

Town of Franklin



Conservation Commission

**April 16, 2020
Meeting Minutes**

As stated on the agenda, due to the growing 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.

Chair Bill Batchelor called the above-captioned meeting to order this date at 7:00 PM as a **Remote Access Virtual Zoom Meeting**. Members in attendance: Jeff Livingstone, Paul Harrington, Jeffrey Milne, Alan Wallach, Braden Rosenberg. Members absent: Staci Dooney. Also present: Jen Delmore, Conservation Agent.

Commencement

Chair Batchelor announced this meeting will be conducted as a Remote Access Virtual Zoom Meeting.

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

Public Hearing – NOI – 646 Lincoln Street - Bostrom

Mr. Seth Lajoie, design engineer for the project, representing the applicant Frederick Bostrom, addressed the Commission for the replacement of the existing failed septic system. He stated the four-bedroom home is on an approximately 25,000 sq. ft. lot; there are wetlands in the rear of the property. The proposed system is approximately 60 ft. from the wetland edge. He confirmed erosion control will be installed. He noted there is limited space on the lot for locating the septic system; it will be installed where the existing system is currently located. The original septic system consisted of a 1,000 gal. single-compartment tank; the proposed new system will be a 1,500 gal. two-compartment tank.

Ms. Delmore stated she performed a site visit on March 3, 2020; she recommended approval.

Mr. Harrington confirmed the applicant was converting from a leach pit to a leach field.

There was a motion made by Alan Wallach to close the public hearing for the NOI for 646 Lincoln Street. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne. No Vote Taken.

Bill Bachelor asked for a motion. There was a motion made by Alan Wallach to approve the NOI for 646 Lincoln Street with special conditions #20, 21, 24, 27-30, 34, 41, 44 and 51. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a roll call vote of 3-0-0. Roll Call Vote: Harrington-Yes; Livingstone-Yes; Rosenberg-Yes. Bill Bachelor stated to let the record show we have 5 approvals.

Public Hearing – NOI – Meadowlark Lane – Infiltration Area – To Be Continued

Ms. Delmore stated the applicant requested a continuance of the public hearing to May 14, 2020.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to continue the public hearing for the NOI for Meadowlark Lane to May 14, 2020, at 7:05 PM. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach. No Vote Taken.

Public Hearing – NOI – Griffin Road – Bioretention Area – To Be Continued

Ms. Delmore stated the applicant requested a continuance of the public hearing to May 14, 2020.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to continue the public hearing for the NOI for Griffin Road to May 14, 2020, at 7:10 PM. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach. No Vote Taken.

Public Hearing – NOI – 160 Grove Street – Land Planning – To Be Continued

Ms. Delmore stated the applicant requested a continuance of the public hearing to May 14, 2020.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to continue the public hearing for the NOI for 160 Grove Street to May 14, 2020, at 7:15 PM. The motion was seconded by Paul Harrington. No Vote Taken.

Public Hearing – Continued - NOI – 225 Plain Street – To Be Continued

Ms. Delmore stated the applicant requested a continuance of the public hearing to May 14, 2020.

There was a motion made by Alan Wallach to continue the public hearing for the NOI for 225 Plain Street to May 14, 2020, at 7:20 PM. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne. No Vote Taken.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Minor Buffer Zone Activities: 30 Catherine Avenue

Mr. Bill Halsing of Land Planning, Inc. on behalf of the applicant addressed the Commission for construction of a 448 sq. ft. above-ground pool and deck. The area is currently lawn with some bushes and a play area. Erosion control is proposed between the activity and the resource area. He stated the wetlands were delineated and all work will be outside of the 50 ft. buffer zone. He stated the pool is approximately 68 ft. from the closest point of the wetlands.

Ms. Delmore stated she performed a site visit on March 18, 2020; she recommended approval.

There was a motion made by Alan Wallach to approve the MBZA for 30 Catherine Avenue. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a roll call vote of 3-0-0. Roll Call Vote: Harrington-Yes; Livingstone-Yes; Rosenberg-Yes. Bill Bachelor stated to let the record show we have 5 approvals.

Permit Modifications/Extensions: None.

Certificates of Compliance: None.

Violations/Enforcement: None.

Minutes: March 5, 2020

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to approve the meeting minutes for March 5, 2020. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach and accepted with a roll call vote of 2-0-0. Roll Call Vote: Harrington-Yes; Livingstone-Yes. Bill Bachelor stated to let the record show we have 5 approvals.

Discussion: Administrative Approvals

Ms. Delmore stated she had performed six administrative approvals since the last review of administrative approvals given to the Commission. She provided an overview of the approvals which included a fence

installation, septic tank installation, mudroom installation, deck installation, four trees covered in invasive vines removal, and tree and branches removal.

Chair and Commission Comments

Commission members confirmed the next two Conservation Commission meetings will be held on April 30, 2020 and May 14, 2020.

Mr. Harrington expressed concern that no votes were taken on any of tonight's agenda items. Chair Batchelor stated that as the meeting rules have been changed due to the state's allowance of remote/virtual meetings, he thought that a vote was not needed, and after a Commission member seconded a motion, it was assumed that the motion would be voted "yes."

Commission members agreed votes should be taken on the following agenda items: NOI for 646 Lincoln Street; MBZA for 30 Catherine Avenue; Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2020. (See above agenda items for vote.)

Executive Session: None.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to adjourn the Remote Access Virtual Zoom Meeting. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach. No Vote Taken.

The Remote Access Virtual Zoom Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Lizardi
Recording Secretary