

Town of Franklin



Conservation Commission

**September 29, 2022  
Meeting Minutes**

*As stated on the agenda, due to the concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus, this meeting will be conducted as a remote/virtual Conservation Commission meeting. In an effort to ensure citizen engagement and comply with open meeting law regulations, citizens will be able to dial into the meeting using the provided phone number, or citizens can participate by using the Zoom link provided on the agenda. This meeting will be held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building for citizens wishing to attend in person.*

**Commencement**

Chair Patrick Gallagher called the above-captioned meeting to order this date at 7:00 PM as a remote/virtual/in-person meeting. Members in attendance: Patrick Gallagher, Jeffrey Milne, Richard Johnson (via Zoom), Michael Rein, William Batchelor. Absent: Jeff Livingstone. Also present: Breeka Li Goodlander, Conservation Agent.

*Note: Documents presented to the Conservation Commission are on file.*

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Public Hearing – NOI – Beaver Street Interceptor DEP# 159-1256 – Continued**

Mr. Doug Martin, Water and Sewer Superintendent, and Ms. Amy Anderson of Arcadis addressed the Commission for the rehabilitation, replacement, and general improvements to the existing interceptor/sewer line as well as a new pump station on the property at 275 Beaver Street. Mr. Martin stated that since the last Commission meeting, Ms. Anderson prepared responses to some of the outstanding questions. Ms. Anderson stated that one of the questions from the last meeting was if they had looked at any different routing options. She stated that they did. She stated that it boils down to the elevation of the gravity sewer; therefore, it was not feasible. She stated that one question regarded if they needed a 401 WQC, water quality certification; she stated that it is their stance that they do not. She stated that there was a question on clarity on stump removal; she stated that in response they clarified the language to make defined what was easement clearing and what was grubbing. She stated that stump removal is only allowed in areas that they are doing excavation. She stated that additional detail was provided on the culvert in their letter. Ms. Goodlander stated that she was comfortable that everything that was open has been resolved.

Mr. Jonathan Niro, environmental scientist with BETA Group, provided an overview of the peer review process. He stated that they started with a field review of all the resource areas and boundaries. He stated that he did a field visit to walk the site and he confirmed the flaggings. He stated that a big benefit of the project is the culvert replacement of the tributary to Mine Brook. He stated that Arcadis has submitted their information and BETA feels that the applicant has provided sufficient information for the Commission to deliberate and render their decision.

Ms. Goodlander reviewed her list of standard special conditions: #20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51. She reviewed additional conditions: #52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57.

Mr. Martin stated agreement with the conditions.

Chair Gallagher asked about condition #55 which deals with the flagging. He stated that his preference would be for this to need the Commission's approval as well and the same for #53 that they should be through the Commission's General Business. He stated that he would like to be able to review and sign off on that before it is finalized.

There was a motion made by William Batchelor to close the public hearing for the NOI for the Beaver Street Interceptor DEP# 159-1256. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a roll call vote of 5-0-0. Roll Call Vote: Milne-Yes; Johnson-Yes; Rein-Yes; Batchelor-Yes; Gallagher-Yes.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to approve the NOI for the Beaver Street Interceptor DEP# 159-1256 with the conditions as stated. The motion was seconded by William Batchelor and accepted with a roll call vote of 5-0-0. Roll Call Vote: Milne-Yes; Johnson-Yes; Rein-Yes; Batchelor-Yes; Gallagher-Yes.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Minor Buffer Zone Activities: None.**

**Permit Modifications/Extensions: None.**

**Certificates of Compliance: None.**

**Violations/Enforcement: None.**

**Minutes: None.**

### **Discussion Item: Administrative Approval – 6 Harborwood Drive**

Ms. Goodlander reviewed the administrative approval. She stated that this was a deck install for upgraded and replaced deck footings in-situ within the 200 ft. riverfront area. She stated that the permanent impacts are less than 150 sq. ft.

There was a motion made by William Batchelor to ratify the administrative approval for 6 Harborwood Drive. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a roll call vote of 5-0-0. Roll Call Vote: Milne-Yes; Johnson-Yes; Rein-Yes; Batchelor-Yes; Gallagher-Yes.

### **Chair and Commission Comments:**

Chair Gallagher noted that a new commissioner will be joining the Commission at the next meeting. He stated that Ms. Meghann Hagen is a teacher at the Franklin Children's School. He stated that she had a scientist background. He stated that the Commission will have a table at the Harvest Festival this weekend. He stated that the DelCorte Fall Gathering will be on Saturday, October 22, 2022.

Ms. Goodlander stated that today the trees at DelCorte were put in. She stated that they grubbed the area for the turtle nesting habitat already. She stated that the fence install is proposed for next week. She stated that they seeded the lawn area with a conservation wildlife mix. She stated that she sent in a forester

program application to DCR and it was approved; this will be the same forester that will be at the DelCarte event. She stated that she has done webpage updates.

**Executive Session: None.**

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by William Batchelor and accepted with a roll call vote of 5-0-0. Roll Call Vote: Milne-Yes; Johnson-Yes; Rein-Yes; Batchelor-Yes; Gallagher-Yes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Judith Lizardi  
Recording Secretary