

INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

The regular meeting of the Woodbridge Inland Wetlands Agency (Agency) was commenced at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, in the Central Meeting Room of the Woodbridge Town Hall, 11 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, by Chairman Robert Blythe.

Agency members present for the meeting were: Chairman Robert Blythe, David Speranzini, Josh Goldberg, Steven Sosensky, Jean Webber (alternate) and Enréne van Tonder (alternate). Jack Kurek was excused. Jean Webber were seated in place of Kurek. Agency Enforcement Officer (AEO) Kristine Sullivan was excused.

NEW BUSINESS

Robert McSherry: 49 Round Hill Road

Application to modify the existing IWA permit for the residential site development of the subject property regarding access to the accessory barn

The Agency formally received the application submitted by Robert McSherry, to modify the existing IWA permit for the residential site development of 49 Round Hill Road by modifying the location of the driveway to the accessory barn. The application was accompanied by a check for the application fees, site plan showing the modified site development plan and proof of notice to the abutting property owners.

Applicant Robert McSherry was present to discuss the application with the Agency members. In discussion and response to questions by Agency members he noted:

- Now that the house has been constructed, it seemed logical to relocate the driveway to in be in front of the house where there can be a cleaner “sweep” to the barn.
- The barn was able to be moved up
- He has great neighbors. They also have a barn, and the two barns, being staggered, will act as a buffer between the two properties.
- The fire truck turnaround will stay at the end of the driveway where it was originally planned, but the driveway (to the barn) instead of going around the back of the house will go to the right (in front of the house), which is a much cleaner and functional layout.
- The driveway relocation is shown in red on the revised plans.
- Once the rear porch was up, his wife didn’t want to see him driving behind the house, and actually the driveway relocation has worked out.
- The area where the relocated driveway would go was cleared as part of the original site development.
- The “upper” driveway will be paved, but the “lower” driveway will be pea stone.
- The pea stone would prevent direct runoff to the wetlands.
- The barn has been moved closer to the house than originally proposed.
- The house is almost completed.
- No additional earth movement would be needed for the driveway because it is already graded and flat, the pea stone will simply be deposited on top.

- The area between the driveway and the wetlands is well vegetated. It is so tall that you cannot see the silt fence that is still there from the beginning of the project.
- The contractors will be asked to make sure that the silt fence is not in need of any maintenance or replacement.
- The area between the driveway and the wetlands has a slope and would be a challenge to mow. It would most likely be weed wacked and planted with a wildflower mix.
- The yard drains as shown on the plan will be installed shortly, all the materials are already on site.
- The width of the access driveway will be ten feet.

At the conclusion of discussion, the Agency members noted that it would be beneficial to delegate action on the application to the DAE so work could be done while there is still a growing season. Otherwise, the Agency would have to wait until October to act. Accordingly, the Agency members then acted as follows:

***** Sosensky moved to defer action on the application of Robert McSherry to modify the existing IWA permit for the residential site development of 49 Round Hill Road regarding access to the accessory barn to the Agency’s duly authorized Agent.**

***** Speranzini seconded**

***** In favor: Blythe, Goldberg, Speranzini, Sosensky, and Webber.**

***** Opposed: No One**

***** Recused: No One**

***** Abstained: No One**

Unanimous approval.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business on the evening’s agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Request from Lisa Bishop for the release of the IWA performance bond being held for the residential site development of 244 Ansonia Road.

Note: A photograph of the vegetated site had been provided to the Agency members by AEO Sullivan, who via email, had also recommended the release of the bond.

***** Webber moved to release the IWA performance bond being held for the residential site development of 244 Ansonia Road.**

***** Speranzini seconded**

***** In favor: Blythe, Goldberg, Speranzini, Sosensky, and Webber.**

***** Opposed: No One**

***** Recused: No One**

***** Abstained: No One**

Unanimous approval

ENFORCEMENT OFFICER’S REPORT

The AEO Sullivan had provided copies of an application that she had approved administratively for installation of a footing pad for a new staircase off an existing rear deck of the residence at 16 Old Still Road. Since construction of the staircase footing was diminutive and located as far as possible from the onsite wetlands, after conferring with the Chair, AEO

Sullivan had issued the permit and as required, was providing notice of that decision to the Agency.

Agency members had no concerns about the AEO issuing the permit.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of Site Inspection on July 19, 2023

***** Goldberg moved to approve the minutes of the Agency’s site inspection on July 19, 2023, with typographical corrections.**

***** Webber seconded**

***** In favor: Blythe, Goldberg, Speranzini, Sosensky, and Webber.**

***** Opposed: No One**

***** Recused: No One**

***** Abstained: No One**

Unanimous approval

Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 19, 2023

***** Sosensky moved to approve the minutes of the Agency’s regular meeting on July 19, 2023, with typographical corrections.**

***** Speranzini seconded**

***** In favor: Blythe, Goldberg, Speranzini, Sosensky, and Webber.**

***** Opposed: No One**

***** Recused: No One**

***** Abstained: No One**

Unanimous approval

SITE INSPECTIONS

No site inspections needed to be scheduled.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

***** Sosensky moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm.**

***** Speranzini seconded**

***** In favor: Blythe, Goldberg, Speranzini, Sosensky, and Webber.**

***** Opposed: No One**

***** Recused: No One**

***** Abstained: No One**

Unanimous approval

Accordingly, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Sullivan, Acting Recording Secretary