

MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2016 MEETING

A meeting of the Longmeadow Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:00 P.M. on January 13, 2016 in the conference room at the Longmeadow Police Station.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair, Al Laakso, Peter Bouvier, Sheri Knight; Stephen Gazillo, David Dumais, John Bresnahan.

OTHERS PRESENT: Stephen Crane, Timothy Meyer, Katina Syner, Ron Manseau, Moira Murphy, Jeff Alberti, Mitch Richard, Gerard Nolet, John Glenn.

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING: The minutes of December 9, 2015 were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Salary Acct. \$4126.72; Maintenance \$850; Office Supplies \$100; Misc. \$1000; Con Com Trust Fund \$8820.85; Con Com Wetland Protection Fund \$8263.65.

RDA – MASS DOT – RESURFACING OF I-91; Tim Meyer reviewed the project which begins in Longmeadow at the MA/CT line and extends northerly to the Springfield line. The work proposed: pavement milling- resurfacing with Hot Mix Asphalt, adjusting, rebuilding, repairing and cleaning drainage structures, grading, compacting and filling shoulders and replacing curbing. The project will go out to bid in February and work will be done in the summer. Time of work will be between 7:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. It will coincide with the viaduct project.

Motion was made to approve the Request for Determination for Mass DOT and issue a Negative Determination with reasons #2 and #6 and with the following special condition that the Conservation Commission is to be notified of when the pre-construction conference is to be held. Motion passed 6-0 unanimously.

CONSERVATION LAND – Stephen Crane, Town Manager, introduced Jeff Alberti of the engineering firm Weston and Sampson representing Longmeadow DPW, who presented slides of Option 1, the Proposed Wolf Swamp Road Site for the DPW facility. Five acres of park land would be used which includes a 42,000 sq. foot facility and parking area with a proper stormwater management system and safe and efficient parking layout for DPW use and for off-hour playing field parking. The slides showed the improvements and protection measures taken with the new design. No Conservation Land would be required for the proposed facility but would be sited on the northern boundary line of the Wolf Swamp Conservation Land. Although the presentation was very informative, everyone agreed that more information was needed. An alternative analysis of the DPW site was requested from Stephen Crane and the consulting firm to be forwarded to the Chair.

OTHER BUSINESS: Gerard Nolet and Ron Manseau, bee keeper hobbyists, came before the Commission to state the importance of bee keeping and how the bee population has been decreasing over the years. Mr. Nolet was speaking for Bill

Crawford, a commercial bee keeper from Westfield, who wished to place 40 hives of bees on Conservation land and would derive income from selling bees to farmers for pollination. Chair Al Laakso explained that conservation land could not be used for commercial operations without determining that bee keeping was an agricultural activity and advertising for bids and that it was not in the interest of the Conservation Commission to do so. Mr. Nolet would notify Mr. Crawford of the determination.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Esther M. Moomjian