

TOWN OF FRANKLIN
INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION (IWWC)
Franklin Town Hall
7 Meetinghouse Hill Rd.,
Franklin, CT 06254
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
April 6, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

This meeting was held in virtual format with connections via live stream and video conferencing.

1. Call to Order: Chairwoman Calli Carboni called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Members Present: Vice Chairman Leo Bienvenue, Chairwoman Calli Carboni, Joseph LeVasseur & Secretary Don Smith. **Members Absent:** Niels Jeppesen. **Alternate Members Present:** Raymond Baribeault, John McGuire. **Alternate Members Absent:** Pat Coleman.

Also Present: Ron Chalecki, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Lynda Craney, Town Clerk, Charlie Grant, First Selectman, and Carly Holzschuh, Planner & Wetlands Agent, Southeast Connecticut Council of Governments (SECCOG).

2. Additions to the Agenda:

MOTION #1 (04.06.21): made by Mr. McGuire SECONDED BY Mr. LeVasseur that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission add Application #20-03 Hull Forest Products to New Business c.

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

3. Approval of Minutes:

- a. February 2, 2021

MOTION #2 (04.06.21): made by Mr. McGuire SECONDED BY Mr. Baribeault that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission approve February 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes – as amended:

1. use “Chairman” throughout minutes

VOICE VOTE: Leo - Abstained

MOTION CARRIES

4. Report of the Wetlands Enforcement Officer:

99 ROUTE 32: There was a pre-application meeting held on a proposed commercial 10,640 sf retail facility, located at 99 Route 32. A conceptual/preliminary site plan showed significant construction and grading within the 50' upland review area. It may be possible an application would go to a public hearing. If IWWC determines proposed activities do not have a significant impact, an application could be approved without a public hearing.

TOWNLINE BLDV - LOT 23: A complaint has been received regarding the clearing of brush into the upland review area. A site walk will be performed. If there is a documented violation, enforcement action will be taken.

5. Unfinished Business: NONE

6. New Business:

- a. **IWWC 21-01 – VAGANGLES LLC:** Revised Site Plan Review for Regulated Activities for proposed site improvements within the upland review area; Property located at 26 Murphy Road, GIS Map 53 Lot 42-9, 2.84 acres, Zoned C-2; Existing use of property is bulk fuel storage facility, proposed activity is replacement of perimeter fencing.

APPLICANT / PRESENTATION: Martin McKinney, Vagangles LLC., was present to provide a brief overview of proposed activities. Existing fence around the perimeter of the property is failing along with an associated wall. Proposed activity is to replace fence/wall within existing footprint. Erosion and Sedimentation Controls have been proposed and are shown on the Boundaries Engineered Site Plan, dated March 23, 2021, as submitted.

WETLANDS AGENT COMMENTS: Carly Holzschuh reviewed site plans as submitted. Proposed activities do fall into the 50 ft buffer area. Erosion and sedimentation controls as shown on submitted plans are adequate and acceptable.

MOTION #3 (04.06.21): made by Mr. LeVasseur SECONDED BY Mr. Smith that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission approve Application IWWC 21-01, Vagangles, Martin McKinney, replacement of perimeter chain link fencing/wall within existing footprint as shown on submitted site plans dated March 23, 2021- as presented

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

- b. **IWWC 21-02 – JOE LEVASSEUR:** New Site Plan Review for Regulated Activities for proposed drainage project, Property located at 483 Lebanon Rd., GIS Map 20, Lot 4, Zoned R80; Existing use of property area is poorly draining hay field, proposed activity is to improve drainage via installation of a piping system and stone followed by filling and grading.

Joe LeVasseur recused himself from this application.

APPLICANT / PRESENTATION: Joe LeVasseur represented himself and provided a presentation on proposed activities and referenced various mapping materials as submitted into the record. Activities include, but are not limited to, performing regulated activities associated to excavation in a field with installation of drainage piping and associated drainage stone applications.

WETLANDS AGENT COMMENTS: Carly Holzschuh reviewed various mapping documents as submitted into the application file. Farming activity is allowed by right unless there is digging and/or dredging in wetlands. Proposed activities associated to this application are of minor impact.

MOTION #4 (04.06.21): made by Mr. Bienvenue SECONDED BY Mr. Smith that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission approve IWWC 21-02, Joe LeVasseur, as presented

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

Joe LeVasseur returned to the Commission as a voting member.

- c. **Application #20-04 Hull Forest Products Inc.:** Jurisdictional Ruling for Timber Harvest; property located at Pleasure Hill Rd., Assessors Map 53, Lot 1 & 2.

APPLICANT / PRESENTATION: Michele Wood reported the operation involves selective timber harvest with the objective to improve health and productivity of the Sugar Maple as well as salvage Ash trees in anticipation of their demise from the Emerald Ash Borer. There will be three intermittent drainage crossings associate with the harvest along an existing network of wood roads.

Crossings will be stabilized with temporary timber bridges and/or corduroy during operation and removed upon completion. All best management practices regarding timber harvesting as adopted by the CTDEEP shall be strictly adhered to.

WETLANDS AGENT: Carly Holzschuh approved this application as a Jurisdictional Ruling. She previously performed a site walk on the property and reviewed temporary stream crossings, trees to be removed, and other related activities.

MOTION #5 (04.06.21): made by Mr. Bienvenue SECONDED BY Mr. Smith that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission approve Application #20-04, Hull Forest Products Inc., as a Jurisdiction Ruling as approved by the Wetlands Agent

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

7. Correspondence: NONE

10. Report of the Chair: NONE

11. Public Comments: NONE

12. Adjournment:

MOTION #6 (04.06.21): made by Mr. Bienvenue SECONDED BY Mr. Smith that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Pollard

Land Use Administrative Assistant