

Hopedale Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2022

Call to Order: 6 pm by Becca Solomon
Meeting held virtually via Zoom.

Attendees on Zoom:

Becca Solomon, Dave Guglielmi, Marcia Matthews.

Doug Hartnett, Principal, Highpoint Engineering; Joseph Antonellis, Attorney; Andrea Kendall, LLC, Langdon Environmental; Michelle Bird; Hilda Karpawich; Tom Lewis; Carole Mellen; Diana Schindler; Ann DeMattia.

Notice of Intent

75 Plain Street, former Rosenfeld property. Applicant needs Order of Conditions for redevelopment of Rosenfeld Concrete site into a warehouse facility.

Public Hearing

Doug Hartnett said they had a ZBA hearing on their special permit. A traffic peer review is in progress. Final Mitigation Review is pending. These items should be wrapped up by 4/22. He requested a continuance until 4/19 at which he will request closing the hearing.

The Commission voted unanimously to continue the hearing at the request of the applicant.

Dave asked if the Commission has received the operational plan. Becca replied No, and we are awaiting additional files. She will contact the Town Clerk. Doug Hartnett will share files.

Committee Business

Dave mentioned a request for a joint meeting to discuss the West Street property on Thursday March 24, an info session with Finance, Water & Sewer, the Conservation Commission and Board of Selectmen ahead of the Town Meeting March 26. See warrant articles 8-12. Becca suggested the Conservation Commission meet in advance to decide as a commission what to recommend. Meeting scheduled for Friday March 18.

In August to September 2020, all boards were asked to weigh in. The Conservation Commission issued a statement in July, 2021 before the Halloween Town Meeting.

Becca said she sought guidance from the DEP regarding our authority on this matter. The Commission was for the town purchasing the entire property.

187 Freedom Street W&S Tank. The Commission unanimously agreed to sign a Confirmatory Deed to convey the property.

Diana Schindler mentioned that the town received \$50,000 from the Legislature for maintaining open space land. It needs to be spent by June 30. We need to hire a land surveyor to establish boundaries. Will send out a Request For Bids.

At the Select Meeting on 3/28 there will be a presentation on the Freedom Street Bridge, alternatives analysis. The Conservation Commission can listen in. regarding mechanizing the dam. Dave will represent the Commission. The Engineer will give his recommendations to the Board of Health regarding the pond, Highway, and Finance. Dave said, "There are four different options. This is of environmental concern. We need to talk about the budget and funding." Mr. Schwachman has been involved as the owner.

Becca spoke about the landfill near the Milford Sewage Treatment Plant. "If the soil is contaminated, Mass. DEP has jurisdiction. The Conservation Commission has jurisdiction over the wetland. They are capping it with new soil from construction sites. There is no pollution entering resource areas."

She mentioned the MACC Spring Annual Conference. "There are changes to Stormwater Performance Standards more in line with the EPA. They will take effect this Fall." She clarified that Hopedale is in the Central DEP Region.

Dave said that for Lake Boone in Stow and Hudson, Hudson received a grant to study biology, hydrology, resources for residents and wildlife, and nature-based solutions. They have a right of first refusal. The School of Green Science at U. Mass. Amherst trained a resident to perform sampling and testing.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm. Next meeting is April 19, 2022 at 6 pm.

Agenda will be posted per standard posting requirements. Agenda will include call-in/Zoom meeting information.