

**Palmer Conservation Commission  
MEETING AGENDA**

**May 18, 2021**

6:30 p.m.

Residents are asked to call in or use your computer to participate in this meeting

Members: Donald Blais, Jr. (Chair), Dorothy Lawrence (Vice Chair), Peter Izyk, David Cotter, Nicholas Zeo, Brenda Cole, Mike Swiatek, Sarah Fortune (Interim Conservation Agent)

*Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Palmer Conservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found below. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Town of Palmer website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.*

**The Conservation Commission meeting will be held via a Zoom Meeting (Internet)**  
**Public Participation via calling in or using your computer is encouraged.**

**To Join the Zoom Meeting:** <https://zoom.us/j/9050389791?pwd=bkhyZUJzZUI5MGxYaFdWVC9VR0Rrdz09>

**By Phone:** (646) 558-8656

**Meeting ID:** 905 038 9791

**Call/text or email the Interim Conservation Agent for the Meeting Passcode or with questions during the meeting –**  
**(413) 626-7084 or [sfortune@townofpalmer.com](mailto:sfortune@townofpalmer.com)**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Chair, Member & Committee Reports**

**3. Review Mail/Phone Messages:**

- a. NHESP draft Priority Habitat Map – public comment period from 5/3/2021 to 7/3/2021
- b. National Grid – YOP available to review

**4. Public Inquiries**

**5. Approval of Minutes:** 4/6/2021, 5/4/2021

**6. Approval of Payables**

**7. Signing of Documents (DOA, OOC, COC, Ext, Etc.)**

**8. Schedule of Public Hearings**

- a. 7:00 PM RDA: MassDOT – Vegetation clearing along I-90: The applicant is requesting a determination to see if the work associated with proposed vegetation clearing within the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90) Right-of-Way (ROW) is subject to the MA Wetlands Protection Act. Work is proposed to occur within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, Bank, Riverfront Area, and Bordering Land Subject to Flooding is located within previously disturbed areas within the state highway layout.
- b. 7:00 PM RDA: MECO – Utility pole installation, 3090 Palmer Street: The applicant is requesting a determination to see if the area and/or work associated with the installation of one (1) utility distribution pole P71-01 within the road shoulder of Palmer Street is subject to the Town of Palmer Wetlands Protection Ordinance. The distribution pole will be located within the Riverfront Area to the Ware River.
- c. 7:00 PM RDA: New England Central Railroad – delineation confirmation: The applicant is requesting confirmation of wetland boundaries along the New England Central Railroad Right-of-Way in Palmer in order to avoid sensitive areas while applying herbicides for weed control under the railroad's Vegetation Management Plan. This application is for the verification of wetland boundaries only, and not for the actual application of herbicides.
- d. 7:00 PM RDA: Mass Central Railroad – delineation confirmation: The applicant is requesting confirmation of wetland boundaries along the Massachusetts Central Railroad Right-of-Way in Palmer in order to avoid sensitive areas while conducting vegetation control under the railroad's Vegetation Management Plan. This application is for the verification of wetland boundaries only, and no work is proposed to occur within wetland resource areas.
- e. 7:00 PM Cont. Notice of Intent (NOI) DEP #256-353 – New England Power Company: X176 Transmission Line (ROW): The applicant has submitted a Notice of Intent for activities associated with proposed maintenance and improvements at up to thirty-three (33) structures along the X176 Transmission Line Right-of-Way (ROW). The work is proposed within Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW), Land Under Water (LUW), the 100-foot Buffer Zone to BVW, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF), 200-foot Riverfront Area, and the locally protected 50-foot No Disturb Zone to adjacent wetlands. Portions of the proposed project are also located within Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) Priority and Estimated Habitats.

**9. Requests for Certificate of Compliance:**

**10. Project Monitoring:**

- a. DEP # 256-0348 – Meadowbrook Green Condo Ponds, pre-activity meeting on 5/13/21

**11. Violations & Enforcement:**

- a. DEP # 256-0349 – 19 New Hampshire Ave
- b. New Hampshire Ave
- c. Jeep stuck at Midura Conservation Area
- d. First Street
- e. DEP # 256-0346 – Bondsville Water Line

**12. New/Old Business:**

- a. Community Rain Barrel & Compost Bin Program: Pickup date on Friday June 25, 2021
- b. Asset Management Grant: stormwater system mapping ongoing
- c. Discuss Earth Day River Cleanup on 5/8/2021
- d. Discuss in-person meetings
- e. IDDE workshop on 5/26/21
- f. OSRP Committee – Meeting Dates

**13. Set Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 @ 6:30 pm**

**The items listed which may be discussed at the meeting are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. This meeting will be televised live on Channel 15 and taped and shown on M-Pact.**