



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes

City of Rochester

Wednesday March 23, 2022

City Hall Council Chambers

31 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH

(These minutes were approved on April 27, 2022)

Members Present

Mike Dionne, *Chair*

Kevin Sullivan, *Vice Chair*

Barbara Soley

Dan Nickerson

Mark Jennings

Mike Kirwan

Members Absent

Meredeth Lineweber

Sheila Lulek

Staff: Ryan O'Connor, *Senior Planner*

I. Call to Order. Mr. Dionne called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from January 26, 2022 were reviewed.

A motion was made by Mr. Kirwan and seconded by Mr. Dionne to approve the January 26, 2022 minutes with the changes discussed. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Conservation Overlay District:

- a. No applications were presented

IV. NH DES Wetland / Shoreland Applications:

- a. The Commission discussed the following State permits:

- i. Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands Permit. 18 Sampson Rd, Tax Map 231 Lot 18. Permit # 2022-00465. Permanent wetland impacts of 2,235 square feet
- ii. Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands Permit. 29 Wadleigh Rd, Tax Map 137 Lot 35-1. Permit # 2022-00563. Permanent wetland impacts of 3,750 square feet.
- iii. Statutory Permit by Notification. 60 Shaw Drive, Tax Map 240 Lot 49. Permit # 2022-00571. Forestry Notification

No concerns were found with presented State permits.

V. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber / Intent to Excavate:

- a. Intent to Cut; Tax Map 108 Lot 33; 10 acres to be cut. Permit # 21-389-17-T

Mr. Nickerson discussed concerns about the condition of the class six road being used for the operation. Significant damage has taken place from the trucks and equipment. The state forester has been notified as well as the Rochester Department of Public Works to try and address the environmental risks. Further follow-up is needed to minimize damage.

VI. New Business

a. Eversource transmission line & structural replacement project.

- i. A preliminary plan was given to the Commission for their review. Mr. Sullivan discussed the typical impacts of these projects; specifically, how these tower replacement plans aim for shorter project times to not be classified as high impact.

The Commission will request Eversource present the project at a meeting prior to construction.

b. Local River Management Advisory Committees for Cochecho and Isinglass Rivers.

- i. Mr. O'Connor discussed the need for members for both area LAC's. Mr. Jennings said he may know a prospective member and would pass on the application.
- c. A local college student approached the Commission to inquire about recent conservation efforts. Mr. O'Connor discussed changes in stormwater regulations, conserved land, and potential scholarship funding. The city is also willing to share available data to complete their research project.
- d. Mr. Kirwan Inquired about drainage issues on Katie Lane. He explained the retention pond is not functioning as it should and water is draining to adjacent

properties before being infiltrated. Mr. O'Connor will follow-up with the Department of Public Works to review solutions.

VII. Reports

a. Technical Review Group

- i. Mr. Jennings reported on the Tara Estates expansion. He explained that this project is based on a 1986 approval. The city must base environmental protections on the original approval with the exception of groundwater controls. The city will monitor and enforce groundwater protections for the duration of the project.

b. Planning Board:

- i. Mr. O'Connor discussed the progression of the 29 Wadleigh Road development. The apartment complex will be voted on at the next planning board meeting on April 4th. The plans have been amended based on the Commissions comments.

VIII. Old Business. None

IX. Non-Public Session: None

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Nickerson and seconded by Mr. Sullivan to adjourn at 7:34pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Ryan O'Connor,
Senior Planner