

March 11, 2013

MINUTES: THE INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION, Town of Hamden, held a Public Hearing & a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, March 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Thornton Wilder Hall, Miller Memorial Library Complex, 2901 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT with the following results:

Commissioners in attendance:

Nancy Rosenbaum, Chairperson
 Mike Montgomery
 Bob Gnida,
 Eric Annes, left at 7:40
 Bob Anastasio
 Mike Stone
 Mike Milazzo
 Kirk Shadle, arrived at 7:07

Staff in attendance:

Dan Kops, Assistant Town Planner
 Tim Lee, Assistant Town Attorney
 Tom Vocelli, IW Enforcement Officer
 Stacy Shellard, Commission Clerk
 Lisa Raccio, Stenographer

Ms. Rosenbaum called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Mr. Montgomery called the roll and there was a quorum. Ms. Rosenbaum introduced the Commission and Staff and explained the Public Hearing procedure.

I. Public Hearing

- a. 13-1187** 170 Birchwood Drive-construction of a single-family house
 Alberto DiChello, Applicant

Mr. Jim Strub, Attorney, addressed the Commission and introduced Mr. Brian Baker, Professional Engineer, and Mr. David Lord, Soil Scientist.

Mr. Baker reviewed the Site Plan (Exhibit 1) with a date of November 20, 2012 and a revision date of December 10, 2012. He described the 2.4 acre parcel that was created in 1979. The wetlands and intermittent watercourses are located in the central section of the property. The upland review area is approximately 1.1 acres of the 2.4 acre site and it is located at the southwestern portion of the property. The existing driveway is 370 feet and will be extended another 280 feet. It will cross the wetlands to the upland review area where the home and septic system will be located. Two 24 inch pipes will be installed across the driveway and will be able to handle a 100 year storm event. The amount of fill for the driveway construction will be 4,575 cubic yards. The house and septic system were chosen after detail mapping was done. The septic system will be placed in the northwest portion of the site and it has been endorsed by QVHD. The three bedroom house will be located at the southeast corner of the property. Mr. Baker explained that the clearing and construction at the site will be limited to only what is necessary to construct the

driveway, house and septic system. There will be a drainage swale constructed along the southern property line. The property topography slopes from the south to the north. Currently there are two existing drainage pipes that are off the property that drain onto the property and the swale will be used to collect drainage coming from the off site properties and to protect the home. Mr. Baker said there are two wetland mitigation areas. There will be a planting area on the northwest side of the driveway and on the northeast side of the house and adjacent to the wetlands there will be a planting area and a rain garden.

Mr. Lord reviewed the Planting Detail Plan, dated December 26, 2012. He also discussed the existing conditions. Mr. Lord advised the Commission that the wetland area was re-flagged on October 24, 2012 and the numbering of those flags are 12-1 through 12-24.

Ms. Rosenbaum asked that prior to the site inspection she would like the following flagged: Center line of the driveway, the corners of the house, rain garden, mitigation area, the swale and the septic system.

Mr. Gnida asked if the public will be able to ask questions during the site inspection. Ms. Rosenbaum stated no and she noted that the Commission will only ask for clarification and not discussion. Mr. Tim Lee, Assistant Town Attorney noted that the Commission should only ask questions for clarification.

Mr. Montgomery feels that it would be helpful to mark the areas of the driveway, such as the culvert crossing and up near the house where there is an increase in width.

Mr. Milazzo made the motion to continue the Public Hearing until the April 3, 2013 meeting. Mr. Anastasio seconded the motion.

Ms. Rosenbaum stated that Mr. Vocelli will schedule and notice the site inspection prior to the April 3, 2013 meeting.

II. Regular Meeting

1. Pending Applications

- a. 13-1187** 170 Birchwood Drive-construction of a single-family house
Alberto DiChello, Applicant

This item is tabled.

- b. 13-1188** 825 Hartford Turnpike-sanitary sewer and manhole rehabilitation activities
GNHWPCA, Applicant

Mr. Mario Ricozzi, GNHWPCA, submitted to the Clerk a copy of the Plant Species and Tubelings Installation Detail and a list of the certified mailing that was sent to the abutting property owners.

Mr. Ricozzi stated the functions of the GNHWPCA. He explained that the need to reline the sewer pipes in the State Street Sewer shed was because Hamden had identified the pipes as leaking. This included all the piping along State Street up to Ridge Road and Hartford Turnpike. Mr. Ricozzi described the process used to reline the pipes and rehabilitate the existing manholes. He reviewed the locations of the wetlands and how they will be accessed. The contractor will walk the necessary equipment and supplies into the wetland area, and noted that no construction equipment will be used.

Mr. Ricozzi reviewed the Sediment and Erosion Control Plan and the Planting Plan. He explained that the plantings will be Coastal Sweet Pepperbush and redosier dogwood near the manholes and they will be placed two feet on center.

Mr. Anastasio asked when the manholes are raised if they could be placed on a concrete precast riser. Mr. Ricozzi said that the existing manholes located are a mix of precast and brick. The manhole located in the wetland is shallow and

has a concrete block missing. The problem with the use of a precast riser is that you must go down to a four foot section and remove the cone and put a riser in. They do make risers of various heights, however they are heavy and construction would be needed to put them in place. When brick and block are used they are mortared together and stay in place. When a riser is used, they must be pinned and they tend to shift.

Mr. Stone asked what the age of the current manhole assemblies are. Mr. Ricozzi stated they they were put in place between 1960 and 1970. Mr. Stone asked what the life expectancy of the new pipes will be and Mr. Ricozzi replied 50 to 100 years.

Mr. Montgomery agreed with the new Planting Plan. Mr. Ricozzi explained that Willow Trees have large roots that like sewer pipes and they can grow up to 60 feet tall. If there is a storm and the trees come down it would affect the pipes.

Mr. Montgomery commended Mr. Ricozzi for a well thought out proposal.

Mr. Montgomery made the motion to approve Application 13-1188 with the following condition:

The substitution of Clethra Alnifolia and Cornus Sericia for the two originally proposed willow species be incorporated into the plan as stated in the March 6, 2013 letter signed by Mr. Mario Ricozzi.

Mr. Gnida seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Notices-of-Violation, Cease & Desist & Restore Orders, Notices-to-Appear

- a. N.O.V.** 64 Rocky Top Road – clearing of trees & removal of vegetation

N.O.V. remains in effect

- b. N.O.V.** 251 Welton Street – oil spill or discharge

N.O.V. remains in effect

- c. N.O.V.** Lot 10-Benham Hill Estates(aka 0 Benham Hill Place)
Failure to repair & maintain stormwater detention basin

N.O.V. remains in effect

- d. N.O.V.** 777 Gaylord Mt. Road-unauthorized earthwork in or near regulated areas

N.O.V. remains in effect

3. Review Site Inspection Schedule

Mr. Vocelli will issue the inspection notice for 170 Birchwood Drive.

4. Review of February 6, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Gnida stated that Commissioners in Attendance reads Bib Anastasio and it should be corrected to read: Bob Anastasio.

Mr. Anastasio made the motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 6, 2013 as corrected. Mr. Milazzo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Other Business

Ms. Rosenbaum extended her thanks to Mr. Montgomery for his site inspection report.

6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Stone and seconded by Mr. Anastasio. It passed with no dissenting votes. The meeting ended at 7:43 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Stacy Shellard, Clerk of the Commission