

## Inland Wetlands and Watercourses

### Minutes of Public Hearing and Regular Meeting July 16, 2014

The Inland Wetland Commission held a regular meeting and Public Hearing on July 16, 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, Alternate T. Capuano

**Members Absent:**, 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 7:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Tucciarone made a motion to approve the minutes of May 21, June 18 and Special Meeting of June 26. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fahy. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 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 - **Mr. Scinto made a motion to take the petition off the table. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fahy. The motion carried unanimously.** Commissioners discussed downstream flooding in the area. Mr. Blake is concerned about Wooster Pond and flooding issues in that area. Mr. Carey does not dispute there is a flooding problem but noted the engineer said this would alleviate some of the problem. Mitigation strategy is to hold some water on the site by expanding the wetlands and installing a retention pond. At present, maintenance issues are due to the condition of these wetlands. Dredging of Wooster Pond would be a large scale capital improvement project. He offered to share with Mr. Blake reports on the study which was done five (5) years

ago on the feasibility of dredging the pond. Mr. Scinto feels that this project would mitigate more water which may alleviate some of the flooding issues. Mr. Carey also noted this application was requested to address safety concerns in the area.

Mr. Tucciarone questioned the relationship of this project to the proposed soccer soccer field. Mr. Carey noted this is outside of Inland Wetland jurisdiction.

Mr. Schlager questioned if stipulations could be addressed concerning grading and planting. This could be addressed in stipulations.

Chairman Hojdich noted the poor quality of these wetlands and feels this project could only improve the wetlands. Mr. Connolly does not feel this application was submitted properly.

**Mr. Scinto made a motion to approve application #2014-7 with standard conditions and findings as detailed in the draft document entitled “Agency Findings and Conditions for Approval for Stratford Inland Wetlands Application 2014-7 and in Accordance with the Draft Inland Wetland Permit date July 16, 2014” and also stipulate that it be monitored by a third party with regular reports. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schlager. The motion carried 6.1 with Mr. Blake in opposition.**

**New Business:** None

**Staff Report/Administrative Permits:**

- A. IWWA Application #2014-9(A) – Sikorsky Stratford Flight Field Improvements 2014. Site Address: 6900 Main Street, Stratford, Connecticut. Assessor’s Reference: Map 70.21, Block 11, Lot 1. Applicant: Sikorsky Airport – Mr. Carey noted this application is to pave 60,000 sq. ft. of the tarmac. Applicant will appear in October to present the whole project.**

**B. Avalon Bay Construction Project Update:** Mr. Carey noted the project is still on schedule to be completed by October 1. In the process of eliminating invasive vegetation and replanting. Applicants will appear before Inland Wetland in October. A \$216,000 performance bond is outstanding.

**Commissioner's Forum** – Commissioner's discussed issues raised by Mr. Blake in reference to Wooster Pond and other areas of the Town. Mr. Carey noted the Town does not have access to all areas involved in order to remediate the pond. The cost to the Town to remediate the issues would be excessive. Mr. Tucciarone is concerned excavation is taking place at Bunnell High School within the wetland area. Mr. Carey will follow up.

**Adjournment:** There being no other items to discuss, Mr. Tucciarone made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fahy. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Gail DeCilio