October 1, 2020

The meeting of the Bozrah Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission was called to order by Chairman Scott Taylor at 7:05 P.M. via Zoom teleconference/videoconference.

Regular members present: Evelyn Brown, Scott Taylor, Steve Brunetti, and Chuck Mandel

Alternate members present: Jessica Carson

Members absent: Tom Main, Charlene Lathrop, Jim Sipperly

Members from the public present: Sam Alexander SCCOG, Town Planner, Carl Zorn, First Selectman, Katey DeCarli, ZEO/WEO, Glenn Pianka, Selectman, Ralph Fargo Jr., Applicant, Merek Kement, Anchor Engineering, Steve Seder, Applicant

1. Review and approve minutes:

   a) March 5th regular meeting.
      
      S. Taylor noted that minutes are still forthcoming.

   b) August 6th regular meeting.
      
      C. Mandel made a motion to approve the minutes with minor spelling corrections. E. Brown seconded the motion.

      **VOTE – ALL IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED**

2. Hear the report of the Wetlands Enforcement Officer:

   K. DeCarli discussed items in her latest report. The Commission was able to ask questions. Report items included: (1) enforcement action for failing erosion controls related to the Route 82 utility main extension. K. DeCarli will follow up with Christian Boysen of Optimus; (2) review of farm pond application by Steve Seder (agenda item 4b), 111 Bishop Hill Road.

3. Review correspondence pertaining to agenda items:

   There was none.
4. New business:
   
a) Ralph Fargo, 8 Commerce Park Road, Bozrah CT: Two-lot subdivision at 68 Scott Hill Road, Bozrah CT. RU-1 Zone. Map 10, Lot 50-B.

   R. Fargo Jr. explained that the subdivision was for two lots, splitting a parcel that was a result of a free-split at 54 Scott Hill Road. C. Mandel stated that he had reviewed the plans and letter by the soil scientist and expressed that no wetlands exist on the property. C. Mandel made a motion to make a jurisdiction ruling that this activity was not regulated. S. Brunetti seconded the motion.

   **VOTE – ALL IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED**

   Jessica Carson (alt.) arrived and was seated in place of Charlene Lathrop.

b) Stephen Seder, 111 Bishop Road: Excavation/control of invasive species in a 0.6ac. farm pond. RU-1 Zone. Map 15, Lot 16.

   S. Seder explained that he planned to remove built-up sediment and invasive phragmites from a farm pond. He had sought approval for this once before in 1992. Sediment would be removed to dry and a portion of it would be placed on top of phragmites. S. Seder explained that he would also be excavating the inlet and outlet.

   C. Mandel made a motion to find that the proposed activity is as-of-right pursuant to section 4.1.1 of the regulations. S. Brunetti seconded the motion.

   **VOTE – ALL IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED**

c) Pre-application Discussion: Fitchville Road Sidewalk Project.

   S. Alexander explained that the Town plans to construct sidewalks on Fitchville Road between Haughton Road and the Post Office using funds from the Connecticut Department of Transportation. Wetlands approval is necessary to move forward. Potential wetlands and watercourses impacts occur at a culverted intermittent stream near Brush Hill Road and at the Yantic River bridge.
5. Old business:

   a) Mineral Spring/Indian Spring.

      S. Alexander explained that there is a Site Walk scheduled for Sunday, October 4, at 9 AM. S. Alexander discussed his findings of his own trip to the Mineral Spring site.

   b) Open Space Plan.

      S. Alexander quickly reviewed a revised schedule for completion of the Open Space Plan. The schedule calls for the Commission to work on the plan at upcoming meetings and provides for additional public comment. C. Mandel expressed the need to involve the Planning & Zoning Commission, particularly in regards to open space set-asides vs. fee-in-lieu of open space in subdivisions.

6. Review general correspondence:

   Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England (SSSSNE) registry of soil scientists is available.

   Connecticut Siting Council notice of public hearing. A cellular tower is proposed on Yantic Lane in Norwich. S. Alexander explained the proposal. The Commission was not interested in commenting on the application.

7. Such other business as the Commission may vote to hear:

   There was none.

8. Public comment period:

   C. Zorn stated that he believed the town would be unlikely to approve any major open space purchases without using outside funds. C. Zorn also stated that any access enhancements at the Mineral Spring property would need to be referred to Public Works; the actual location of the town access easement would also need to be formalized.

   G. Pianka asked stated that the Town should look into whether or not it can sell unwanted open space parcels and direct proceeds into the open space fund.
E. Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting. S. Brunetti seconded the motion.

VOTE – ALL IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
Samuel Alexander, AICP
Town Planner