

TOLLAND INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

Thursday, September 1, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

Hicks Memorial Municipal Center

21 Tolland Green

Members Present: Lee Lafountain, Chairman
Archie Tanner, Vice Chairman
Joe Bushey, Regular
Beth Banning, Regular
Brendan Marinan, Alternate
Patti Hollay, Alternate

Absent Members: Stan Tetrault, Secretary

Others Present: Steve Lowrey, Wetlands Agent
John Koiva, contractor for IWC # 563

REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to Order at 7:09pm. Seat Hollay for Tetrault.

Accept Minutes of the July 21, 2011 meeting.

Bushey/Tanner: motion to accept the minutes of July 21, 2011 with the following correction:

1. Steve Lowrey, Wetlands Agent, was present.

Unanimously approved. Banning abstained.

Accept Minutes of the August 4, 2011 meeting

Banning/Tanner: motion to accept the minutes of August 4, 2011 with the following correction:

1. Steve Lowrey, Wetlands Agent, was present.

Unanimously approved. Bushey abstained.

Accept Minutes of the August 18, 2011 meeting

Agenda item tabled due to lack of quorum.

3. Public Comments

OLD BUSINESS

1. IWC #563-Nordic Builders: 305 Mile Hill Rd.; Requesting permit to reconstruct a curtain drain in the Upland Review Area and muck out a sediment pond in a watercourse.

Koiva reviewed the scope of the project including cleaning a sediment pond. Lowrey said he did not think the filling in was caused by a problem with erosion but a natural brook that has grown in over time. Koiva said he property owner would like to dredge the basin a few feet. Koiva said they would put into place erosion control measures including hay bales below the construction site. Lafountain said usually the water is pumped around the basin with the use of a coffer dam. Commissioners reviewed the map for the project. Lowrey said water is backing up and causing frost heaves in the property owner's driveway. Lafountain asked if the creek is ever dry. Koiva said he did not think so.

Banning asked what plant materials are growing in the basin. Koiva said there is natural vegetation in the basin. Koiva said the customer was interested in putting riprap in the bottom of the basin. Banning said the basin should be planted with natural materials. Tanner asked what would happen to the material that will be removed from the basin. Koiva said the customer wants the material moved to a different location on the property. Lafountain asked about the plans for the curtain drain. He said they are going to remove the old curtain drain and replace it. Commissioners reviewed the current flows.

Bushey asked about sedimentation controls for the curtain drain and how long it would take. Koiva said it would take a couple of days because he usually works alone. Lowrey asked which part of the project would be done first. Koiva said he would do clean out the basin first and reconstruct the curtain drain second.

Lafountain said the coffer dam could be hay bales and pump the water around. Lowrey said that hay bales could be placed at the inlet. Koiva said he would be willing to create the coffer dam as discussed and pump water around the construction area.

Banning said riprap should not be placed in the bottom of the basin. Lafountain asked how much sun the basin receives. Lowrey suggested wetlands seed mix on the sides and that the bottom would develop over time. Lowrey said there is a natural seed source. Koiva said the impact would be minimal. Lowrey said the brook flattens out into a large wooded swamp before getting to any near by pond.

Bushey requested construction during a dry period.

Bushey/Hollay: motion approve the plan with the following conditions:

1. Erosion and sediment controls should be used during construction including around the truck that will hold the dirt as it dewater.
2. The incoming water will be held with a modified coffer dam and then pumped around the basin during construction.
3. Work to be completed during dry period
4. Riprap should not be placed on basin bottom
5. The sides of the bank should be seeded with a wetlands seed mix.

2. Discussion about Town projects, general permits, etc.

Lafountain said Farmer could not attend the meeting. Lafountain said that there are ideas begin discussed as part of a general permit. Lowrey said culvert and catch basin cleaning are currently part of a general permit. Lafountain said as long as they are being mindful of using sedimentation controls, a general permit should be considered. Lowrey said a wetlands agent has been involved in some Agent Issued Permits for town projects in other towns. Lafountain said the Town should be following the regulations and be a model of setting a good example.

Lowrey said replacing culvert or adding new culverts should require a permit. Lafountain said the Wetlands Agent should supervise emergency repairs to insure erosion control. Banning said the Town should not take advantage of what constitutes an "emergency".

Hollay asked if the general permit would only be for the Town. Lowrey said it would be for work completed by the Town only; and there is a currently a general permit for some work completed by the State.

Banning asked if Lowrey would contact the Town attorney to make sure the concept of a general permit is legal and would be legal if it only applies to Town projects. Lafountain said Werbner has an attorney that could be consulted. Lowrey said he has some contacts that he will discuss these matters with.

Lowrey also suggested that the Town could come before the Commission once a year for the year's worth of projects.

Bushey said an emergency situation protocol should be developed. Tanner said a general permit should be specific as to type of projects and erosion and sedimentation controls and other general things that should be included in the permit.

NEW BUSINESS: None

RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: None

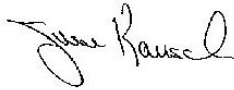
OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS

1. Correspondence - none
2. Other Commission Business
 - a. Banning said they are stockpiling storm debris at 287 Baxter Road. Lowrey said the wetlands area is protected. Lowrey said he has been to the site and is monitoring the debris. Lowrey said it is temporary storage.
3. Adjourn

Bushey/Banning motion to adjourn meeting

Meeting adjourned 7:54 pm

Respectfully submitted,



June Kausch
Clerk, Inland Wetlands Commission