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Chairman Bonnekson called the Meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**Present for the Board:** Heather Bonnekson, Martin Mlyniec, Stan Crawford, Penny Newbury, Glen Newcombe.

Not Present: Muriel Miller, Peter Witkowski, Diane Gagnon.

Staff and Others Present: First Selectman Allan Cahill, WEO Jay Gigliotti (7:12), Recording Clerk

Dayna Arriola.

#### Item 1: Audience for Citizens: none.

# Item 2: Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting of September 6, 2022

**Motion:** Penny Newbury, seconded by Glen Newcombe, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 6, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

### Item 3: Old Business: none.

#### **Item 4: New Business**

1. WP0123-01: Applicant: Hampton Conservation Commission; Location: Hammond Hill Road; Proposed Activity: Creation of access trails on the property for passive recreation. Creation of small parking area (4-5) cars at front of property. Brush clearing bordering the field and to allow access to the Little River. Possible creation of wooden boardwalks to river and wildlife viewing posts.

Penny Newbury, who also serves on the Conservation Commission, presented an overview of the project. The Commission is applying for a Recreational Trails Grant in March for the purpose of increasing opportunities for passive recreation and fishing on the 51 Town-owned acres. The plan makes the property more accessible in general, and to visitors with limited mobility, with the construction of a parking area, a one mile long walking trail to improve access to the river and the pond, a board walk and fishing pier.

WEO Jay Gigliotti distributed information on the parcel which included the Project Scope and Existing Conditions, the Proposed Project Improvements, and the Project Impacts, which are limited to the clearing of vegetation in a few areas along the river, and ground disturbance with the installation of the parking lot, boardwalk and pier, though no detrimental impacts to the wetlands, flora or wildlife are anticipated.

To Chairman Bonnekson's questions, First Selectman Cahill stated that a composite material would be used for the decking. He also said that a lip would be installed along the deck for safety purposes per ADA compliance, and that the Town, at 10 million, has enough insurance coverage to include this property. Mr. Cahill also said that hunting is not allowed on the property, and that signs could be posted along the portion used for agriculture. Ms. Newbury added that signage is a part of the application, as well as a kiosk at the entrance with a map of the property.

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**Motion:** Heather Bonnekson, seconded by Stan Crawford, to approve the application and summary ruling for WP0123-01. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** Martin Mlyniec, seconded by Stan Crawford, to waive the fees as the proposed activity is a Town initiated project. Motion carried unanimously.

### Item 4: No Permit Necessary: none.

#### **Item 5: WEO Report:**

WEO Jay Gigliotti reported that recent permits, for sheds, garages, additions and a few houses, were issued as there were no impacts to wetlands. He will submit a list of these to the IWWA. To the question on the development of the trails at Stonehurst, a project previously approved by the IWWA, he reported that there is no further activity at this time.

### Item 6: Communications: none.

#### **Item 7: Other Business:**

## 1. Discuss and Approve FY2023-2024 Budget Request

**Motion:** Stan Crawford, seconded by Glen Newcombe, to approve an FY2023-2024 budget level with FY2022-2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Penny Newbury will find the information necessary to renew a subscription to the Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions newsletter, "The Habitat".

2. Discuss and Approve IWWA Contribution to the Town's FY2021-2022 Annual Report Motion: Stan Crawford, seconded by Penny Newbury, to approve the IWWA's contribution to the Town's FY2021-2022 Annual Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8: Audience for Citizens: none.

## **Item 9: Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Agency, the Meeting adjourned at 7:54PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Dayna Arriola, Recording Secretary