



TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Palmer Town Building
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Tharyn Nein-Large, Chair
Donald Duffy, Vice Chair
Peter Izyk
Sean O'Donnell
Sarah Brodeur

Agent: Angela Panaccione

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MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY JUNE 16, 2015 @ 7:00 PM

Members Present: Tharyn Nein-Large (Chair)
Donald Duffy (Vice Chair)
Sarah Brodeur
Angela Panaccione (Agent)

Members Absent: Peter Izyk
Sean O'Donnell

Also Present: Guy Hannum, Sherwood Lumber
Robert DeFrancesco, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.
Siona Patisteas, VHB Consultants

Meeting Opens: 7:00 PM – Tharyn Nein-Large (Chair)

7:00 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.

Tharyn Nein-Large re-opened the hearing and Guy Hannum, of Sherwood Lumber; Representative Robert DeFrancesco, of Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.; and third party reviewer Siona Patisteas, of VHB Consultants were present.

Robert DeFrancesco, of Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. presented the revised site plan entitled Sherwood Lumber Proposed Rail Siding Site Development Plans (Sheets 1-19) Job # 2013115 (Sheets 9-17); Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., Revised June 10, 2015.

The revised site plan has moved the replication area from wetland A to wetland E in order to establish a more productive replication area. The size of the replication area was also increased to 2500-square feet, to mitigate against both the permanent and temporary wetland impacts.

BVW data sheets were revised to VHB comments.

Proposed work dates were added to the construction sequence.

Additional information on the BLSF compensatory flood storage was also included in the revised plans.

No wildlife habitat analysis was conducted in wetland A, since the proposed replication area was moved to wetland E.

Lastly, per Planning Boards request an area dedicated to snow removal and storage was added to the site plan as well.

Motion made by Sarah Brodeur to close the Public Hearing

Motion seconded by Tharyn Nein-Large

No further discussion – vote taken: 2-0-1 – Motion Carries (Donald Duffy Abstains)

Motion made by Sarah Brodeur to issue the Order of Conditions, with special conditions

Motion seconded by Tharyn Nein-Large

No further discussion – vote taken: 2-0-1 – Motion Carries (Donald Duffy Abstains)

7:28 PM Administrative Matters: Minute Approval – June 2, 2015

Motion made by Donald Duffy to accept the minutes from Tuesday, June 2, 2015 as written

Motion seconded by

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0

7:31 PM Administrative Matters: Discuss Draft 2015 Palmer Wetlands Regulations

1. MassDOT Turnpike: MassDOT proposes to remove legacy toll plazas along Massachusetts Turnpike Interstate 1-90 in conjunction with the Automatic Electronic Tolling System (AETS) gantries project. The toll plaza at Massachusetts Turnpike Interchange 8 in Palmer is included in this project. Work consists of demolition and removal of the toll plaza structures and reconfiguration of the respective lanes and connecting ramps. The conversion of impervious to vegetated surfaces is an exempt activity in the buffer, if they use erosion and sediment controls. 310 CMR 10.02(2)(b)(2)(f): The conversion of impervious to vegetated surfaces, provided erosion and sedimentation controls are implemented during construction;

2. MassDOT Brainerd Parcel: MassDOT has received the Commissions letter requesting to purchase MassDOT Turnpike Property in the Town of Palmer and request has been forwarded to MassDOT's Office of Real Estate and Asset Development for their consideration and processing.
3. Fee for landfill Solar development: The Commission discussed the fee to review the NOI for proposed solar array on the Emery Street Landfill. The town is partnering on the project, as it is on town land but the applicant is Syncarpha Bondsville, LLC.

Motion made by Sarah Brodeur to waive the fee if the town is paying for the development

Motion seconded by Donald Duffy

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0– Motion Carries

4. Updating Wetlands Regulations & Fee Structure: The Commission will finalize the draft 2015 regulations and fee structure at the July 7, 2015 meeting. If accepted on July 7th, the Agent will schedule a public hearing on the regulations sometime in August.
5. Endelson Playground: The Agent will conduct a pre-activity meeting tomorrow, Wednesday June 17, 2015 at 10am.
6. Tree removal request: The agent received a request for the removal of trees at 86 Beech Street. She will conduct a site visit Thursday.

7:51 PM Executive Session: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation

Motion made by Donald Duffy to enter an executive session at 7:51 PM

Motion seconded by Sarah Brodeur

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0 – Motion Carries

Motion made by Donald Duffy to exit the executive session at 8:00 PM

Motion seconded by Sarah Brodeur

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0 – Motion Carries

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

Meeting Adjourned: 8:04 PM

Motion made by Donald Duffy to adjourn at 8:04 pm

Motion seconded by Sarah Brodeur

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0– Motion Carries

Sincerely Submitted,
Angela C Panaccione, Conservation Agent