

**TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR  
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY / CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES:** April 17, 2019

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Barbara Kelly, John Blondin, Elizabeth Warren, Adam Reed, James Macdonald, Richard Muller, Art Jennings

**ALTERNATES PRESENT:** Paul Cotè  
Marek Kozikowski

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jeff Folger, Sr. Environmental Planner  
Donna Thompson, Recording Secretary

THE FOLLOWING ARE MOTIONS MADE DURING THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY/ CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MADDEN ROOM

Chairperson Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Chair Kelly seated Alternate Cotè for Commissioner Phillips.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None

**PERMIT EXTENSIONS:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS:** None

**BONDS:** None

**MINUTES:** 3/20/2019

The minutes of 3/20/2019 were approved by consensus.

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION:** Folger stated that he has been in contact with Deb Fields, Chair of SWHS Science Department, regarding students to help do a riparian planting along Plum Gulley Brook this spring.

Folger asked if any scouts might be interested in helping attach stenciling to the catch basins in the Farm Road area. There will be approximately 100 plastic disks to be affixed to the cement on the catch basins.

Folger reported that the Mayor has a group of students that will be planting some trees on the Donnelly property for Earth Day.

**WETLAND OFFICER:** Folger stated that with the heavy rains recently the open work site at Philip R Smith School discharged red water down the existing driveway into Avery Street. Efforts are being made to keep it off the road – building check dams and a travel path.

Folger stated that he spent most of last week working with the CT Soils issues. A lot of material is being dragged out onto Chapel Road by the trucks hauling stone into the site. It is somewhat under control with a street sweeper on site being used several times a day. Also, a tire wash

station is being setup on site to wash the truck tires prior to exiting the property. There is a water truck on site as well, to try to keep the dust down. There is more of an issue with the material being brought in than was anticipated. They will have to deal with it. The crushers have not yet become operational. If we have to shut him down, we will until he gets the conveyor belt system up and running.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Appl. #19-21P – Mitchell Gravel Extraction – 1488 Sullivan Avenue – Conservation Commission application for renewal of the Erosion and Sedimentation plan to remove sand/gravel on property located easterly of Sullivan Ave. and northerly of Ellington Rd. Rural Residential (RR) Zone.

Robert Arsenault, PE for the project, represented the applicant. John Mitchell was also in attendance. An erosion control permit was issued for this project five years ago. This application is for a renewal of that permit in order to finish up the grading and stabilize and restore the site. They will be staying to the west of the wooded ridge line on the Plum Gulley Brook side. The intent is to finalize excavation and regrade the site to create a finished grade of 2:1 slope. On the 2:1 slopes, a straw stabilization matting will be applied to stabilize with a planting of a flat pea ground cover mix. At the base of each slope will be a combination of silt fence and hay bales combined together for extra protection. There is a thirty foot elevation drop from the top of the ridge to the proposed final graded area. Because of the woods, the ridge and the final grading, visibility from the east will not show what is going on in the center section. There will also be a four foot earthen berm with plantings and wild flowers along Ellington Rd. Mr. Mitchell will also level off the area where the Eversource transmission lines are. There are no plans for development at this time. They just want to finish the excavation, completely restore the area, stabilize it and be done with it.

Folger stated that through the excavation period over the past five years, there has been no issue with any impacts to Plum Gulley Brook. It is a self-contained site, which is evidenced by the recent storms we have had - there has been no water escaping the site. The earthen berm at the front has been effective in containing any flows coming west toward Sullivan Avenue. The only area that has had to be repeatedly maintained is the exit drive the trucks use onto Ellington Road. The owner has been quickly responsive to sweep the road and restore the anti-tracking pad. Mr. Arsenault stated that the earthen berm in the front would remain until the site is satisfactorily stabilized, then it would be removed.

Mr. Folger has requested of the applicant to ensure that with any additional excavation enough material remains to fully stabilize the site when the project is complete.

Commissioner Blondin walked the site and stated that there was no runoff to Sullivan Avenue.

Chair Kelly confirmed with Mr. Arsenault that double matting would be used for stabilization.

Mr. Mitchell stated that Eversource will be replacing the wooden poles with metal poles along their transmission lines and additional excavation will be done in that area. He would like the project completed as soon as possible, hoping within one year. Some of the site he wants to be used for agriculture – growing of trees for example. Mr. Arsenault stated that loam and seeding will be used for stabilization under the power lines.

Several residents expressed concerns regarding this project and future development on the property.

Dustin Kilgore from Plum Ridge Condos, concern about loss of trees taken down by Eversource already.

Lisa Riley, Plum Ridge Condos, concern with what will be developed on the site in the future.

Jeanne O'Connell, Plum Ridge Condos, concern with loss of trees and erosion/stability of the site.

Sioban Onthank, Plum Ridge Condos, concern with "stuff piled on top", trees are thinned out too much, dust and sound has increased.

Sue Burnham, Plum Ridge Condos, feels abutter letter should have gone to all 90 condo owners, it did not.

The abutter letter should have gone to all the Plum Ridge Condo owners.

Mr. Mitchell stated that he used information provided by town staff to do the abutter letters and sent 100 letters via certificates of mailing. Mr. Mitchell will bring the mailing book in for review.

The commissioners felt that the matter of abutter notification needed to be resolved before the application could be acted on.

Motion to: table Appl #19-21P until the next meeting in order to determine if proper abutter notice was given

Was made by: Commissioner Jennings

Second by: Commissioner Blondin

The motion carried.

The vote was unanimous.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to: adjourn at 8:12 p.m.

Was made by: Commissioner Warren

Second by: Commissioner Blondin

The motion carried.

The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Thompson  
Recording Secretary

**Approved: May 1, 2019**