

**TOWN OF BOZRAH
INLAND WETLANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION
BOZRAH TOWN HALL
1 RIVER ROAD
BOZRAH, CT 06334**

June 3, 2021

The meeting of the Bozrah Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission was called to order by Chairman Scott Taylor at 7:07pm at the Bozrah Town Hall, 1 River Road, Bozrah, CT.

Members present: Scott Taylor (Chairman), Chuck Mandel, Evelyn Brown, Charlene Lathrop, Steve Brunetti, Jim Sipperly.

Members absent: Jessica Carson.

Others present: Sam Alexander (SCCOG/Town Planner), Katey DeCarli, P.E. (CHA/Land Use Agent) remotely, Reuben Fleming, Marcia Fleming, Wes Wentworth, P.E. (Wentworth Civil Engineers, LLC), Kathy Shoepfer remotely, Pat Goff remotely.

Scott Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

1. Review and approve minutes:

a) May 6th 2021 regular meeting.

Jim Sipperly noted that he omitted from the minutes. Evelyn Brown made a motion to adopt the minutes with the noted correction. Charlene Lathrop seconded the motion.

VOTE – UNANIMOUS – MOTION CARRIED

2. Hear the report of the Wetlands Enforcement Officer:

Katey DeCarli (Land Use Agent) reported on her recent activity. Ms. DeCarli reviewed sites photos taken at 211 Bashon Hill Road and 166 Bishop Road. The Commission asked questions and discussed the stability of both sites. Staff will follow up with the contracted engineer for tor 166 Bishop Road. An application is expected by June 24.

3. Review correspondence pertaining to agenda items:

Sam Alexander (Town Planner) noted a staff memo that went along with agenda items 4a and 4b. Scott Taylor made a motion to move agenda item 4c up, in front of 4a and 4b. Chuck Mandel seconded the motion.

VOTE – UNANIMOUS – MOTION CARRIED

4. New Business:

a) Reuben and Marcia Fleming: 210 Fitchville Road, Bozrah, CT. Install an 8x10' crushed-stone pad at shore of Fitchville Pond for recreational access.

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Marcia Fleming discussed her proposal to install 6 inches of crushed stone in an 8' by 10' area leading into the shore of Fitchville Pond. Silt would be removed prior to installing stone. Ms. Fleming answered question from Commission regarding her activity.

Chuck Mandel made a motion to approve the application as a Regulated Activity, with two conditions: Excavation is to be done in dry weather, and silt taken from the pond is to be taken off-site or used onsite (not deposited in the pond). Charlene Lathrop seconded the motion.

VOTE – UNANIMOUS – MOTION CARRIED

- a) Bashon Hill Farms, LLC (1): 211 Bashon Hill Road, Bozrah, CT. Owner: Stoney Hill Farm LLC, James and Jennifer Paternostro. Creation of a farm pond.

Presentation and discussion of agenda item 4a was combined with agenda item 4b. See below.

- b) Bashon Hill Farms, LLC (2): 211 Bashon Hill Road, Bozrah, CT. Owner: Stoney Hill Farm LLC, James and Jennifer Paternostro. Excavation/reclamation of agricultural land.

Wes Wentworth (Wentworth Civil Engineers, LLC) reviewed two permit applications that he submitted on behalf of Bashon Hill Farms, LLC. The two permits cover activities related to improvement of the 211 Bashon Hill Road property as a working farm. Mr. Wentworth reviewed the current progress made in the temporary stabilization plan submitted to the Commission as part of its ongoing enforcement order. Future submittals will contain a detailed survey and plans related to an excavation permit application the Planning & Zoning and detailed plans of the proposed farm pond. The application will also be supplemented with a Natural Resource Conservation Service soil map.

Commissioners were able to ask questions of Mr. Wentworth. There was discussion about the as-of-right farm status of a farm pond constructed in wetlands soils and questions as to whether any of the material taken from that wetland was sold. The Commission discussed the classification of each activity and timelines for approval. It was noted that neither application appears to be a significant activity, but the Commission looks forward to receiving more information.

5. Consideration of adoption of Open Space Plan.

A public hearing was held on May 6th on the draft Open Space Plan, which is a project that was undertaken by the Commission to define open space preservation priorities in Bozrah. Jim Sipperly made a motion to approve the plan with grammatical edits. Evelyn Brown

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seconded the motion. Scott Taylor remarked that the Commission should immediately begin implementation of the plan.

VOTE – UNANIMOUS – MOTION CARRIED

Sam Alexander stated that Dennis Main from Avalonia Land Conservancy would like to speak with the Commission in July about Avalonia’s anticipated Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition (OSWA) grant application for the Glemboski/Ous property. Avalonia will request a letter of support from the Towns of Bozrah and Montville. Sam Alexander also motioned that Avalonia may be interested in taking ownership of one or two of the “excess open space” properties owned by Bozrah and discussed in past meetings.

6. Review general correspondence:

There was none.

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

There was none.

8. Public comment period:

There was none. Jim Sipperly made a motion to adjourn. Steve Brunetti seconded the motion.

VOTE – UNANIMOUS – MOTION CARRIED

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Samuel Alexander, AICP
Town Planner