



**CITY OF GARDNER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Gardner City Hall – Manca Annex
115 Pleasant St., Room 202

978-630-4014

Gardner, MA 01440

fax 978-632-1905

MEETING

Monday, June 22, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Due to the ongoing conditions related to the COVID 19 outbreak, the meeting will be held via Zoom Meeting. Detailed instructions for participating in the meeting via Zoom Meeting are posted at the bottom of this agenda, or can be obtained by emailing Lyndsy Butler, Conservation Agent, at lbutler@gardner-ma.gov. All documents and permit applications can be provided electronically. Please send request to lbutler@gardner-ma.gov. All persons interested in this matter, or who desire to offer testimony, are invited to participate.

Members via Zoom:

Chairman Greg Dumas, Duncan Burns, Michael Hermanson, Norman Beauregard, David Orwig, Donna Lehtinen, and Martin Bowers (non-voting member). Also on Zoom was Conservation Agent Lyndsy Butler and Administrative Clerk Kris Singer

Members Absent:

David Beauregard

Guests & Visitors:

Eric Bernadin – Fuss & O’Neill, Margot Jones – Architect, and Dane Arnold – Director of the DPW

MEETING – brought to Order by Chairman G. Dumas at 6:30 pm

Minutes

- Vote to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of June 8, 2020
- Motion to approve Minutes “as printed” made by D. Burns, seconded by N. Beauregard and voted all in favor.

Request for Determination of Applicability

2020-08

The Gardner Conservation Commission will hold a joint Public Meeting under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance (City Code Ch. 650) on the Request for Determination of Applicability filed by City of Gardner Department of Public Works. Proposed work is for routine maintenance including, pulverizing, grading, milling, paving and culvert repair. Work is located on Kelton Street, Stone Street, Raymond Street, Wheeler Street, Clark Street, Vernon Street, Central Street, City Hall Avenue, Acadia Road, Nichols Street, Main Street, Fredette/ Wilkins Road.

- Dane Arnold, Director of the Gardner DPW, went over the proposal noting that they will be installing a water main at the Clark / Acadia section. They will be removing a portion of the culvert near the intersection of Clark St and Century Way, and then replacing the pipe going across the road. They will install erosion control, and the Commission suggests waddles.
- D. Arnold explained that for the Fredette / Wilkins section, the DPW went before the Commission last year, but didn't do any of the proposed work due to the fact that there is no documentation on underground culverts. They will only know to repair or replace culverts once they begin the work.
- Regarding the Wheeler / Kelton / Stone / Raymond section, D. Arnold advised that for the re-construction, all of these roads will be turned to gravel and then paved as the money comes in. He has determined that it's not worth putting asphalt down as the condition of the roads is so bad. He noted that since paving is "political," it's unknown the duration it will take to pave everything.
- G. Dumas noted that there are wetland areas near Wheeler and Stone so there is a need to be cautious. He also inquired about a start date for this section, and D. Arnold advised that they hope to start in 3 – 4 weeks.
- D. Arnold also added that for both downtown (acknowledging that there are no wetland concerns downtown) and Clark St, they plan to put down a base coat, allow it to settle, and then put down a final coat in the spring.
- D. Orwig asked about materials to be used for replacing the culverts, metal or concrete? Also, will there be a need to increase the amount of culverts? D. Arnold advised that some culverts appear shallow and that will determine the type of material which will be used.
- A Motion to approve a Negative 3 Determination was made by N. Beauregard, seconded by D. Lehtinen, and voted all in favor.

Notice of Intent

DEP#160- 0636

The Gardner Conservation Commission will hold a joint Public Hearing under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance on the Notice of Intent filed by Fuss & O'Neil Inc. on behalf of Mark Pelligrino for the City of Gardner, 95 Pleasant Street, for new construction of an elementary school, parking, extension of utilities, and other related amenities (Parcel W27-1-11, W27-11-1, R27-5-3, W27-11-3) Projected is located within the River Front area and Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

Continuation from 5-11-20

- Eric Bernardin from Fuss & O'Neill received the third party review from Tighe & Bond. Both Fuss & O'Neill and the Commission need time to go over in detail the proposal.
- L. Butler and G. Dumas would like more information to quantify the No Build Zone area. G. Dumas also suggest an open site visit as a group.
- Tighe & Bond have proposed requesting plans at different scales, and E. Bernardin would prefer not to have to do so. G. Dumas thinks that reviews will happen digitally anyway, and the scale can be manipulated as needed; hard copies probably won't be used to review.
- E. Bernardin wanted to address a couple of the points that may affect the design. Tighe & Bond want curbing and catch basins in certain non-trafficked areas, but having them may affect run-off areas. E. Bernardin doesn't believe curbing, etc is necessary (especially considering the cost) in areas that won't have much vehicular traffic. The area in question (noted as "The Loop") would only be used for emergency vehicles and not regular traffic.
- Margot Jones, the architect, noted that the fire lane goes over a portion of the playground court, and this is intentional by design. G. Dumas mentioned that this point can be discussed further with Tighe & Bond.
- G. Dumas noted that a site visit is needed asap. D. Orwig and D. Burns believe it would be beneficial to converse with Tighe & Bond first, and then conduct a site visit. G. Dumas agrees and asks L. Butler to arrange.
- A Motion was made to continue to the July 13, 2020 meeting by D. Burns, seconded by D. Orwig, and voted all in favor.

New Business

Ratify Enforcement Order sent to Dept. of Public Works on 6/15/2020.

- L. Butler advised that work conducted over a month ago was in the buffer of a vegetated wetland. The DEP conducted their own site visit and feel that the site is over-flagged.

- The DEP advised that the culvert should be cleaned by hand and for invasive garlic mustard be removed immediately. Further work should be conducted to trap sediment with a Notice of Intent filing.
- L. Butler advised that the DPW did this work (cleaning out the sand by hand) on Friday. A compost berm was placed around the tree line to limit the spread of the sand into the wetland.
- A Motion to ratify the Enforcement Order was made by D. Burns, seconded by N. Beaugard, and voted all in favor.
- L. Butler also noted that no materials in the culvert came from the sludge landfill.

D. Orwig noted that he wants to show L. Butler a section of the road near his residence.

N. Beaugard noted that National Grid has been doing flagging by the Perly Brook substation. G. Dumas surmised that the flagging is being done for the poles in that area. He recalls a mention of it in the Maintenance Plan.

Motion to Adjourn

7:09pm A motion to adjourn was made by N. Beaugard. The motion was seconded by D. Lehtinen, and voted unanimously, all in favor.

NOTICE: These Agenda items consist of items that are reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting and are specifically allowed to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Agent of the Conservation Commission

Topic: Conservation Commission

Time: Jun 22, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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