

**MIDDLEFIELD INLAND WETLANDS
and
WATERCOURSES AGENCY
405 Main Street
Middlefield, Connecticut 06455**

Minutes of the May 19, 2021 Regular Meeting

Rebecca Adams Rieder, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Attendance:

Members

Alternates

X	Adams Rieder, Rebecca		
X	Brown, James		
X	Frier, Linda		
X	Manning, John	Other	
X	Poturnicki, Rob	X	Bernotas, Randy
A	Veeley, Robert	X	Curtis, Brian
X	Zieminski, Charles		

A=Absent

X=Present

Amendments to the Agenda

None.

Public Comment

None.

Enforcement Officer's Report

Randy Bernotas reported that he will be taking a look at clearing being done on Laurel Brook Road by Epoch Farms tomorrow. Mr. Bernotas mentioned that the Inland Wetlands maps and the Assessor's maps

are different and that is becoming a problem. He specifically noted property on Long Hill Road that supposedly had wetlands, but the wetlands map doesn't show any at all. Rebecca Adams Rieder stated that they will talk about that under agenda item 11. She explained that that used to be called New Business and noted that they cannot vote on any new business.

Mr. Bernotas continues to follow up with Mr. Fernandes about his driveway.

Continue Discussion on Monarca Properties, South Main Street, Middletown

Randy Bernotas reported that he walked the property with officials from Middletown and there is a very large amount of rubble that has been deposited on the property. He felt that there was more than 500 yards of demolition waste there. Mr. Monarca also cleared the upper lot which is in Middletown for pallet storage where they are storing bagged topsoil and there are now thousands of pallets. On the east side of the property which borders Middlefield, he put in a big swale and the stormwater now goes down onto the Middlefield property.

Mr. Monarca sent a letter and Rebecca Adams Rieder stated that they will turn the issue over to Attorney Willis for a response. Mr. Bernotas emphasized that the rubble really has to be removed. Ms. Adams Rieder suggested having a meeting with Middletown officials to move forward. Mr. Bernotas reminded Mr. Monarca that the watershed is part of the Laurel Brook Reservoir which is a working reservoir. Ms. Adams Rieder felt that they could get an estimate of what it would cost to pursue this.

James Brown, Alterations to private road, 97 Long Hill Road

Rebecca Adams Rieder explained that they have both plans and photos and that Mr. Brown is looking to pave something that wasn't paved before. She acknowledged that this is a regulated activity, but felt that this does not appear to be a significant impact, however Brian Curtis had a few suggestions about how to do it in the best way possible.

Charlie from CV Paving was present at the meeting and proposes to get rid of the crown on the road and pave the road. There is an existing pipe that is probably 50 percent clogged. They plan to either put in a second pipe or remove the crown to provide sheet flow, with the road less than 2 percent. There will be a spillway at the pipe, with 2" stone or rip-rap. He plans to pave with one layer of asphalt and clean out the existing swale. The pipe at Long Hill Road is also clogged and needs to be cleaned out. He feels that a spillway should be provided before the water reaches Long Hill Road.

Brian Curtis reviewed an aerial photo showing Pheasant Hill, the private road. There are three houses off of Pheasant Hill with underground power in the area. There is a cross culvert at the south end and two others along the road. There is then approximately 750 feet down to Long Hill Road, with a roadside swale on the east side and another cross culvert at Long Hill Road. It would be good thing to minimize the amount of water that gets down to Long Hill Road because there is a little bit of erosion in the swale. Mr. Curtis felt that the proposal to pitch the road to the west would be good.

Randy Bernotas asked about additional riprap, but Mr. Curtis felt it would be good to put down some type of erosion matting to allow for grass to grow in the swale. Charlie from CV Paving stated that

Eversource had come out with a Ditch Witch and that's where a lot of the sediment is from. Mr. Curtis felt that the existing cross culverts are doing a good of keeping all the water from the bottom of the road. Mr. Curtis also likes the idea of putting stone around the inlets and outlets.

Rebecca Adams Rieder stated that this will require a permit and these kinds of discussions can be part of that permit process. Randy Bernotas asked if there were any time constraints and Charlie explained that it will probably be done in phases. Brian Curtis added that they might want to take a look at how much base is there and it may require building up the east side of the road to get it to slope to the west. He added that the existing road is well-maintained. Mrs. Adams Rieder encouraged them to get their information together and submit the permit as soon as they're ready. The commission needs to accept the application and then they can act on it, with the next meeting being the third week in June. Randy Bernotas asked if they could call a special meeting via Zoom to move this forward, but the third week in June didn't seem to be a problem. Mrs. Adams Rieder did state that they would call a special meeting, is necessary.

Randy Bernotas noted that there is a 35-foot easement for the road and Jim Brown added that this does not deal with any other property.

Going back to the maps, Rebecca Adams Rieder will talk with Ed Bailey to move that forward.

Permit Applications since the last meeting

None.

Approval of Minutes

Rob Poturnicki made a motion, seconded by Jim Brown, to approve the minutes. Motion carried, with one abstention.

Executive session to discuss pending litigation CSG 1-200(6) Middlefield IWC vs. Carusone

Rob Poturnicki made a motion, seconded by Linda Frier, to move into executive session to discuss pending litigation CSG 1-200(6) Middlefield IWC vs. Carusone. Motion carried unanimously.

Matters or business raised at previous meetings or on previous agendas

Rebecca Adams Rieder stated that she will continue to push for a fee ordinance and she will follow up with Ed Bailey about it as well as the map issue. Mrs. Adams Rieder explained that the Assessor's office has the ability to use their own map but must defer to the Inland Wetlands maps for all wetlands issues. Randy Bernotas added that Midstate Planning had done the wetlands maps and they are included in the regulations that were approved in 2011.

Charlie Zieminski asked if he could get a copy of the regulations as well as minutes from the last couple of months.

Members' suggestions for matters for addition to the current agenda or for discussion and inclusion on future agenda

None.

Adjournment

Jim Brown made a motion, seconded by Rob Poturnicki, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debi Waz

Debi Waz
Alwaz First