



Grafton Conservation Commission

GRAFTON MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER
30 PROVIDENCE ROAD
GRAFTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01519
Phone: (508) 839-5335 ext. 1410 • FAX: (508) 839-4602
www.grafton-ma.gov • concom@grafton-ma.gov

RECEIVED TOWN CLERK
GRAFTON, MA
2023 JAN 18 AM 9:16

Minutes of the January 3, 2023 Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Grafton Conservation Commission was held via Zoom on January 3, 2023. Present were: Chairperson Sandra Brock, Commissioners Jonathan Nickerson, and Travis Mast, and Conservation Agent Leah Cameron. Commissioner Patrick Huegel and Conservation Assistant Jan Elyse Taylor were absent.

Sandra Brock opened the public meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Request for partial Certificates of Compliance – DEP #164-729 / WP #569 & DEP #164-876 / WP #711 / SW #14-004 - 244 Worcester Street – The applicant is seeking to sell a portion of the lot, referred to as “New Lot 2” covered under these Orders of Conditions. The work regulated by these Orders is well outside of “New Lot 2”. Jonathan Nickerson made a motion to issue the partial Certificates of Compliance, and was seconded by Travis Mast. The motion carried unanimously.

December 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes – Travis Mast made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as drafted. Jonathan Nickerson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Highfields Subdivision Conservation Restriction – This item has been rescheduled to the January 17, 2023 meeting.

Appoint Representatives to Open Space & Recreation Committee and Lake Quinsigamond Commission – Travis Mast showed interest in becoming a representative to one of these groups. The Commission will designate representatives when all Commissioners are present.

RDA – 68 Brigham Hill Road – Lion’s Club – handicap bathroom addition – The project was presented by Peter Adams and Dennis Perrin from the Lion’s Club Charity. The applicant is proposing a handicap bathroom addition to the clubhouse that is within 100’ of an intermittent stream. Travis Mast where the stockpile will be located, and it was confirmed that a condition will be added to the determination so that the stockpile location will be outside of the 100’ buffer zone. Peter Adams confirmed that the septic system was designed with this addition in mind. Travis Mast made a motion to issue a negative determination with the following conditions: Erosion control shall be installed around the proposed work; any stockpiling shall occur outside the buffer zone; and any excess material shall be disposed of outside the buffer zone. Jonathan Nickerson seconded the hearing and it carried unanimously.

NOI - 35 Crosby Road – Adams Corp. – landfill closure – The applicant requested a continuance to the January 17, 2023 meeting. Travis Mast made a motion to continue the public hearing and was seconded by Jonathan Nickerson. The motion carried unanimously.

NOI - DEP# 164-1030 / WP# 845 - 25 East Street – George Aoude - bridge replacement – Norman Hill of Land Planning presented the project. Norman Hill addressed the comments from the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection. The applicant is proposing to stop the waterflow by utilizing the existing sluice way with batter boards during a period of no rain, and remove the batter boards to lower the water level. Norman Hill

said that there is no loss of bank because there is no natural bank left under the bridge, it is only a retaining wall. Norman Hill said that there is no loss of bordering vegetated wetlands because the edge of the wetlands meets the retaining wall along the river. Norman Hill also believes the project is exempt from the Riverfront Act and has designed a culvert with an openness ratio of 2.4. He clarified that the property owner owns the spillway, the sluice way, the dam and both affected parcels. The applicant is proposing a guardrail on both sides of the proposed bridge. The applicant requested a continuance to January 17, 2023. Travis Mast made a motion to continue the hearing and was seconded by Jonathan Nickerson. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for partial Certificate of Compliance – DEP #164-591 / WP #438 - Highfields Subdivision –
Commissioner Travis Mast stated he was an abutter to this project. A partial Certificate of Compliance has been requested for Phase 1 of the project, which affects Magill Drive between Providence Road & Manor Hill Drive, Manor Hill Drive, Magill Drive between Manor Hill Drive & Old Upton Road, and Silver Spruce Drive. Condition #23 of this Order of Conditions states that “Groundwater recharge shall not be concentrated to one area, but shall be distributed to multiple areas throughout the site. Roof runoff must be recharged on each individual lot”. The Engineer’s letter stated that only one house in phase 1 has a recharge system installed and there are no adverse impacts to wetlands or other areas of subdivision from roof runoff. The Agent stated she is still awaiting confirmation about where the downspouts are pointed on the lots. Two of Three wetland replication areas were installed and successful, but the third area (1,230 sq ft) “could not be readily identified but... contained healthy forest growth containing red maple, gray birch, and other species”. Chairperson Brock stated this does not constitute a replication area. This item has been rescheduled to the January 17, 2023 meeting.

Jonathan Nickerson made a motion, seconded by Travis Mast, to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Documents discussed & located in the Conservation Commission office:

Request for a partial Certificate of Compliance for 244 Worcester Street
December 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes
Request for a partial Certificate of Compliance for Highfields Subdivision
Highfields Subdivision Conservation Restriction
RDA Package for 68 Brigham Hill Road
NOI Package for 25 East Street
NOI Package for 35 Crosby Road
Report to Commissioners dated January 3, 2023

Minutes drafted by Jan Elyse Taylor
Approved on 1/17/2023