



# 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

2023 FEB - 8 AM 9:33

RECEIVED TOWN CLERK  
GRAFTON, MA

## Minutes of the January 17, 2023 Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Grafton Conservation Commission was held via Zoom on January 17, 2023. Present were: Chairperson Sandra Brock, Commissioners Jonathan Nickerson, Patrick Huegel and Travis Mast, and Conservation Agent Leah Cameron and Conservation Assistant Jan Elyse Taylor.

Sandra Brock opened the public meeting at 7:01 p.m.

**Minor Change Request - DEP #164-928 / WP #761 / SWP #16-6 – Woodland Hill (formerly Village at Institute)** – The applicant is requesting to expand the limit of disturbance on Lot 28 to increase yard space. There are no resource areas on this lot. Patrick Huegel made a motion to accept the minor change, and was seconded by Travis Mast. The motion carried unanimously.

**NOI #164-1032 / WP #847 - 35 Crosby Road – landfill closure – Adams Corp.** – The applicant is proposing to close and cap an inactive landfill and is seeking a limited project status per 310 CMR 10.53(3)(p). The cap will consist of a geomembrane, which is covered by 12' of drainage material with horizontal berms and swales to direct any stormwater away from the debris under the membrane cap. The first of four rounds of groundwater sampling for contaminants have been performed and the results are forthcoming. The applicant asserted that "Woods- Fair" was the appropriate cover type. The applicant is in the process of addressing DEP's comment on the removal rate of Total Suspended Solids may need to make a revision to the plan. The special conditions proposed are: Per the applicant's description of the work, extended stockpiling shall not occur. Incoming materials shall be directed to the active face of the operation and shall be incorporated into the landfill by the end of each day; a construction period sedimentation basin should not be sited in the location of the "detention" basin so as not to impair its long-term functionality for infiltration; once additional and more definitive information is obtained through the forthcoming Comprehensive Site Assessment, the proposed bottom of the basin elevation shall be confirmed or revisited as conditions dictate; and a copy of the Comprehensive Site Assessment shall be provided to the Conservation Commission. The applicant requested a continuance. Travis Mast made a motion to continue the hearing to 2/21. The motion was seconded by Patrick Huegel and carried unanimously.

**NOI – #164-1031 / WP #846 / SWP #22-1 -58 Follette St – Cellco Partnership / Verizon Wireless – cell tower / driveway** – The applicant requested a continuance to 2/7. Patrick Huegel made a motion to continue the hearing and was seconded by Travis Mast. The motion passed unanimously.

**NOI - DEP# 164-1030 / WP# 845 -25 East Street – George Aoude - bridge replacement –** Norman Hill from Land Planning presented the project. The culvert will be installed 2.3' below the stream bed to align to the peer review comments. The Agent clarified that the project impacts of this project are: 1 replacement stream crossing; 32,670 sq ft riverfront area for Big Bummett Brook with alteration of 1.050 sq ft within the first 100ft; 140 sq ft of land under water altered and replaced; and 314 cubic ft of bordering land subject to flooding altered and 483 cubic ft replaced. Norman Hill agreed with these impacts. The applicant, George Aoude, said that the Zoning Board of Appeals will not approve the temporary driveway to become a permanent driveway and it is not an option to use long-term. Patrick Huegel made a motion to grant a waiver to work within the 25' no-disturb area, and was seconded by Travis Mast. The motion carried unanimously. Travis Mast made a motion to close the public hearing and issue the Order of Conditions with the following conditions: Compensatory flood storage must be constructed prior to the filling of any floodway; work shall be overseen by the Commission's peer reviewer at applicant's cost, the proposed dewatering protocol shall be implemented & work done within resource areas shall be undertaken in dry conditions with no precipitation in the forecast for the day; the riverbed shall be reconstructed within the new culvert to match pre-existing conditions; and a revised plan shall be submitted to address comment #3 from Graves letter regarding the culvert elevation. Patrick Huegel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Request for partial Certificate of Compliance – DEP #164-591 / WP #438 - Highfields Subdivision –** 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. Byron Andrews of DiPrete Engineering reported that the third wetland replication area has not been identified yet, and will have a wetland scientist confirm its location and success. Mr. Andrews also stated he is still waiting on confirmation on where the downspouts on the houses are pointing. This item has been rescheduled to the February 7, 2023 meeting.

**Highfields Subdivision Conservation Restriction –** This item has been rescheduled to the February 7, 2023 meeting.

**January 3, 2023 Meeting Minutes –** Travis Mast made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as drafted. Patrick Huegel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Appoint Representatives to Open Space & Recreation Committee (OSRC) and Lake Quinsigamond Commission (LQC) –** Patrick Huegel agreed to be the representative to the OSRC. The Commission decided to monitor the agendas for the LQC and send an available Conservation Commissioner when there is an agenda item that is relevant to the Commission's purview.

**Approve Annual Town Report submission -** Chair Sandra Brock requested that the fully accessible trail be included in the section regarding the development of a park at 95 North Street. Travis Mast made a motion to approve the annual report and was seconded by Patrick Huegel. The motion carried unanimously.

**Request for partial Certificates of Compliance – DEP #164-371 / WP #216 & DEP #164-591 / WP #438 – 8 Fox Point Trail** - The Agent stated this is a single-family house seeking clearance from the subdivision Order of Conditions. Construction is complete and the site is stable. Patrick Huegel made a motion to issue the partial Certificates of Compliance. Travis Mast stated he is an abutter and recused himself from voting. Jonathan Nickerson seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

**Minor Change Request - DEP #164-983 / WP #801 – Stowe Road culvert** – The Agent stated that the special conditions for this project required a detailed dewatering plan prior to commencement of work. The initial proposal was to divert water down narrow channel in center of existing channel. The new proposal is to divert water adjacent to existing channel, resulting in about 12' additional bank impact and to dismantle up and down stream beaver dams. The Commission's consultant reported that this is a better method, and is within the permitted limit of work. Patrick Huegel made a motion to approve the minor changes with the condition that the disturbed bank shall be restored, stabilized and re-vegetated following the removal of temporary bypass culverts. Travis Mast seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Preliminary Notice of Anticipated Chapter 61 Removal – 107 George Hill Road** – The Commission received a letter stating that the above-mentioned address has the intention to withdraw from Chapter 61. This lot abuts Pell Farm and is within the Area of Critical Environmental Concern, and is mostly developed into residential and agricultural space. The Agent stated that there are approximately 2 acres at the rear of the parcel that are wooded and may be of interest to the Commission.

Jonathan Nickerson made a motion, seconded by Patrick Huegel, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

**Documents discussed & located in the Conservation Commission office:**

Minor Change Request for Woodland Hill/ Village at Institute  
NOI Package for 35 Crosby Road  
NOI Package for 58 Follette Street  
NOI Package for 25 East Street  
Request for a partial Certificate of Compliance for Highfields Subdivision  
Highfields Subdivision Conservation Restriction  
January 3, 2023 Meeting Minutes  
Conservation Annual Town Report  
Request for a partial Certificates of Compliance for 8 Fox Point Trail  
Minor Change Request for Stowe Road Culvert  
Letter of Anticipated Chapter 61 Removal for 107 George Hill Road  
Report to Commissioners dated January 17, 2023

Minutes drafted by Jan Elyse Taylor  
Approved on 2/7/2023