

Hampton IWWA Minutes
Public Hearing and Special Meeting – July 14, 2020
Page 1 of 3

The Public Hearing of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency was held on Tuesday, July 14, 2020.

Present for the Board: Heather Bonneksen, Chairman; Peter Witkowski, Vice-Chairman; Stan Crawford; Glen Newcombe; Penny Newbury

Absent: Martin Mlyniec, Muriel Miller

Staff and Others Present: John Valente, former WEO; Greg Glaude and Ian Cole of Killingly Engineering Associates; John Guskowski, Virtual Meeting Host; Dayna McDermott-Arriola, Recording Secretary

Chairman Bonneksen called the Public Hearing to order at 7:05 p.m.

Public Hearing Continuation:

Chairman Bonneksen read the legal notice as follows:

The Town of Hampton Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Community Room, 164 Main Street, Hampton, Connecticut. This hearing is held for the application for construction of a gravel access drive with three (3) separate wetlands crossings; each crossing includes the culverting of intermittent watercourses, total wetlands filling of 3991 square feet approximately to access upland areas of the property. The property is owned by Stonehurst at Hampton Valley, LLC, located at 119 Providence Turnpike (Route 6) and Drain Street, shown as Lot #7A, Block #27 on Assessors Map #4-10. Maps and other application information are available for review at the Hampton Town Hall Building Department. At this hearing, any interested persons may be heard and written communications received regarding this matter.

Heather Bonneksen, Chairman

Published in The Willimantic Chronicle, March 25, 2020.

Chairman Bonneksen announced that the record consists of recordings of public hearings, minutes of meetings, and all documentation received and publicly accessible in the on-line folder on the Town's website.

Glen Glaude reviewed the applicant's plan, including the recent changes, specifically the reduction of the driveway width to eight feet and the addition of four mitigation areas. Mr. Glaude read into the record the response of Ian Cole and Normand Thibeault of Killingly Engineering Associates to concerns raised by the IWWA at the last public hearing (attached). He also reviewed the findings of Brian Murphy of the Fisheries Division of the Habitat Conservation and Enhancement Program which approved the crossing designs. John Valente reported that the mitigation areas have been installed and inspected to his satisfaction and that invasive plant removal will begin in the fall. He also clarified that the wetlands disturbance has been reduced from 3900 to 3300 square feet. Photographs illustrating the crossing during summer conditions were also displayed for members' review.

Chairman Bonneksen clarified items on the widths of the driveway, the paved apron and the tracking pad. She also ascertained that the paragraph referencing "fertilizer" will be removed from the plan, and asked that the plan specify that no large equipment will be utilized in the removal of invasive species. To her question on the placement of culverts, Mr. Glaude responded that the natural grade would be maintained and confirmed that the materials in the culvert will not be forced out by seasonal water velocity as the flow is not aggressive and the material is heavy.

Penny Newbury ascertained that the width of the driveway at eight feet with one foot shoulders on each side total ten feet at the crossings, that a wetlands seed mix would be used to re-vegetate disturbed areas, and that annual maintenance would remove any items blocking the natural flow of the water.

It was also confirmed that Engineer Thibeault will be on site for construction phases.

Motion: Stan Crawford, seconded by Peter Witkowski, to close the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:49PM.

Hampton IWWA Minutes
Public Hearing and Special Meeting – July 14, 2020
Page 2 of 3

Present for the Board: Heather Bonneksen, Chairman; Peter Witkowski, Vice-Chairman; Stan Crawford; Glen Newcombe; Penny Newbury

Absent: Muriel Miller, Martin Mlyniec

Staff and Others Present: John Valente, former WEO; Greg Glaude and Ian Cole of Killingly Engineering Associates; Allan Cahill, First Selectman; John Guskowski, Virtual Meeting Host; Dayna McDermott-Arriola, Recording Secretary

Chairman Bonneksen called the Meeting to Order at 7:49PM.

Item 1: Audience for Citizens: none.

Item 2: Additions to the Agenda: none.

Item 3: Old Business:

Item 1: WP0120-01: Stonehurst at Hampton Valley, LLC, Craig Gates, Applicant; 119

Providence Tpke, Hampton, Ct. Proposed Activity: To access an area for wedding photographs and other wedding venues, crossing of three intermittent watercourses and approximately 3900 square feet (in total) of wetlands, location 1/3 mile south on Drain Street just past the Little River and adjacent to power lines.

John Valente confirmed that, per the Regulations, everyone voting at the Meeting had attended all of the Public Hearings.

Peter Witkowski stated that the entire process has evolved in a more than adequate way with all issues addressed satisfactorily. Chairman Bonneksen and Stan Crawford echoed Mr. Witkowski's sentiments, as did Penny Newbury who ascertained that conditions would become part of the application. Mr. Valente stated his confidence that the applicant will follow through will all recommendations and that the new WEO will inspect the project to establish that all phases are implemented in accordance with the conditions set forth in the plan. Glen Newcombe thanked John Valente for his work on the project, especially with regards to the mitigation measures. First Selectman Cahill also thanked Mr. Valente for his efforts and for his service. He announced that Planning and Zoning Enforcement Officer Jay Gigliotti will replace Mr. Valente, who has recently retired from the position. Chairman Bonneksen suggested that members could meet Mr. Gigliotti at the August meeting.

Chairman Bonneksen reviewed the Plenary Ruling (attached); amendments were made as needed.

Motion: Peter Witkowski, seconded by Glen Newcombe, to approve application WP0120-02, Stonehurst at Hampton Valley, LLC, Craig Gates, Applicant. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 5: New Business: none.

Item 6: No Permit Necessary: none.

Item 7: WEO Report:

7.1 Monthly Report: none.

7.2 Duly Authorized Agent Report: none.

Item 8: Communications: none.

Hampton IWWA Minutes
Public Hearing and Special Meeting – July 14, 2020
Page 3 of 3

Item 9: Approval of Minutes – Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of June 2, 2020

Motion: Peter Witkowski, seconded by Glen Newcombe, to approve the June 2, 2020 Minutes of the Public Hearing and the Regular Meeting with the following corrections: under the title “June 2, 2020” and under Old Business “Chairman Bonneksen read the agenda item and the legal notice, and announced that discussion is postponed until the regular meeting of *July 7, 2020*.”

Motion carried unanimously.

Item 10. Discuss and Act on Any Other Business: none.

Item 11. Audience for Citizens: none.

Item 12. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Agency, Chairman Bonneksen adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dayna McDermott-Arriola
Recording Secretary