



Town of Beacon Falls
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission
January 10, 2024
C/O Town Clerk
10 Maple Avenue Beacon Falls, CT 06403
(Subject to Revision)

Members Present: Chairman Steve J Knapik (**SK**), Douglas Bousquet (**DB**), Fred Bowes (**FB**), Michael Pratt (**MP**), Brian Swan (**BS**),

Members Absent: James Weed (**JW**), John Smith (**JS**)

Others Present: WEO David Keating (**DK**), Selectman Michael Krenesky (**MK**), 4 members of the public.

1. **Call to Order /Roll Call:** The meeting was called order at 8:01 pm.

2. **Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings:**

Motion to accept minutes from the December 13, 2023, regular meeting, **MP/FB**. All ayes.

MK Ann @ 12 Dolly reached out to me and sent me a hand drawn picture, based on this meeting you just had; will Inland Wetlands send a letter to her? Or the neighbor? **DK** I'm not sure what the answer will be if we should send a letter to the neighbor uphill, if it's a regulated thing, or it's a civil thing? Saying please control your water or should it be a regulated thing saying you must address it, or the town will pursue it. I will look into it.

MP motioned to rearrange the agenda to accommodate the public, **FB** Seconded. All ayes.

3. **Comments from the Public:**

Peter Pastuszek (PS) - 190 Cook Lane: **PS** I live on the hill and there's also 5 other houses. We know about the rain, the water, the hill, it comes down. About a year ago, 198 Cook Lane was purchased about 8 acres give or take. So, they cut 40-45 trees and cleared bushes, branches, anything. On Monday December 18th I see the neighbor taking pictures of my driveway. I go out and see my driveway completely washed away. Now I go up the hill, follow the water, I think where he was cutting the trees, and the trees were dropping down, they were making pipes connecting water together. Eventually it just rushed straight down and brought all the leaves and such to my driveway. I called Mr. Keating and Peter (Betkoski); I see another property and climb up the top and see the source of the water. There's a metal building and a house and drainpipes coming out of the house, they have elbows and plastic pipes that spill the water into the driveway. So, I get in contact with 198 and I said there's a problem with my driveway, its unpassable, is there any way you can divert. He said he isn't taking responsibility for this; I'll speak to my lawyer and some other wetland people. **SK** I can tell you tomorrow I am going up to another address, so I'll come check it out. Will you be around? **PS** Make a long story short, after 2 days of the water draining from the top, it's still draining from my yard and my other neighbor because the ground becomes flat, so after 2 days it looks like the water is coming from my driveway and no anybody who would slip on the ice would say that's the problem right there. The ambulance can't even come up there in the wintertime. I don't want to be responsible for any injuries. **SK** It's got to get addressed or they're going to have to fix the roads. So tomorrow at 9 o'clock the foreman will be out there and one of the other guys.



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4. Public Petitions

None

5. New and/or Pending Applications:

- a. Pond Spring Development LLC C/O Jeff Respler – 61 Lancaster Dr (Lot 24): **MP** Motion to remove from agenda, **DB** Seconded. All ayes.
- b. Permit A-2023-377, SW-2023-336: Hawks View (JohnPaul Garcia/JPG – Representing the owners of 43.5 acres at the end of Haley Ridge): *Reference Public Hearing Minutes from January 10, 2024, at 7:00 pm*

6. Old Business/Wetlands Enforcement Officers Report:

- a. Permit A-2009-283: Alliance Circle Lot 3 (HI Stone): **DB** No calls.
- b. Permit A-2014-306: 100 Fieldstone Lane-Chatfield Farms Phases 3, 4, & 5: No monthly report
- c. Permit A-2018-314, SW-2018-014: Tiverton, Fairfield Place - Richard LeClaire (RL) Jr. and Robert B. Ramdei (RR): **DK** My understanding is they must come back with their whole plan, before the whole board in order to go forward. As far as anti-tracking pad they're still lacking. I will try to get in touch with them but if you could try too that would be good.
- d. Permit A-2019-315, SW-2019-017; A-2019-315-A1, SW-2019-017-A1: Hopp Brook Developers. **DK** No news
- e. Permit A-2019-316, SW-2019-018: Shawn Classey, 363 & 375 Burton Rd: **DK** No activity
- f. Permit A-2021-325 & SW2021-026: 251-253 South Main Street/James Martin (JM): No report
DB There was a lot of mud on the road down there.
- g. Permit A-2021-326 & SW2021-027: 343 Lopus Road, TriTech Americas LLC-Solar Tri-Tech: **DK** It's moving along quickly. No monthly report. **SK** If you swing by David tell them they're lacking their monthly report.
- h. Permit A-2022-333 SW-2022-332: 30 Lorraine Drive/Charles Edwards Estate: **SK** No activity.
- i. Permit A-2022-334 SW-2022-335: 26 Westview/BF Edge LLC 26 Westview: **SK** I went by 2 weeks ago and the pipe was still there. **DK** They did some work, not much has changed.
- j. Permit A-2022-336 SW-2022-335: 7 Rimmon Hill/LanKolga LLC: **SK** No activity
- k. 35-37-39 Avenue D: **DK** No complaints. I saw some wash out so I thought I should send them a



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letter. **MP** I know the other day when it snowed, the pile of snow at the end (from the plow) did have some processing in it so when (if) the snow melted it could be some of the reason you're seeing wash out.

- l. Permit SW-2023-337: Region 16, Football field and surrounding area: **SK** We received a report from Region 16.
- m. Detention/Retention Pond Maintenance: **DK** Lisa is updating that to make sure that's accurate.
- n. Review of IWWC Regulations, Ordinances, Fee Structure; Conditions of Approval & Inspection: **SK** No updates.
- o. 14 Lorraine Dr., Filling, and regarding backyard: **DK** No Change
- p. 412 Blackberry Hill Rd. – David Rempt: **DK** We had the heavy rains, I was out there in December after that, I was out there today – I don't have a solution yet. I noticed the water is still coming out of the driveway today, this afternoon, Is there any concentrated flow? **DR** There was concentrated flow coming. **DK** And that's the lot, as you look up from your house that's the lot on the right-hand side? **DR** I had thought it was the left but I noticed, looking at the map I noticed the one on the right is more behind my house than the other so I can't really answer that question. I know between the two houses is where I witnessed the drainage pipe that was facing my house, and I don't know where that's getting filled from. **DK** That's the drainage pipe in the lower area between the two lots? **DR** No, its up by their driveways. They had not moved in yet when I witnessed it. **DK** I will go back up there. **SK** to **DK** Let us know when you're going up there so we can get out there too.

7. Wetlands Enforcement Officer's Report:

DK There are several locations we have wash outs on. (*Discussion followed about locations in town with wash outs and water issues*)

8. New Business

DK No new applications, we'll continue to deal with what we have.

9. Correspondence / Payment of Bills:

None

10. Petitions from Commissioners:

DB The gentleman on Burton Road, what's his address? 362? Did you see that again today? Both sides, 2 feet thick... it's deep. **SK** One thing we have got to keep in mind is, and I know with the rain it's hard to do, I get it when they discharge into the street it's a liability, but we



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can't be the sump pump police when it comes to the storm's and what not. With these storms, I have water running out of my retaining wall that I haven't had in 30 years and I'm not calling anyone. The point being is we have to take a step back and say we got 12 inches of rain in 12 days pretty much. But the ones that keep bleeding out and coming into the street, we'll address. *(Discussion followed about locations in town with water issues).*

MP Question – do we have a regulation that says you can dump a pipe in your property, but it has to be so many feet from the road edge, is there something written like that somewhere?

DK I don't know of a regulation that says specifically a 5 feet dimension or the closest you can discharge or the minimum building setback of whatever zone you're in. We do have a provision that talks about discharges into streets and public rights of way. That's when someone is pumping the water from their basement, or washing machine, or something vs. if its footing drains you want them to go to daylight, they have to be downhill from the footings. If the house is up here, the footing has to end up going toward the road. We would prefer it be an underground connection into a catch basin, but we don't have a mandate that says every single-footing drain has to go into a catch basin. We don't handle the lots, we handle the drainage on the streets.

11. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 PM. **FB/DB**, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Pastor
Clerk, IWWC