

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

Minutes of the October 20, 2021 Regular Meeting

Linda Frier, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Attendance:

Members

Alternates

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

A=Absent

X=Present

Amendments to the Agenda

None.

Public Comment

None.

Enforcement Officer's Report

Randy Bernotas had nothing to report other than the items on the agenda.

Monarca Property, Site Plan Compliance, 80 Industrial Park Access Road

Randy Bernotas stated that Sal Monarca's son has done an unbelievable job. Everything has been cleared out, grass has been planted and they are in the process of putting up the fence. They did have a question about United Restoration's property that backs up to the pond and Mr. Bernotas will send a letter to United to ask them to keep the items stored in the area away from the edge of the pond. He has no problem with the items stored there and he does not consider there to be any violation.

Habitat for Humanity, Review of pond, 171 Hubbard Street

Randy Bernotas stated that it has been brought to this attention that there is an old farm pond at the back of the property with a small earthen dam that is holding back the water. There will be some small children moving into the house. Both the road crew and Cahill have suggested taking the dam out. Mr. Bernotas noted that the pond always gets flooded with a heavy rain anyway and this could allow for better drainage. Rob Poturnicki felt it would probably help all of the neighbors.

Mr. Bernotas acknowledged that the area is wetlands, but it was a created wetland, not natural. He felt that if the level of the dam was dropped, it would give better drainage up above. The commission generally agreed that there would be no significant impact.

Rob Poturnicki made a motion, seconded by Jim Brown, to allow the Public Works Department to improve drainage at 171 Hubbard Street by lowering the structure containing water in a wet area behind the home. Motion was carried unanimously.

Demo of Existing House, 114 Lake Shore Drive

Randy Bernotas explained that someone bought the property and plan to demolish the house. They have received a permit from the Building Department and Mr. Bernotas went to make sure that there were proper and extensive E&S controls in the front of the house on the lake side. He will keep an eye on the project and believes that they will be keeping the same footprint.

Jim Brown, Update on Pheasant Hill (private road), 95, 97 and 99 Long Hill Road

Jim Brown explained that they have moved ahead with Skip Cahill to fix the water drainage on the east side of the road. Nothing will be done at the Brown or Zanoni houses, but the major problem is between 97 and 95. With the two major storms, there was a three-foot extension into the road and they now have a plan to put in matting and large traprock. They will also put traprock in the plunge pool which overflows at times as well. This will help create a more firm outline and move the swales in such a way so to not scour any more than it has.

From that area down, they will also install traprock and matting for part of the way. There are wetlands at the east side of the road down at the bottom. They would like to extend the pipe along Long Hill Road and will have to speak to Ed Bailey to do that. Cahill will also try to get permission to work on the ditch that comes from Powder Hill Road. Jim Brown explained that they will be using Cahill rather than the contractor who had attended the prior meeting as they will not be doing any paving yet.

Randy Bernotas summarized that if they stay with the same work that had been proposed, they would not need to come back before the commission. He also mentioned that another cross-culvert was to be added to the road and that should be done while they are doing the drainage work. Mr. Brown noted that they were not convinced that that will still be necessary. Mr. Bernotas will contact Brian Curtis to let him know what is happening.

Permit applications since the last meeting

None.

Approval of Minutes

The commission tabled the approval of the minutes until the next meeting.

Matters or business raised at previous meetings or on previous agendas

Randy Bernotas reported that Mike Carusone died of a heart attack at 49 years old about three weeks ago.

He also reported that the property owner on Wallace Way where the detention pond is located now has some pretty big boulders that he'd like to position around the pond for aesthetics. Randy Bernotas got the okay from the road crew as far as keeping the area mowed, but they do not want the boulders so he will have to tell the property owner to remove them. He will be allowed to leave the smaller stones that he has around there. He noted that the easement for the infiltration basin is in the property owner's deed and there really isn't much that can be done.

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

Linda Frier stated that there is a CACIWC conference that will be held via Zoom and the town will pay for the commission members to attend. You can register online.

Randy Bernotas also reported that a project has been approved to build four houses on the property across the street from the boat launch. Two houses will have a common driveway, one will have its own driveway and one will be an interior lot.

Adjournment

Rob Poturnicki made a motion, seconded by Jim Brown, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debi Waz

Debi Waz
Alwaz First