



TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Palmer Town Building
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Palmer, Massachusetts 01069

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Robert Ring, Chair
Donald Duffy, Vice Chair
Peter Izyk
Dennis Cote
Tharyn Nein-Large
Sean O'Donnell
Sarah Brodeur

Agent: Angela Panaccione

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MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY MARCH 17, 2015 @ 7:00 PM

Members Present: Robert Ring (Chair)
Tharyn Nein-Large
Dennis Cote
Peter Izyk
Angela Panaccione (Agent)

Members Absent: Sarah Brodeur
Donald Duffy (Vice Chair)
Sean O'Donnell

Also Present: No Public Present

Meeting Opens: 7:10 PM – Robert Ring (Chair)

7:10 PM Request Determination of Applicability (RDA): 58 West Ware Rd – Palmer Motorsports Park

A Request for Determination was submitted by Palmer Motorsports Park, LLC, for the proposed installation of a septic system to service Palmer Motorsports Park and associated amenities. The proposed work will occur within the 100-foot buffer zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW) of an intermittent stream. The location of the proposed project is on West Ware Road Palmer, MA 01069, and is also known as: Map 49-4.

The Commission has determined the proposed subsurface sewage disposal system (SSDS), and in specific, the single (1) subsurface absorption system (SAS), fully complies with Wetlands Program Policy 86-1: Presumptions for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems That Meet Title 5 or More Stringent Local Board of Health Requirements (MassDEP-Revised March 1, 1995); and thus fully meets the presumption at 310 CMR 10.03(3), for the “discharge from a sewage disposal system”.

The Commission has determined the construction of the proposed subsurface sewage disposal system (SSDS), excluding the single subsurface absorption system (SAS), is located entirely within previously disturbed ground within the Buffer Zone and will not alter adjacent Resource Areas

The Commission has determined, with the use of proper erosion and sedimentation controls, the construction of the proposed subsurface absorption system (SAS) will not alter adjacent Resource Areas.

Motion made by Peter Izyk to close the Public Hearing and Issue a Negative Determination with Conditions finding the construction of the proposed subsurface absorption system (SAS) will not alter adjacent Resource Areas.

Motion seconded by Dennis Cote

No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0 – Motion Carries

7:12 PM Notice of Intent: Lot 2 Boston Rd – Renewable Generation, LLC; Solar Array

A Notice of Intent submitted by Sherman & Frydryk, LLC c/o of Renewable Generation, LLC for the installation of a large scale ground mounted solar array. The proposed solar array will require 50,570 SF of disturbance within the 100-foot wetland buffer zone. The location of the proposed project is Lot 2, Boston Road (Route 67) and is also known as: Map 3-6-1.

There is an active Enforcement Order on the property and DEP is withholding the file number until the outstanding violations are resolved. There was significant clearing of the land and an intermittent stream between 2009-2013.

Motion made by Dennis Cote to continue the Public Hearing until Tuesday April 7, 2015 at 7pm

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0 – Motion Carries

7:14 PM Notice of Intent DEP# 256-0308: 24 Third Street – Sherwood Lumber, Rail Siding

A Notice of Intent submitted by Greenman-Pedersen, Inc c/o Sherwood Lumber Corporation/ Prime Distribution Services for the proposed redevelopment of the Sherwood Lumber Facility located at 24 Third Street, Palmer MA. The proposed project of a railroad siding through several parcels owned by the company at the end of Third Street in order to accommodate the installing of a 2,700 foot long railroad siding connecting to and extending from the New England Central Railroad spur across the Third Street Right-of-way and into the Sherwood Lumber property to the South and all associated infrastructure. The project also calls for the installation of a 150' wide swath of pavement paralleling the railroad spur in the southern parcel of the site. The location of the proposed project 24 Third Street, Palmer, MA 01069, and is also known as: Map 28: Lot 28, 29, 31 & 34; Map 34: Lot 2.

Sherwood Lumber Corp. proposes to construct a railroad siding through several parcels owned by the company at the end of Third Street. The siding will begin at the existing New England Central Railroad Spur and extend across the Third Street cul-de-sac, and end at the southern side of the property for a distance of approximately 2,700 feet. There are several wetland resource areas located on the properties, including Bordering Vegetated Wetland, Bank and Riverfront. There is also a mapped FEMA flood plain associated with the Swift River. The applicant is proposing 1,406 square feet of permanent BVW alteration, 1,071 square feet of temporary BVW alteration with 1,758 square feet of replication and 14,641 cubic feet of flood storage lost with 15,945 cubic feet replaced. There are no proposed Riverfront impacts, as these parcels are considered densely developed and no impact are occurring within 25-feet of the Swift River. The project will also require additional review NHESP for its location within priority habitat and a MESA filing as well.

Motion made by Tharyn Nein-Large to continue the Public Hearing until April 7, 2015 at 7:00 pm

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0 – Motion Carries

7:15 PM Administrative Matters: MSMCP Payable \$15.00

Motion made by Dennis Cote to approve the payable to MSMCP in the amount of \$15.00, for the Agents registration for the April 15, 2015 Annual Meeting

Motion seconded by Tharyn Nein-Large

No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0

7:18 PM Administrative Matters: MACC Payable \$160.00

Motion made by Dennis Cote to approve the payable to MACC in the amount of \$160.00, for the Agents registration for two trainings

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0

8:07 PM Administrative Matters: Minute Approval – February 17, 2015

Motion made by Dennis Cote to accept the minutes from Tuesday, February 17, 2015 as corrected

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0

8:07 PM Administrative Matters: Other Projects, Monitoring, Enforcements and Violations

1. EO – Lot 2 Boston Road (Route 67): See previous discussion on NOI for Solar Array. A Site Visit is scheduled for Tuesday 3/31/2015 @ 10am
2. Conflict of Interest Training: The Agent supplied the Commission with information to complete the Online Conflict of Interest certification. This must be completed every two years.
3. CSX Vegetation Management Program: The agent will attend the public hearing on CSX VMP scheduled for Wednesday March 18, at UMASS Amherst. No RDA had been submitted as of yet for resource area confirmation.
4. National Grid 401 & 404 Permits: The Commission received the 401 Water Quality Certification & 404 Clean Water Act permit from National Grid for the Hampden County Reliability Project. No further approval from conservation is needed for this project.
5. PMP Utility Installation: National Grid inquired about submitting an RDA for utility installation at Palmer Motorsports Park. The Agent forwarded the request to MassDEP and is awaiting further instructions.
6. Donaldson CR: Will attend 4/7 meeting to present CR
7. O’Connell: Site work is scheduled to begin on 4/6/15 for the gas tank replacement. The site contractor will contact the Agent to conduct a pre-activity visit to inspect the erosion controls before ground disturbance begins.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday April 7, 2015 at 7pm

Meeting Adjourned: 7:30 PM

Motion made by Dennis Cote to adjourn at 7:30 pm
Motion seconded by Tharyn Nein-Large
No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0– Motion Carries

Sincerely Submitted,
Angela C Panaccione, Conservation Agent