

**TOWN OF FRANKLIN**  
**INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION**  
**FRANKLIN TOWN HALL**  
**7 Meetinghouse Hill Rd.**  
**Franklin, CT 06254**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 7, 2023, 7:30 p.m.**

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1. Call to Order: Chairman Baribeault called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

**Members Present:** Chairman Baribeault, Secretary Niels Jeppesen, Vice Chairman Joseph LeVasseur, Don Smith. **Members Absent:** Leo Bienvenue. **Alternate Members Absent:** Calli Carboni, Josh Devercelly, John McGuire III. **Also Present:** Wetlands Official Ron Chalecki

2. Recognition of Visitors: Visitors sign-in sheet was available.
3. Additions to Agenda: N/A
4. Approval of Minutes:

- a. February 7, 2023:

**MOTION (1)** made by Mr. LeVasseur **SECONDED BY** Mr. Smith that the Inland Wetland & Watercourses Commission approve February 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes as amended:

➤ July 4, 2023 meeting will not be held. Will reschedule if needed

**VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;**

**MOTION CARRIES**

- b. February 21, 2023:

**MOTION (2)** made by Mr. LeVasseur **SECONDED BY** Mr. Smith that the Inland Wetland & Watercourses Commission approve February 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes as amended:

**VOICE VOTE: Niels Jeppesen – Abstained;**

**MOTION CARRIES**

5. Report Wetlands Official:

**GARRETT HOMES – DOLLAR GENERAL:** Ron Chalecki performed recent site walk. He recommended erosion and sediment controls be doubled-up due to sensitivity of site.

**FRANKLIN HILLS GOLF COURSE:** Have not received final Boundaries report for close-out purposes.

**204 ROUTE 32:** Concerns with this property continue. State mapping of surrounding areas have been reviewed. Wetland areas were also reviewed from mapping. However, State map does not show our area of concern. Mapping shows telephone poles in the area. Mapping also shows a significant amount of wood scrap piles and debris. There was IWWC consensus for Mr. Chalecki to contact Charlie Grant, First Selectman, to expend funds to hire a Professional Soil Scientist to determine if poles and debris are in fact being stored on wetlands and/or watercourses.

6. Unfinished Business:

- a. **IWWC 23-01: HILLANDALE FARMS:** New Site Plan Review for regulated activity; Property located at 39 Murphy Road; Assessors Map 44 Lot 8; Zoned C-2; Existing Use of property is grain mill; Proposed Use is

expansion of grain mill to promote new technology which will eliminate requirement for jackhammering & incorporate water quality treatment.

**APPLICANT PRESENTATION:** Ellen Bartlett submitted written extension request dated March 6, 2023 to continue discussion at the IWWC April 5, 2023 regular meeting.

**MOTION (3):** made by Mr. LeVasseur **SECONDED BY** Mr. Jeppesen that the Inland Wetland & Watercourses Commission accept the written extension request and table Application 23-01 to the April 4, 2023 Regular Meeting

**VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;**

**MOTION CARRIES**

7. New Business:

Chairman Baribeault noted there are bills currently circulating in State legislature addressing the following:

**IWWC AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP & ENFORCEMENT:**

1. Change standard review for regulated activity permits which would include significant impact to a measurable impact test
2. Change feasible and prudent alternative test to undefined reasonable alternative tests
3. Change to remove requirement for actual impact to wetlands and watercourses when reviewing activities in a regulated area

Public hearing held last week. Public comment can continue to be submitted at this point.

**PUBLIC NOTICES:** Potential new bill in legislature to modify requirement of legal notices by a municipality. Bill suggests to allow on-line advertising by use of internet Website for Public Hearing Notices, therefore, eliminating posting of legal notices in newspapers.

**TOWN OF FRANKLIN / IWWC HIRING OF CONSULTING SERVICES:** Chairman Baribeault reported Charlie Grant, the First Selectman, indicated in checking with Town Counsel, that hiring of engineering firms is in the Selectman's purview/budget; and, that Land Use Commissions do not have their own line item to cover such expenses or the authority to retain their own experts.

8. Public Comments: None

9. Adjournment:

**MOTION (3):** made by Mr. LeVasseur **SECONDED BY** Mr. Jeppesen that the Inland Wetland & Watercourses Commission adjourn at 8:15 pm

**VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;**

**MOTION CARRIES**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Sherry Pollard,*  
Administrative Assistant to the Commission