

**INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY**  
**TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 20, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Woodbridge Inland Wetlands Agency for January 20, 2021 was commenced via WebEx at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 by Chairman Robert Blythe.

Agency members participating in the WebEx Meeting were: Chairman Robert Blythe, David Speranzini, Jack Kurek, Barry Josephs, and alternate Jean Webber. Josh Goldberg was excused. Alternate Josh Lemon did not participate in the meeting. Webber was seated in place of Goldberg. Agency Enforcement Officer (AEO) Kristine Sullivan participated in the meeting.

**SHOW CAUSE HEARING**

**Patrick and Sumiko Tray Owners/Kriz Landscaping Contractor: 22 Rimmon Road Cease and Desist Order Regarding Tree Clearing and Grading in Upland Review Area**

A Cease and Desist Order had been issued to Patrick and Sumiko Tray and their landscaping contractor, Kriz Landscaping, for work being done in an upland review area of the Tray's property located at 22 Rimmon Road.

This agenda item was continued until the Agency's regular meeting on February 16, 2021 when it is expected that an application will be submitted for restoration work related to the Cease and Desist Order.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**South Central Regional Water Authority (SCRWA): 2035 Litchfield Turnpike Request for determination of as of right activity regarding upgrading and expanding current water treatment processes at the "West River Water Treatment Plant"**

The request for a determination by the Agency of proposed improvements to the West River Water Treatment Plant located at 2035 Litchfield Turnpike was received by the Agency. Participating in the WebEx meeting regarding the project were Chris Bone, P.E. with Tighe and Bond Inc., the project engineering firm, Raina Volovski, Project Environmental Scientist II with Tighe and Bond Inc, and Orville Kelly, Capital Construction Lead with the SCRWA. In discussion of the project and response to questions by Agency members they noted the following:

- The project is before the Agency under Section 4.1.e of the Agency's Regulations for the Agency to make a determination if the project is an "as of right activity" since the activity is related to the construction and operation by the SCRWA of facilities necessary to the impounding, storage, and withdrawal of water for the public water supply.
- The project in to upgrade the pretreatment processes at the West River Water Treatment Plant would include a new dissolved air flotation building, a new electrical transformer, , installation of new buried electrical conduits, demolition of the existing generator, transformer, and associated pads .
- Work proposed would directly impact approximately 140 square feet of wetlands on the northwest side of the project area.

- The dissolved air flotation system would address algae issues, particularly in the summer that occur in the reservoirs served by the treatment plant. The process would inject micro bubbles into the water to allow the algae to be collected from the top of the water.
- The project is in the final review stages by the SCRWA's Representative Policy Board, which will be making a final decision on the project in March.
- The project will go out to bid in April and work on the project is anticipated to start in the summer of 2021.
- Relative to wetlands in the area of the project, there is an existing hillside seep created by a cut into the hill from previous work on the site. That seep is collected by a concrete swale on the east side of the proposed building which outlets onto a bituminous area.
- The new building would be two stories tall on its west side and connected by walkways to the existing building
- The wetland disturbance would be minimal and would only affect the seep area or "created wetlands".
- The project would restore the capacity of the treatment of the plant to what it had been in the past.
- The erosion controls for the project are shown on sheet C-101.

At the conclusion of discussion, Agency members unanimous concurred that the project as provided by Section 4.1.e of the Agency's Regulations is an "as of right activity" since the activity is related to the construction and operation by the SCRWA of facilities necessary to the impounding, storage, and withdrawal of water for the public water supply.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### **Daniel and Lauren Esposito: 15 Wolf Tree Drive**

**Cease and Desist Order Regarding Tree Clearing and Grading in Wetlands and Upland Review Area**

#### **Daniel Esposito: 21 Wolf Tree Drive**

**Cease and Desist Order Regarding Tree Clearing and Grading in Wetlands and Upland Review Area**

These items were carried over until the Agency's regular meeting in February when it is anticipated that an application will be submitted for the wetland's restoration.

#### **Sarah Taffel: 106 Seymour Road**

##### **Application for residential site development of property**

Since the Agency's December 16, 2020 meeting, project engineer John Paul Garcia had provided a bond estimate of \$9,600.00 to Jim Pretti of Criscuolo Engineering, the Agency's consulting engineering firm. Mr. Pretti via email had agreed with the proposed bond amount.

Following a brief discussion Agency members acted as follows on the application:

\*\*\* **Kurek moved approval of the application of Sarah Taffel for the residential site development of property located at 106 Seymour Road based on the site plans prepared by John Paul Garcia and Associates entitled and dated as follows:**

- **"Proposed Site Plan, 106 Seymour Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut", Sheet C-1, dated 12-122019,**

- “Proposed Septic Plan, 106 Seymour Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut”, Sheet C-2, dated 10-29-20; and
- “Erosion & Sediment Control Plan, 106 Seymour Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut”, Sheet C-3, dated 10-29-20

The foregoing plans shall be amended to per the comment letter from the Agency’s consulting engineer firm dated December 15, 2020, and the response letter by project engineer, John Paul Garcia on December 17, 2020. A set of the amended plans shall be submitted to the Agency for its records and shall be known as the “Map of Record”.

The application is approved subject to standard permit stipulations and the following special conditions:

- A preconstruction meeting between the contractor and the Agency Enforcement Officer
- Posting of a performance bond in the amount of \$9600.00 to ensure the installation and functioning of stormwater management and erosion and controls

\*\*\* Josephs seconded

\*\*\* In favor: Blythe, Kurek, Speranzini, Josephs and Webber

\*\*\* Opposed: No One

\*\*\* Recused: No One

\*\*\* Abstained: No One

Approved 5-0 vote

**NHB Associates LLC: 181 Ford Road**

**Application for residential site development of property.**

The application submitted by NHB Associates LLC for the residential site development of property located at 181 Ford Road was formally received at the Agency’s regular meeting on December 17, 2020.

The application materials had been submitted to the Agency’s consulting engineer firm, Criscuolo Engineering for review. Review comments dated January 18, 2021 had been received from the consulting engineer and distributed to the Agency members and project engineer.

Keith Buda, project engineer with Pereira Engineering, LLC participated in the WebEx meeting and in discussion and response to questions from Agency members noted the following:

- Most of the Agency consulting engineers comments were notes that could be added to the plans.
- A bond estimate can be provided for the Agency’s consulting engineer to review.
- The house could be shifted to the east eight to ten feet so that would not infringe on the septic area and would provide more distance for the limits of disturbance from the stream.
- The extent of clearing would be where the silt fence installation is shown.
- Quinnipiack Valley Health District (QVHD) has approved the septic design. *Note: A copy of QVHD’s approval was requested to be submitted for the application file.*

At the conclusion of discussion, it was the consensus of the Agency members to defer action on the application until the Agency’s regular meeting on February 17, 2021 to allow revised plans to be submitted, shifting the house away from the stream, the submission of a proposed

project bond by the project engineer for the Agency's consulting engineer to review and approve and submission of a copy of the QVHD approval. No site inspection was scheduled.

### **Mary Early: 38 Hunting Hill Road**

#### **Application for residential site development of property.**

The application submitted by Mary Early for the residential site development of a lot to be split from her property located at 38 Hunting Hill Road was formally received at the Agency's regular meeting on December 17, 2020. Since the last meeting, the required application fees had been submitted.

The application materials had been submitted to the Agency's consulting engineer firm, Criscuolo Engineering for review. Review comments dated January 18, 2021 had been received from the consulting engineer and distributed to the Agency members and project engineer.

John Paul Garcia, project engineer participated in the WebEx meeting and in discussion and response to questions from Agency members noted the following:

- He had received the comments from the Agency's consulting engineer and could readily address them.
- He had also received comments back from the Quinnipiack Valley Health District.
- Was amendable to deferring action on the application until the Agency's regular meeting in February to allow for a bond estimate for the project to be reviewed by the Agency's consulting engineer.

At the conclusion of discussion, it was the consensus of the Agency members to defer action on the application until the Agency's regular meeting on February 17, 2021 to allow the amount of a project bond to be submitted by the project engineer for the Agency's consulting engineer to review and approve. No site inspection was scheduled.

### **Richard T. Katz: 91 Forest Glen Drive**

#### **Application for residential site development of property**

The application submitted by Richard T. Katz for the residential site development of property located at 91 Forest Glen Drive had been formally received by the Agency at its regular meeting on December 16, 2021. Since the last meeting, the required application fees had been submitted.

The application materials had been submitted to the Agency's consulting engineer firm, Criscuolo Engineering for review. Review comments dated January 18, 2021 had been received from the consulting engineer and distributed to the Agency members and project engineer.

John Paul Garcia ~ project engineer, Bill Wiedenmann ~ Builder and Michael Cegan ~ Landscape Architect all participated in the WebEx meeting. In discussion and response to questions from Agency members they noted the following:

- As requested, an overlay had been provided showing the site development previously approved by the Agency, and the current development proposal. *Note: That overlay had been distributed to the Agency members.*
- Every tree on the site had been marked.
- The house and driveway would be at the far eastern side of the site.
- The residence would have walkouts on the west and back sides.
- The finished grading would allow the preservation of existing trees.

- There would be no direct impact to the wetlands.
- There would be a stone terrace.
- Rocks and boulders on the site would be utilized in the landscaping.
- The plant design has a major focus on native plantings.
- There would be no lawn.
- The septic system area would be planted with a fescue meadow mix

At the conclusion of discussion, it was the consensus of the Agency members to defer action on the application until the Agency’s regular meeting on February 17, 2021 to allow the amount of a project bond to be submitted by the project engineer for the Agency’s consulting engineer to review and approve. No site inspection was scheduled.

**Sarah Taffel: 106 Seymour Road**

**Application for residential site development of property**

The application submitted by Sarah Taffel for the residential site development of her property located at 106 Seymour Road had been received at the Agency’s regular meeting on November 18th. The application materials had been forwarded to the Agency’s consulting engineer firm, Criscuolo Engineering for review and comment. Comments dated December 15, 2020 had been received from Jim Pretti at Criscuolo Engineering and had been forwarded to project engineer John Paul Garcia. Mr. Garcia who participated in the WebEx meeting stated that he had no issue with Mr. Pretti’s comments. He added that providing a bond estimate would not be an issue.

**\*\*\* Kurek moved approval of the application of Sarah Taffel for the residential site development of property located at 106 Seymour Road based on the site plans prepared by John Paul Garcia and Associates entitled and dated as follows:**

**The application is approved subject to standard permit stipulations and the following special conditions:**

- **A preconstruction meeting between the contractor and the Agency Enforcement Officer**
- **Posting of a performance bond to ensure the installation and functioning of stormwater management and erosion and controls**

**\*\*\* Josephs seconded**

**\*\*\* In favor: Blythe, Kurek, Speranzini, Josephs and Webber**

**\*\*\* Opposed: No One**

**\*\*\* Recused: No One**

**\*\*\* Abstained: No One**

**Approved 5-0 vote**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence was received that was not related to agenda items before the Agency.

**SITE VISITS**

No site visits needed to be scheduled.

## **ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS REPORT**

The AEO had nothing new to report to the Agency.

### **OTHER AGENCY BUSINESS**

Agency member Webber said that she had had questions regarding the following sites based on her review of old minutes and observations when driving around town:

- 187 Ford Road: Excavator in front yard.  
*Note: AEO Sullivan noted that the excavator had been there for some time but other than installation of fence at the rear of the property to screen other equipment on the site there had been no site activity*
- 61 Ansonia Road: Planting plan for incursion towards wetlands  
*Note: AEO Sullivan noted that a response from the homeowners to the requested restoration plan, which dated back to when Terry Gilbertson had been AEO had ever been received. A follow-up will be made.*
- 30 Hemlock Hollow Road: Clearing adjacent to onsite wetlands  
*Note: AEO Sullivan noted that she had been out to the site with the landscaper several times to address the limits of yard work could be done adjacent to the onsite wetlands.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Regular meeting of December 16, 2020**

- \*\*\* **Kurek moved approval of the minutes with corrections**
- \*\*\* **Josephs seconded**
- \*\*\* **In favor: Blythe, Kurek, Speranzini, Josephs and Webber**
- \*\*\* **Opposed: No One**
- \*\*\* **Recused: No One**
- \*\*\* **Abstained: No One**

**Approved 5-0 vote**

### **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

- \*\*\* **Kurek moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 pm.**
- \*\*\* **Speranzini seconded**
- \*\*\* **In favor: Blythe, Kurek, Speranzini, Josephs and Webber**
- \*\*\* **Opposed: No One**
- \*\*\* **Recused: No One**
- \*\*\* **Abstained: No One**

**Approved 5-0 vote**

**Accordingly, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Kristine Sullivan, Acting Recording Secretary**