.

Ms. Rodia, Cutspring Road, urged the Commissioners to consider reasonable alternatives to the project and noted this has not gone before the Planning Commission or Board of

Zoning Appeals as of this date. Mr. Carey noted it will come before the Board of Zoning Appeals on July 1st for a vote.

Resident of Salvia Street discussed downstream flooding in his area. This area has been made a flood zone. Mr. Carey, when questioned in regards to Wooster Pond, noted the excavation of the pond would cost approximately 1.5M. It is more feasible to have smaller sites which would be easier to maintain. He also noted Commissioners can make stipulations and put a condition on the permit for maintenance of the area.

Resident of 120 Connors Lane noted he has been living there for 46 years and has never had a flooding issue. Also noted that traffic congestion is only for approximately one (1) hour per day.

Daughter of a resident of Connors Lane is concerned her parents will have a water problem they never had before.

Resident of Dahl Avenue wondered if there really is a safety concern to require the Town to go forward with this project.

Adjournment: There being no other items to discuss, Mr. Scinto made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tucciarone. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Gail DeCilio