



# TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – 6:30 PM

LOCATION: Town Hall Meeting Room  
4417 Main St Palmer MA

Donald Blais, Chair  
Dorothy Lawrence, Vice Chair  
David Cotter  
Peter Izyk  
Nicholas Zeo  
Brenda Cole  
Lucas McDiarmid

Sarah Fortune,  
Conservation Agent

**Members Present:** Donald Blais, Jr.  
Peter Izyk  
Nicholas Zeo  
Lucas McDiarmid

**Members Absent:** Brenda Cole  
Dave Cotter  
Dorothy Lawrence

1. **Call to Order:** 6:30 PM – Donald Blais, Jr. (Chair)

2. **Chair Member Reports:**

3. **Review Mail/Phone Messages**

- a. MECO Utility Maintenance Notifications: North/Barker Streets, Thorndike Street, Shearer Street, Bourne Street, Sykes Street

The Agent notified the PCC that MECO is conducting maintenance work on utility systems. They are exempt under the local wetland protection ordinance and utility maintenance provisions of the Wetland Protection Act.

- b. CSX, Transportation, Inc.: 2022 Yearly Operational Plan (YOP), right of way vegetation management

The Agent stated she received communication regarding the railroad. She stated they sent a Yearly Operational Plan (YOP) and within it they stated how vegetation will be treated in each community. In Palmer, she stated it will be treated with herbicides.

- c. US Route 20 Bridge Repairs: Amended 401 WQC & Mass General Permit

The Agent stated that a revision to the general permit and water quality certification for the Route 20 bridge issued in May of 2020 is being sought out. It was stated that with the revisions there will be a reduction of temporary impacts (T.I) to the ordinary high water line. With sheeting and turbidity barriers, the T.I is being reduced by 874 sqft- change has been approved by DEP and Army Corp. of Engineers.

**4. Public Inquiries:**

a. Complaint: First Street

The Agent stated that there was a complaint via phone call regarding a motorcyclist using the Swift River Green Belt Trail. She stated trail cams have been ordered. She was unsure what the impact is, and see if they can identify the violator and issue citations accordingly. The trail cameras will be installed at the trail head.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

- a. 4/5/22
- b. 4/19/22
- c. 5/3/22

**Motion made by Lucas McDiarmid to approve the minutes from 4/5/2022 as written.**

**Motion seconded by Peter Izyk.**

**Motion Caries 4-0-0**

**No further discussion.**

**Motion made by Lucas McDiarmid to approve the minutes from 4/19/2022 as written.**

**Motion seconded by Peter Izyk.**

**Motion Caries 4-0-0**

**No further discussion.**

**Motion made by Nick Zeo to table the minutes from 5/3/2022 to 7/19/22 at 6:30pm.**

**Motion seconded by Lucas McDiarmid.**

**Motion Caries 4-0-0**

**No further discussion.**

**6. Approval of Payables**

**Motion made by Nick Zeo to approve the payable in the amount of \$263.26 to Amazon for hip waders and four trail cameras.**

**Motion seconded by Peter Izyk.**

**No further discussion**

**Motion Caries 4-0-0**

## **7. Requests for Certificates of Compliance:**

- a. Request for Certificate of Compliance: DEP # 256-0346 – Bondsville water line

Present on behalf of Bondsville Fire and Water was Michael Pyzocha. The Agent stated that as far as she is aware they are in compliance with the approved plans but she has significant concern with paved swale at the pump station on Sykes St. She stated it was not included on the approved plans and not discussed in the narrative, and now serves as a point source discharge into the Ware River.

**Motion made by Lucas McDiarmid to continue the issuance of a full COC to 7/19/22 at 6:30pm**

**Motion seconded by Peter Izyk.**

**Motion Caries 4-0-0**

**No further discussion.**

- b. Request for Certificate of Compliance: DEP # 256-0349 – 19 New Hampshire Ave

The Agent stated the project is for construction of a garage. She did the inspection June 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was one deviation from site plan, which the roof gutters on garage were supposed to have leaders connected to a rain garden. She stated the gutter downspouts that go into driveway, the Stormwater wouldn't be discharged off site. She stated that in order to install the leaders, they would have to dig up the stabilized earth and pavement in driveway, which she felt was counterproductive. She stated there are no violations, the site is completely stable, and the engineer acknowledged the rain garden wasn't built per the site plan.

**Motion made by Lucas McDiarmid to issue of a full COC with ongoing conditions for DEP # 256-0349.**

**Motion seconded by Nick Zeo.**

**Motion Caries 4-0-0**

**No further discussion.**

## **8. Schedule of Public Hearings & Meetings:**

- a. 7:06 PM Cont. Notice of Intent (NOI) DEP #256-0358 – 9 Fuller Road (Map 29-12):

The Chairman opened the hearing at 7:00pm. He stated the applicant is requesting a continuance due to the survey crew needing to GPS the median annual high water line (MAHWL) flags so the site plan can be revised.

**Motion made by Lucas McDiarmid to continue the hearing for DEP # 256-0358 for the construction of two (2) single family home lots at 9 Fuller Road until 7/19/2022 at 7 PM**

**Motion seconded by Peter Izyk**

**No further discussion**

**Motion carries 5-0-0**

**9. Violations and Enforcement:**

- a. Midura Conservation Land: The Agent stated the trail cameras have arrived and she will be putting them up on the property. Brief discussion about history of Midura land continued.

**10. New/Old Business:**

- a. Notice of Intent to Convert Land Subject to Ch. 61A: Assessor's Map 29-1-1, 15.182 acres  
Discussion regarding if information regarding the lease should be submitted. There were many questions asked. It was stated that the Agent will follow up with MACC about the lease.

**Motion made by Lucas McDiarmid to table the discussion regarding Notice of Intent to Convert Land Subject to Ch. 61A: Assessor's Map 29-1-1, 15.182 acres to 7/19/2022 at 7 PM**

**Motion seconded by Peter Izyk**

**No further discussion**

**Motion carries 5-1-0**

- a. Discuss 2022 C4R bac-T sampling program: starts 6/9/2022

The Agent stated this year they are sampling First Ft, State Street, Forest Lake and Laviolette field testing for E. Coli. Testing starts 6/9/2022.

- b. Nichols CR – Opacum Land Trust

The Agent stated the Conservation Restriction is a legal document, and has been recorded.

- c. Updates: FEMA HMGP & 604(b) Grant

FEMA HMGP- The agent stated that as far as the FEMA grant it is very behind due to strict restrictions. The Agent is frustrated with the consultants.

604(b)- She stated septic mapping with Health Agent has commenced. They have finished 3 so far.

**Next Meeting Date:**

Will be 7/19/22 at 6:30pm

**Motion made by Nick Zeo to adjourn at 7:40 PM**

**Motion seconded by Lucas McDiarmid**

**No further discussion.**

**Motion Carries 4-0-0**

Sincerely Submitted,  
Sarah A. Fortune  
Palmer Conservation Agent



# TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

## Meeting Documents

Tuesday, May 3rd, 2022 – 6:30 PM

**LOCATION: Town Administration Building  
4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069**

Donald Blais, Chair  
Dorothy Lawrence, Vice Chair  
David Cotter  
Peter Izyk  
Nicholas Zeo  
Brenda Cole  
Lucas McDiarmid  
Sarah Fortune, Agent

The following is a list of documents used at the above-mentioned meeting, in addition to those included in the agenda packet which is part of the official record of the meeting:

<b>Number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes</b>
1.			
2.			
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