

Town of Southbridge
Conservation Commission Minutes
Meeting of June 1, 2023
6:30 p.m.

Present: E. Rumsey, Conservation Agent, Maureen Doyle, Co-Chair, N. Nowick, Co-Chair (via teleconference)
Absent with notice: K. Pickren, Vice-Chair

1. The meeting was opened at 6:40 p.m. A motion was made by N. Nowick to accept the minutes of the May 18th meeting. M. Doyle seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. M. Doyle YES, N. Nowick YES. The motion passed.

2. 6:45 p.m. – Public Meeting – Request for Determination of Applicability – Jacob Castiglione – proposed septic system repair and associated site work within the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland and riverfront area.

A motion was made by M. Doyle to open the hearing and N. Nowick seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Doyle YES, Nowick YES. The motion passed, unanimous in favor. The engineer was not able to be present as there was a conflict with another meeting. A site walk has not yet been held. E. Rumsey summarized the proposed work. M. Doyle asked why the work was not filed as an NOI. E. Rumsey said that both he and the engineer felt the work fell under the repair guidelines.

The plan calls for wattles as the means of erosion control. It was noted that the commission might want to condition that haybales and silt fence be used instead. The area closer to the house is too steep to put the septic system. It is proposed to lie between the 100-foot and 200-foot riverfront buffer zones. The river, however, is across the street from this septic system. The system is 55 feet from the closest wetland and 180 feet from the father one. It is also outside the 100-foot well set back and the 50-foot Title V buffer.

N. Nowick suggested a condition be considered to require the work be postponed until at least the 2nd week of July due to turtle nesting season.

A motion was made by N. Nowick to continue the public hearing to June 15th at 6:45 p.m. M. Doyle seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Doyle YES, Nowick YES. The motion passed, unanimously. After discussion a motion was made by N. Nowick to move the date of the continuance to June 22nd at 6:45 p.m.

3. 87 Golf Street – E. Rumsey visited the site today. Three workers were working at the top of the slope removing trash, tires, and metal. The soil is currently and will continue to be stockpiled on site. Once testing is done, if appropriate it will be spread on the site. The oil tanks have been removed and most of the vehicles are gone. Kevin Buxton was present and reminded the commissioners that when the work is done close to the stone arch bridge it will need to be done by hand.

4. A site walk was set up for June 15th at 9:30 a.m. to include 529 Ashland Avenue, and 1100 Eastford Road.

5. E. Rumsey noted that a senior in the work program helped with moving some files into boxes.

6. The next meeting will be held on June 22nd at 6:30 p.m. in the McCann Room. A motion to adjourn was made by M. Doyle and seconded by N. Nowick. A roll call vote was taken. Doyle YES, Nowick., YES. The motion passed unanimously. It was approximately 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Loin

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Administrative Assistant