

**Town of Westwood**  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

John Rogers, Chairman  
Stephen David  
Helen Gordon  
Vesna Maneva  
R.J. Sheer  
Todd Sullivan  
Todd Weston



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**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes: Conservation Commission Meeting Date: September 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Location: Champagne Meeting Room, 50 Carby Street, Westwood, MA**

**7:00 p.m.**

The Conservation Commission meeting of September 25, 2019 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Champagne Meeting Room, 50 Carby Street, with the following members present: Helen Gordon, Stephen David, Todd Weston and Todd Sullivan. Members John Rogers, Vesna Maneva and R.J. Sheer were absent. Conservation Agent Karon Skinner Catrone was also present.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Consideration of Minutes for Meeting of July 24, 2019, September 11, 2019 and September 25, 2019

**Upcoming Meeting:** 11/13/19 Champagne Meeting Room, Carby Municipal Building, 50 Carby Street, Westwood, MA

**Action Items:**

**Minor modification – 32 Clearwater Drive – DEP #338-0652** – The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the request for minor modification to Order of Conditions DEP #338-0652, including the following:

1. Letter from Laura Brennan dated October 9, 2019, including one (1) page;
2. Sketch plan by B and B Landscaping titled “Laura Brennan #32 Clearwater Drive, Westwood, MA 02090, including one (1) page;

Ms. Catrone states the owner is requesting a minor modification to extend the lawn to make the maintenance of the new shrubs more manageable. The applicant will not be extending into the no disturb area.

**Motion made by Ms. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to approve the modification as shown on the above mentioned sketch plan. Unanimous.**

**Minor modification – 80 Wilson Way – RDA** – The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the request for minor modification to Order of Conditions DEP #338-0652, including the following:

1. Letter dated October 17, 2019 from VHB of 101 Walnut Street, Watertown, Massachusetts 02471 requesting a minor modification to install a stormwater filter system at the request of the Planning Board, including one (1) page;
2. Plan dated August 27, 2019 by VHB of 101 Walnut Street, Watertown, MA 02471 titled “Existing Conditions Plan of Land”, including one (1) page;
3. Plan dated October 17, 2019 by VHB of 101 Walnut Street, Watertown, MA 02471 titled “Drainage Retrofit”, including one (1) page;

Ms. Catrone states that the owner, Mr. Grill, is requesting to install an infiltration system within the 100 foot buffer zone to a wetland. This request for a minor modification to the open Determination of Applicability is the result of a filing with the Planning Board. The Planning Board required the installation of this system.

**Motion made by Mr. David, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to approve this request for minor modification to install an infiltration system at 80 Wilson Way. Unanimous.**

Ms. Gordon recuses herself from the following hearing.

**Informal discussion – Thurston Middle School multi-purpose field lighting project** - The Commission opened the discussion and reviewed copies of the following plan:

1. Plan dated September 2019 by Environmental Partners Group titled “Thurston Middle School Multi-Purpose Field Lighting Project, Westwood, MA Field Layout – Option 3, including one (1) sheet;

Present are Nicole Banks, director of the Westwood Recreation Department and Richard Adams, business manager, for an informal discussion regarding the installation of light poles.

Ms. Banks states the plan shows the preliminary location of the light pole. There are two, possibly three, light poles within the Commission’s jurisdiction. Updating this lighting was proposed as part of the open space plan. We have brought this plan to you as an informal discussion for comments as to what you would like to see.

Ms. Catrone asks for a brief explanation as to how the polls will be installed.

Ms. Banks states the hole will be drilled, Steel beams (in two or three part sections) will be installed. These polls could be 80 or 90 feet.

Mr. Sullivan asks how power will get to these poles.

Mr. Adams states power will be pulled off the Thurston Middle School, wrapped around the field through conduits.

Mr. Sullivan states the revised plan should show the 18” conduit and trench.

Mr. Rogers asks that the plan show the layout, cross section and outcome of test holes. The poles do not look like they are lined up. Please show this more clearly on the plan. The pole on the right may be able to shift a bit.

Mr. Rogers states we try to keep all work outside the 10 foot buffer. If you could shift this out of the wetland that would be best.

Ms. Banks states if we change the landscape of fields we will have to redo the fields. We are trying to maintain the existing layout of the field.

Ms. Maneva asks if the end post could be shifted in closer which may bring it out of the wetland.

Ms. Banks explains the lights post will have a couple of arms off of the light pole. Good visibility is necessary when playing sports at night.

Mr. Rogers suggests they pull the posts out and show limit of work, trench and where the wetlands are that would be helpful

Mr. David states it sets a bad president to the residents if we allow work inside the 10 foot buffer for a town project. He asks if this is like the tennis court project.

Mr. Adams states at the tennis courts the lights are cast down.

Ms. Banks states this will need to go to Planning Board for design review.

Mr. Sullivan asks where the power box will be located.

Mr. Adams states the power box would be near the building (a small closet).

Mr. Rogers states if you cannot move the light poles, mitigation may be required.

Mr. Adam states we will not be modifying the field. We need to keep the cost down.

The Commission agrees a Notice of Intent will be required with possible mitigation.

Ms. Gordon comes back.

**Informal discussion – Gay Street sidewalk project – Town of Westwood** - The Commission opened the discussion and reviewed copies of the following plan:

1. Plans – Gay Street Construction Plans by Jake Carmody of TEC of 311 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608, Including fifteen (15) sheets;

Present is Jake Carmody of TEC representing the Town of Westwood, Department of Public Works. We have been working on the design plan for the construction of new sidewalks on Gay Street. He states we have looked at several different sceneries and held several outreach sessions. We would like to give the boards a chance to comment. He states we are here tonight to show you the improvements we have made, including the drainage and wetland improvements. Where there is currently pipe we will put in PVC. The drainage goes to the Nanomet brook. There is upland area on the side of the road which we will use for the replication area. Toward Fox Hill Street there is a steep slope and rock walls. The slope is visually blocking the walls in some locations.

Mr. Rogers states the amount of disturbance should be limited in this area.

Mr. Carmody states we are trying not to impact the walls but the landscape architect has brought to our attention the walls may want to be visible.

Mr. Rogers states a grass strip should be installed when possible.

Mr. David inquires as to the cost of the project.

Mr. Carmody states it will be approximately 3,500,000. He states we are trying to look at ways to save money. If we put in closed drainage system we could put in deep sumps.

Mr. Rogers states if an under lay of stone and pervious pavement is used, dealing with water quality will be better. He asks out of the box solutions, rather than catch basins rather than closed drainage system are being looked at. If sidewalk is 3 feet or less we want to see a granite curb. A granite curb holds up better to plows.

Mr. Carmody states at Milk Street there is a tight section of road. There is a wall behind the north side of the sidewalk that is heaving.

Ms. Gordon states we will need details and cross sections

Mr. Rogers states instead of closed system maybe an infiltrating system.

Mr. David asks when they will be filing a Notice of Intent.

Mr. Carmody states when the design is at 90 percent we will go to Selectmen, then to the boards.

The Commission thanks Mr. Carmody for his presentation.

**Minor modification – 150 Arcadia Road – DEP #338-0659** - The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the request for minor modification to Order of Conditions DEP #338-0659, including the following:

1. Plan - #150 Arcadia Road Plan of Land in Westwood, MA by Glossa Engineering, Inc. of 46 East Street, East Walpole, MA 02032, including one (1) sheet;

Ms. Gordon states she walked the site with the owner and developers last week.

Mr. Glossa of Glossa Engineering is present and states the garden as shown on the proposed plan will catch ½ inch of rain. The finish grade is 98.5. The proposed garden is 43' x 3'

Mr. Sullivan states going forward we have to really look at the ground water elevation.

John we are constantly taking ground water out of ground and putting it back in John leaves T

Mr. Glossa states the applicant would like to donate trees to the town rather than plant them on the lot.

**Motion made by Mr. David, seconded by Mr. Sullivan to accept this proposed raingarden plan and to allow the owner to donate 3 trees to the town for \$400.00 each. An engineer shall oversee the construction of the rain garden. Wetland boundary markers must be installed.**

Mr. David recused himself from the next hearing.

**Minor modification – 11-63 Reynolds Farm Way – DEP #338-0520** - The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the request for minor modification to Order of Conditions DEP #338-0520, including the following:

1. Letter dated October 8, 2019 from Edward J. Musto of 36 Blue Hill Dr. Westwood , Ma. 02090  
RE: Reynolds Farm Requested Modifications including one (1) page;
2. Reynolds Farm Grading, Drainage and Remedial Work Plan of Land in Westwood, MA” dated April 25, 2019 by John Glossa of Glossa Engineering of 46 East Street, East Walpole, MA, including one (1) page;

Present is John Glossa of Glossa Engineering and Edward Musto, developer.

Mr. Glossa states Mr. Musto is request the following minor modifications to Order of Conditions #338-0520 including reconfiguring the roof drain between units #53 and #61, modifying the cape-cod berm type and terracing the retaining wall next to unit #43, as shown on the plan titled “Reynolds Farm Grading, Drainage and Remedial Work Plan of Land in Westwood, MA” dated April 25, 2019.

Nora Loughnane, director of the Department of Community and Economic Development states this must be done by November 8, 2019. If the work is not done the owners take over the work to complete the project. The town will remain responsible for the escrow agreement.

**Motion made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Ms. Maneva to approve the request for changes and these changes are not significant to the interest of the Wetland Protection Act or a significant change in the proposed approved plan and shall be considered a minor modification. The request to decrease the Planning Board’s required tree caliper size does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission but the Commission does recommend the Swamp Oaks/Quercus bicolor be replaced with Northern red oaks/Quercus rubra or Honey-locust/Gleditsia triacanthos. A detail of the retaining wall must be approved by the Planning Board. Unanimous.**

#### Hearings

##### 405 Nahatan Street – Notice of Intent – DEP #338 -0695 - Paparazzo

The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the Notice of Intent DEP #338-0695, including the following:

1. Notice of Intent dated September 12, 2019 submitted by GLM Engineering Consultants, Inc. of 19 Exchange Street, Holliston, MA 01746 including twenty six (26) pages;
2. Reynolds Farm Grading, Drainage and Remedial Work Plan of Land in Westwood, MA” dated April 25, 2019 by John Glossa of Glossa Engineering of 46 East Street, East Walpole, MA, including one (1) page;

Present is Joyce Hasting of GLM Engineering, Inc. Ms. Hasting states this project was designed based on the Superseding Order issued by the Department of Environmental Protection on February 8, 2018. Most of the lot is wet. The house is being proposed 45 feet off the street. Ground water is 18inches from top of soil 50 feet from the wetland line. The proposed infiltration system is two (2) feet above ground water and will capture 1 inch of stormwater. This was originally proposed in the rear of the property but after test pits were done it was decided it would function better in the front of the property. Wetland boundary markers are shown on the plan along the rear of the property.

Mr. David asks what the elevation of ground water is at the cellar floor.

Ms. Hasting states it is at 206’.

Mr. Sullivan asks about dewatering.

Ms. Hastings explains the dewatering plan. She states if construction is done in the fall or summer there will not be water.

Mr. David inquires as to why the wetland boundary markers are at 50 feet. Buyers will come back and request this be moved back to the 35' buffer.

Ms. Hastings states she thought because this is a difficult site the Commission would be more amenable to the limit of work at the 50 foot buffer.

**Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. David to continue the hearing to allow the engineer to speak with the owner of the property about the limit of work line and whether they would like to donate trees or plant them on the property. Unanimous.**

**Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. David to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous.**