



## Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency

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### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 7:00 PM

This meeting was held remotely, via ZOOM.

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman P. Bassermann
- 2) **ROLL CALL:** Chairman P. Bassermann, Commissioners D. Goclowski, C. Begemann, M. Ormrod. Also present was Inland Wetlands Director J. Frederick and Inland Wetlands Associate K. Blanchette
- 3) **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:**
  - a) April 24, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes-Commissioner D. Goclowski made a motion to approve the minutes of April 24, 2025. Commissioner M. Ormrod seconded. Motion carried (3-0-1). Commissioner C. Begemann abstained.
- 4) **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**
  - a) IW#25.01.01 | 19-37 Gould Lane | Proposed Subdivision for 3 Residential Lots  
Public hearing opened March 27, 2025, continued to May 8, 2025-Ronald Wassmer, PE was present for the applicant. He reviewed the minor modifications to the site plans and addressed the outstanding questions from the IW and town engineer staff. He indicated that the street trees will have no impact on the galleys on the lots, and no stormwater leaves any of the lots at any greater amount than it does currently. There is a 15-foot upland buffer proposed from the location of the split rail fences to the wetland to provide a physical barrier as well as signage indicating the presence of wetlands in hopes to prevent disturbance. They will put an IWWA jurisdiction notice on the Deeds when conveyed to the new owners. Matthew Popp, landscape architect, was also present for the applicant, and he indicated that the planting plan now follows the proposed grading, and the invasive plant control management plan was now specified on the plans. In regard to the proposed wood duck boxes, they are meant to be maintenance free so that people won't need to enter into and disturb the wetlands. He did indicate however that the duck boxes should be reinforced at the opening to ensure that smaller creatures don't begin chewing on them and making the entrance hole bigger and thereby more susceptible to predators. Brian Murray, resident of 38 Beechwood, discussed his concerns with the proposed development, including the propensity of the area to flood and the proposed drainage, and also questioned whether the development is complying with federal and state wetland laws. IW Director J. Frederick informed the resident that the commission can only make a determination on their regulations, however the town regulations are derived from the state statutes Wetlands and Watercourses Act. Later during the discussion, he also requested information from the applicant on how they are planning on removing the old car on the site and if any soil testing was going to be completed to make sure no oils or other contaminants got into the soil. The applicant responded that they were bringing in a flat bed and removing the car, and no soil testing was planned. Christine Nintean, a neighbor who lives on Wellsweep asked about maintenance of the storm water system and how does the commission know that they are going to do the maintenance and comply with the plan, and also how would they know if

chemicals or fertilizers were utilized that could harm the wetlands. IWEO J. Frederick stated that there are routine inspections during construction to monitor that the systems are being installed correctly and that the plan is being adhered to. Commission closed the public hearing. Commission opted to move deliberations on this matter to the end of the evening to hear other items on the Agenda.

5) **APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW:** none

6) **ENFORCEMENT:**

- a) CC#24.07.01 | 1, 5 and 7 Beacon Hill Rd | vegetation removal & earth disturbance within wetland and adjacent upland area
  - i) Continuation of show cause hearing - Commissioner M. Ormrod stated that he will be abstaining from this matter. This item was continued to the May 22, 2025 meeting- There was no discussion on this item.
- b) CC#24.09.02 | 170-182 Leetes Island Rd | clearing and earth disturbance without a permit
  - i) Continuation of Show cause hearing-Property owner Richard Onofrio was present at the meeting. He told the commission he is working on getting a land surveyor out there to do a more accurate site plan and working on putting together the details of what he is planning on doing. Commission agreed to continue the hearing to June 12 in order to give him time to complete those things, however the information must be submitted by May 28<sup>th</sup> to give staff time to review.
- c) CC#25.05.01 | 329 East Main Street | failure of erosion and sedimentation control measures in association with site development
  - i) Show Cause Hearing-IWEO J. Frederick-John Schmitz PE was present for the applicant. IWEO J. Frederick informed the commission that the Cease and Correct was issued due to inadequate erosion control measures, as well as erosion from a disturbed area of the site where gas line work was completed. Additionally, the catch basins were overflowing due to being sediment laden from not being properly maintained. She also explained that some of the erosion was coming from an area where the gas company did work, and questioned whether the gas company should be issued a NOV. The commission determined that an NOV should be issued to the gas company, and a wetland scientist must evaluate the impact on the wetlands. The findings should be submitted to the office no later than June 5, 2025 for the June 12 meeting to allow staff adequate time for review. The erosion control reports should continue weekly, and the curblin should be repaired or a berm installed in the area of the gas line work. The show cause hearing is continued to the June 12, 2025 meeting.
- d) CC#25.05.02 | 175 Cherry Hill Rd (C4/2/2), Hosley Rd (C5/1/1) and 167 Cherry Hill Rd (D5/5/19) | failure of erosion and sedimentation control measures in association with site development
  - i) Show Cause Hearing-The applicant/property owner Bruno Ciccone was present during the hearing. IWEO J. Frederick indicated that this Cease and Correct order is similar to the Cease and Correct order that was issued previously. There is a lot of sediment making its way to the watercourse and off site to the Regional Water Authority property. Property owner has been instructed to fix the failing sediment and erosion controls and add additional controls where needed. The silt fences behind lots 8 and 10 need to be cleared of all the sediment that has built up behind them. Additionally, check dams

should be installed in the areas where there is increased flow concentrations to slow down the water and prevent additional erosion in those areas. The road needs to be swept and the haybales that are decaying need to be replaced, as they are now no longer functioning as intended. The commission determined that a soil/wetland scientist needs to investigate the watercourse/wetland areas impacted by the siltation, and indicate whether corrective actions are required. The report needs to be submitted by June 5 for the June 12 Inland Wetlands meeting in order to give staff adequate time to review the materials. Cease and correct hearing to be continued to the June 12 Meeting.

7) **APPLICATIONS FOR RECEIPT:**

- a) IW#25.05.01 | 8 Orchard Ave | Replacement of privately owned bridge- The application was received and there was no discussion.

8) **AGENT APPROVALS:** none

9) **DELIBERATIONS:**

- a) IW#25.01.01 | 19-37 Gould Lane | Proposed Subdivision for 3 Residential Lots- Deliberations were continued to May 22, 2025 at the regularly scheduled Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Meeting.

10) **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** none

11) **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 10:06 pm by Chairman P. Bassermann.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katy Blanchette  
IW Associate