

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

January 9, 2019

The special meeting of the Bozrah Inland Wetlands Commission was called to order by Chairman Scott Taylor at 7:05 P.M. in the meeting room of the Bozrah Town Hall.

Regular members present: Steve Brunetti, Evelyn Brown, Scott Taylor, and Robert Mercado.

Regular members absent: Tom Main, Charlene Lathrop, and Chuck Mandel.

Members from the public present: Sam Alexander, SCCOG/Town Planner, Glenn Pianka, First Selectman, Tom Webber, Wetlands Enforcement Officer, Christian Boysen, Optimus Senior Living, Bill Ballenger, Board of Selectmen, Carl Zorn, Board of Selectmen, Ray Barber, citizen.

1. Review and approve minutes:

a) Review meeting notes of December 6th regular meeting.

E. Brown made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 6th regular meeting. S. Burnetti seconded the motion.

VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

2. Hear the report of the Wetlands Enforcement Officer.

T. Weber will bring a spreadsheet of on-going and recent activity to the February meeting.

3. Review correspondence pertaining to agenda items.

S. Alexander reviewed the four items before the Commission: Plans completed by Anchor Engineering for sewer, water, and gas installation on Salem Turnpike (Route 82); a Cease and Correct Order from the Norwich City Planner for work conducted in Norwich; a letter upholding the Cease and Correct Order; and the signed Connecticut Department of Transportation permit for work on Route 82.

S. Alexander explained that work has concluded for the year and Optimus Senior Living will prepare an application for the City of Norwich wetlands agency prior to commencing work in the spring.

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4. Discuss Salem Turnpike (Route 82) utility installation.

C. Boysen (Optimus Senior Living) discussed the utility installation on Route 82 and answered questions from the Commission. C. Boysen explained that the contractor will complete an emergency gas connection to span Goldmine Brook in Norwich, and that all other work within the roadway will begin again in the spring. C. Boysen explained he was recently made aware of the fact that no wetlands permits were sought from Bozrah and Norwich, and would like to correct the issue.

C. Boysen explained that they would like to connect two new fire hydrants, one at the entrance to the complex and one at the Bozrah-Norwich town line, near the former Rose City Cycle. C. Boysen explained that there is a wetlands area, down-grade and roughly fifty feet from the fire hydrant near the entrance to the senior living center; and there are no adjacent wetlands to the hydrant near the town line. C. Boysen added that straw bales would be put around the hydrants during installation. Due to the on-going construction of the facility, the fire hydrants affect safety.

S. Taylor stated that the Commission was not aware in December that other work needed to be done in the spring, so they did not issue a Cease and Correct Order. Also, erosion and sedimentation controls were in place while work was being done in the right of way.

S. Brunetti made a motion to grant permission for Optimus Senior Living's contractor to complete work associated with the two fire hydrants, in recognition that this work needs to begin immediately for public safety reasons. Evelyn Brown seconded the motion. There was discussion.

VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

The Commission discussed next steps. Optimus Senior Living was instructed to submit an application for the remaining work, using the plans completed by Anchor Engineering. The Commission discussed meeting dates and decided to hold a Special meeting on Wednesday, February 6, at 7:00pm, so the meeting did not conflict with the Norwich wetlands agency. S. Taylor instructed the applicant to add notation on the plans stating that disturbed areas would be properly seeded and loamed prior to removal of erosion and sedimentation control structures.

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5. Review general correspondence.

The Connecticut Bar Association will hold an all-day Land Use Law training session at Wesleyan University on March 23.

6. Such other business as the commission may vote to hear.

S. Taylor asked that the Commission discuss three additional items at the February meeting: review expectations for dealing with conflicts of interest; discuss mechanisms for proactively enforcing regulations and identifying activities regulated by the Commission; and discuss the Commission's responsibilities and potential work related to conservation.

S. Taylor made a motion to schedule a special meeting for Wednesday, February 6, at 7:00pm to receive the expected application from Optimus Senior Living, conduct other regular business and new business, and discuss the three agenda items as previously outlined. R. Mercado seconded the motion.

VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

S. Taylor discussed the need to fill an alternate seat. S. Taylor introduced Jessica Carson as a candidate. J. Carson introduced herself. S. Taylor suggested that J. Carson send correspondence to the Board of Selectmen stating her interest.

S. Brunetti made a motion to adjourn the meeting. R. Mercado seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
Charlene Lathrop
Recording Secretary Town of Bozrah