



MEETING MINUTES
HYBRID MEETING
September 28, 2023

PRESENT: Miriam Sayegh (Acting Chair), Jeremi Bigosinski, Frank Simone, Penelope Koechl, Nick Lee

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Conklin, Director of Environmental Affairs; Andy Soumelidis, LandTech; Michael Sherrick, Property Owner; Carolyn Kobsa, Property Owner; Steven Trinkaus, Trinkaus Engineering, LLC; Matthew Gallo, Property Owner

ABSENT: Rick Stow (notified of intended absence)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Sayegh called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. WET#2894(S) ASML – 77 Danbury Road – proposed additions, reconfigure existing driveway, new truck loading area, expansion of site area, reconfigure existing stormwater basin, new flood plain compensatory storage, new stormwater treatments and mitigation plantings (cont.)

The Applicant requested a continuation of the Public Hearing until the next regularly scheduled meeting being held on October 12, 2023. Mr. Conklin confirmed Cardinal Engineering has been retained for a third-party engineering review which should be available prior to the next hearing.

B. WET#2895(S) WALKER – 354 Thayer Pond Road – proposed construction of a single-family residence serviced with septic system and well within an upland review area (cont.)

Mr. Soumelidis, of LandTech, displayed the plans and explained the proposal as it relates to the wetlands on site. He confirmed the comments and questions from the Town Engineer have been satisfactorily resolved and they are still waiting for final approval from the Health Department.

Commissioners noted they would like to review the revised plans with the new catch basin based on the Department of Public Works comments. Mr. Bigosinski inquired about the amount of fill for the project and sink holes present on the site. Mr. Soumelidis stated the fill is proposed due to extensive rock outcropping and possible test holes dug in the past.

Mr. Conklin raised concern about a possible vernal pool near the entrance in the same location as a previous violation that was corrected via permit from the current owners. He was also concerned about the levelling of the back yard with the large amount of fill with the septic in close proximity to the wetland. A more robust planting plan was suggested.

Mr. Soumelidis stated their Soil Scientist did not indicate a possible vernal pool as the water was not deep enough to provide for habitat. Mr. Conklin requested a report to this extent. Mr. Lee asked that the boulder demarcation be extended along the septic area and a few more trees be added for mitigation.

Mr. Bigosinski asked for alternatives relating to the house size. Mr. Conklin agreed the bedroom count should be reduced to show the difference in the footprint for the house and the septic.

Mr. Sherrick, of 358 Thayer Pond Road, raised concern about the septic system being installed in such close proximity to the wetlands and indicated they historically have ducks, tadpoles, salamander and frogs present from that wetland area.

Ms. Kobsa, of 360 Thayer Pond Road, introduced the engineer that was hired by the neighbors to review the plans, Steve Trinkaus.

Mr. Trinkaus, P.E., asked Mr. Soumelidis about test-pits for the stormwater systems and what their depths were during the testing. Mr. Soumelidis confirmed the areas and their depths with no mottling. Mr. Conklin confirmed this report needs to be submitted for the record. Mr. Trinkaus raised concern about the grading limit being close to the wetland boundary and deduced direct wetlands impacts due to the location. He stated this is one of the closest septic requests he has seen in the Wilton.

With no further questions, the Public Hearing was continued to the October 12th meeting.

III. APPLICATIONS READY TO BE REVIEWED

A. WET#2899(I) GALLO – 47 Shadow Lane – replace cracked septic tank

Mr. Conklin noted the new tank is being installed in the same general area. Mr. Gallo appeared but did not present.

Ms. Koechl MOVED to APPROVE WET#2899 with normal Special Conditions, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 5-0-0 with all in favor.

IV. APPLICATIONS READY TO BE ACCEPTED

A. WET#2901(I) KIRMAYER/CHAO – 579 Ridgefield Road – proposed 1½ story addition with walkout basement and B100a

Ms. Koechl MOVED to ACCEPT WET#2901 and schedule for the next available meeting, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 5-0-0 with all in favor.

V. APPROVED MINOR ACTIVITIES - None

VI. VIOLATIONS

A. WET#2781(S) A-E BUILDERS/ETEMADFAR – 425 Ridgefield Road – permit violation

Mr. Conklin explained he spoke with Town Counsel and looking for direction to issue a notice of violation. Clearing beyond the limit of disturbance in and adjacent to a wetland area was completed and the notice would be the best way to address the permit violation. A new corrective action application should be issued including the requirement for a third-party site monitor.

Ms. Koechl MOVED to instruct Staff to issue a Notice of Permit Violation to the Owner, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 5-0-0 with all in favor.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Meeting Minutes September 14, 2023

Mr. Bigosinski asked for some revisions. Commissioners were asked to send any revisions to Liz Larkin as they would like them to read for the next meeting minutes.

The vote was postponed until the exact verbiage is provided as a “copy and paste” into the next meeting minutes.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

VIII. ADJOURN

Mr. Lee MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:48 pm, SECONDED by Ms. Koechl and CARRIED 5-0-0 with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Larkin
Recording Secretary, Environmental Affairs