

**Beacon Falls Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission**  
**10 Maple Avenue**  
**Beacon Falls, CT 06403**



**BEACON FALLS INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
**March 11, 2020**  
**MINUTES**  
**(Subject to Revision)**

**1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman John Smith called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Members Present: John Smith, Stephen Knapik, Brian Swan, Richard Minnick, Fred Bowes, and Doug Bousquet

Others Present: Dave Keating

Motion to rearrange the agenda to accommodate the public: **Knapik/Bousquet; no discussion; all ayes.**

**2. New Applications**

J. Smith indicated that Ace Auto Body was present at last month's meeting regarding a proposed addition. J. Smith noted that the comments included to clean out the swale and questions/concerns on the drainage on the Fitzgerald side. J. Smith also noted that the suggestion was to add a catch basin and gutters being tied into the catch basin. J. Smith mentioned that the Town Engineer was asked to review the proposal and give comments. J. Smith also mentioned that he spoke with him but nothing has been received from the Town Engineer and he is on vacation.

J. Smith asked to poll the Board for the Members' opinion and after a brief discussion, the Members agreed to approve the proposed addition with certain details as discussed at last month's meeting and noted to have the record map show the catch basin.

Motion to approve the proposed addition as submitted by Ace Auto Body with the condition to physically clean out the swale, add a catch basin, and grade the parking lot to the catch basin: **Knapik/Bousquet; discussion was by R. Minnick to verify that no machines will be going into the swale and that the swale could be cleaned out physically. B. Swan also questioned the depth of the basin and if the gutters could be piped to the**

catch basin. J. Smith asked if the addition will be a metal building and J. Weid replied no, it will be wood; all nays.

Motion to approve the proposed addition as submitted by Ace Auto Body with three options that were suggested by the Commission to see what option would work best – Option 1 is a catch basin, Option 2 is piping the gutters, and Option 3 is grading:

**Knapik/Bousquet;** no further discussion; all ayes.

J. Smith asked D. Keating if there were any new applications. D. Keating indicated that there were no new applications and the application from Frank Cirillo for Bethany Road was withdrawn.

### **3. Comments from the Public**

J. Smith asked three times if there were are comments from the public and there were none at this time.

### **4. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings**

J. Smith asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2020 Monthly Meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2019 Monthly Meeting as submitted by the clerk: **Bousquet/Knapik;** no discussion; all ayes.

### **5. Correspondence**

There was a copy of the CT Wildlife magazine received.

J. Smith indicated that a letter was received regarding the property on the corner of Rt. 42 and Chestnut Tree Hill Road – Frank's Tree Farm. The letter noted that back in 2013, the State of CT did some drainage work on the road and permits were received from Beacon Falls and from Oxford to do the work. There was going to be more work to clear trees that fell during the tornado and were informed by Oxford Inland Wetlands that Beacon Falls Inland Wetlands needed to be informed as well based on being within 500' from the town line.

J. Smith indicated that some of the Members visited the site and no problems were seen with the activities being done. J. Smith noted that a letter was drafted and sent to the property owners. R. Minnick indicated that he received a call from the son who indicated that the Enforcement Officer in Oxford contacted the state to see if there is some financial relief to help with the drainage of the stormwater coming off is excessive.

### **6. Show Cause Hearings & Considerations of Public Hearings**

J. Smith indicated that there were no Show Cause Hearings & Considerations of Public Hearings to discuss at tonight's meeting.

## **7. Administrative Report**

J. Smith asked for a report from D. Keating.

### **a. Wetlands Enforcement Officer**

Dave Keating indicated that the only activity is from Chatfield Farms, Tiverton II, and from Pond Springs Village.

### **b. Town Engineer**

The Town Engineer was not present at tonight's meeting.

## **8. Applications – Old Business**

J. Smith indicated that reports were received from Charlie Edwards regarding Tiverton II and from Pond Spring Village. During the discussion of Pond Spring Village, J. Smith and B. Swan stepped off the Board.

S. Knapik read the report from Pond Springs Village which indicated that erosion controls are installed and functioning properly with no repairs needed; silt fencing are being maintained and repaired as needed; mechanicals are ready for inspection; and site crew working on water and sewer hookups. S. Knapik indicated that he visited the site and did not see any problems

Since the discussion of Pond Springs Village was completed, J. Smith and B. Swan were back on the Board.

J. Smith indicated that he visited Chatfield Farms since a complaint was received from a resident in Bethany. J. Smith indicated that there are two crushers on the property and process is being made. J. Smith noted that the dust was very heavy but what could be done about the dust. J. Smith also noted that there is a lot of construction going on and someone should inspect the site. J. Smith mentioned that Jim Galligan of Nafis & Young used to do the inspections and a third party needs to do the inspection. J. Smith also mentioned that a monthly report was not received this month nor was one received last month. D. Keating indicated that he would get in touch with the third party for doing an inspection and with EG Homes for getting a monthly report.

S. Knapik asked if there is any update on Item K – Town of Beacon Falls, Sidewalk/Retaining Wall, Burton Road – and J. Smith indicated no update has been received.

J. Smith asked R. Minnick about Toby's Pond. During the discussion of Toby's Pond, R. Minnick is off the Board and is speaking as the Land Stewart. R. Minnick indicated that millings/blacktop cannot be used near the pond per Rob Pruzinsky and will be looking into what could be used. R. Minnick noted that it is still looking to do the leveling of the north spillway and removing the ruts. R. Minnick mentioned that the plan was to raise the road a little bit, grade it, and put down millings to make it passable for cars.

Since the discussion of Toby's Pond has completed, R. Minnick is back on the Board.

## 9. Old Business

D. Keating noted that he heard back from one of the homeowners who doesn't think that there's a problem. J. Smith noted that he will visit the site during rain.

## 10. New Business

There was no new business discussed at tonight's meeting.

## 11. Budget

### 1. **Report of Accounts**

A copy of the Report of Account was not received for tonight's meeting.

### 2. **Payment of Bills**

#### a. **Invoice from the Commission's Clerk**

There was an invoice from the Commission's clerk submitted for the February 12, 2020 monthly meeting totaling \$77.50.

#### b. **Other Invoices**

There was an invoice from Dave Keating submitted for \$174.42.

Motion to approve and pay the two invoices as submitted for tonight's meeting for a grand total of \$251.92: Bousquet/Opuszyński; no discussion; all ayes.

### 3. **State of Connecticut Fees**

D. Keating indicated that everything is up to date.

## 12. Petitions from Commissioners

R. Minnick asked if the Commission is still a member of CACIWC and J. Smith replied yes.

J. Smith indicated that there is training for Inland Wetlands Members being held on March 26<sup>th</sup> in Seymour. The time of the training is 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM with registration at 5:30 PM and the location is 1 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Seymour. J. Smith indicated that he would have 5 places reserved for the Members since R. Minnick would be unable to attend. J. Smith asked the clerk to contact the appropriate person to reserve the seats. R. Minnick mentioned that there is another training in Milford on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

## 13. Executive Session

J. Smith indicated an Executive Session was not needed tonight.

#### 14. **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss at tonight's meeting, J. Smith asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:16 P.M.: **Knapik/Bousquet**; *no discussion*; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo  
Clerk, Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission