

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

**MINUTES:** February 17, 2021

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

**ALTERNATES PRESENT:** Daniel Katzbek  
Steven King Jr

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jeff Folger, Sr Environmental Planner  
Michael Lehmann, IT  
Donna Thompson, Recording Secretary

Chairperson Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None

**PERMIT EXTENSIONS:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS:** None

**BONDS:** None

**MINUTES:** 02/03/2021

The minutes of 02/03/2021 were approved by consensus.

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION:** The SWHS students' project for creating the educational signage regarding invasives for the loop trail around the Town Hall is currently in the planning stage.

The Eagle Scout project for educational signage along some of the trails behind Phillip R Smith is currently in the planning stage.

**WETLAND OFFICER:** Folger stated that construction sites are locked down and there are no issues at this time.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 7:00 pm

**Appl. 21-04P – Evergreen Walk LLC, 151 Buckland Rd - IWA/CC** application for the construction of an extension to Tamarack Ave over an existing watercourse and associated utilities on a portion of land west of Buckland Rd, Gateway Development (GD) Zone.

Alan Lamson, FLB Architects, represented the applicant. Mr. Lamson, Ron Bomengen, Fuss & O'Neill and Michael Soares, Fuss and O'Neill, provided information pertaining to the application.

Mr. Lamson stated that this application is being presented in order to finish the connection of Tamarack Avenue through the Evergreen Walk development. The completion of Tamarack Avenue is required as part of the approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission. It will allow emergency access to the residential areas and eliminate the need to travel out to Buckland Road to move through the development. The roadway will cross the watercourse via a three sided culvert. This type of culvert was the best choice of the prudent and feasible alternatives and is the least invasive. There will be fill brought in to bring the proposed roadway up to grade with the existing roadway. All the proposed work in this area is located outside of the DEEP no build lines. There will not be additional wetland mitigation for the disturbance in this watercourse as that was included in the original mitigation required by the DEEP and Army Corps of Engineers for all the proposed crossings.

Mr. Soares reviewed the delineation of the wetlands. In the area of the crossing it is just the watercourse. The wetland itself starts a bit downstream of the proposed crossing area. The banks of the watercourse are fairly established. The delineation followed the watercourse through the crossing area. Just west of there the stream disperses into an emergent wetland, which is dominated by invasive species. Recharge is a primary function of the emergent wetland. The only function of the channel at the crossing is conveyance of water from the east.

Jeff Folger concurred with Mr. Soares assessment. Mr. Folger stated that wildlife within the corridor would probably be limited to smaller mammals and birds. There are some native species in the area that provide food and cover that will be lost. The density of the herbaceous species to the west provides some nutrient and sediment retention.

Mr. Bomengen stated that there are three pipe discharges east of Buckland Road that convey stormwater to the intermittent stream. The water is from catch basins east of Buckland Road and part of Buckland Road. There is a small watershed that contributes to the intermittent stream also – mostly roof drainage from the Shoppes at Evergreen Walk. The grade difference from the stream to the existing Tamarack Avenue is between twelve and fifteen feet. There will be a three sided culvert used for the crossing, along with a modified rip rap, which is smaller than the standard size. The culvert has been sized to accommodate maximum flows anticipated. The three culverts to the east are oversized. There will be an extension of a water main from south to north. There will be upland review area disturbance as well as the wetland disturbance. Erosion control blankets will be used on the side slopes until proper vegetation has been established. The graded side slopes will be planted with a wildlife seed mix. Silt fence will be placed at the bottom of the slopes, with a double row of silt fence when directly adjacent to wetlands or within the wetlands. There were several prudent and feasible alternatives discussed. This proposal is Alternate 2 which is the best choice with the least amount of impact on the watercourse.

Mr. Folger stated that Alternative 2 does have the least amount of wetland impact while still being a viable crossing structure. The fill for the slopes will be residual material from the Costco site. The material has a low to medium erosion potential, so the erosion controls being shown should be adequate. Mr. Folger stated that the major impact of the project to the wetlands would probably be the removal of the vegetation along the corridor that the road crossing will take. When questioned by Mr. Folger regarding removal of the invasives, Mr. Soares stated that chemical treatment would be the choice. A management plan for monitoring the area for establishment of desired vegetation may be recommended.

In order to accommodate comments and requests brought forth at this meeting, and to allow for public comment, the hearing will be continued to the next scheduled meeting on March 3, 2021.

**Motion to:** continue the public hearing on Appl #21-04P to the next scheduled meeting on March 3, 2021, in order to allow for public comment

Was made by: Commissioner Phillips  
Second by: Commissioner Warren  
The motion carried.  
The vote was unanimous.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to: adjourn at 8:00 p.m.  
Was made by: Commissioner Blondin  
Second by: Commissioner Warren  
The motion carried.  
The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna Thompson  
Recording Secretary

**Approved: March 3, 2021**