INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022, 6:00 P.M.

IN PERSON ATTENDANCE: TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT
REMOTE ATTENDANCE: ZOOM MEETING
(ATTENDEES BELOW WERE IN PERSON UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

PRESENT: Chairman Ken Braga, Vice Chairman Ron Brown (remote), Regular members, Jean Burns and Katherine Heminway

ABSENT: Regular member Art Aube, Hocine Baouche and Steve Hoffman

STAFF
PRESENT: John Colonese, Assistant Town Planner/Wetland Enforcement Officer and Barbra Galovich, Land Use Assistant/Recording Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ken Braga called the Ellington Inland Wetlands Agency meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (on non-agenda items): None

III. PUBLIC HEARING(S):

1. IW201803 – Cathy Pinard owner/applicant, request for modification to a permit to conduct regulated activity for two retaining walls at 12 East Shore Road, APN 149-098-0000.

   Time: 6:01pm
   Seated: Braga, Brown, Burns and Heminway

   Cathy Pinard, 12 East Shore Road, was present to represent the application. Ms. Pinard said she plans to rebuild her home and would like to add two more retaining walls to the site near the edge of the lake. She has already completed one retaining wall on the site by the roadway. She showed the agency the proposed locations for the walls on the plan revised January 6, 2022 by Landmark Surveys, LLC. Ms. Pinard noted the retaining wall closest to the lake will be roughly 15 feet from the water’s edge and approximately 44 feet in length, and the retaining wall closer to the home will be approximately 42 feet in length. She stated the blocks will be three tiers in height, approximately 4 to 5 feet in height at the highest point, and will be filled with crushed stone.
Ms. Pinard stated she received a copy of the Town Engineer’s email comments dated February 11, 2022.

Commissioner Burns asked how the blocks will be installed. Ms. Pinard explained that the blocks will be lowered into place. Commissioner Burns asked what Ms. Pinard will be doing in the area behind the retaining wall closer to the home. Ms. Pinard stated they will be clearing the overgrown brush and adding riprap in the area.

Mr. Colonese asked that the plan be updated to show additional silt fence and hay bales for stabilization along the edge of the retaining wall closest to the water’s edge until the area is stabilized with riprap as described. He briefly reviewed the comments received from the Town Engineer dated February 11, 2022. Ms. Pinard noted she will be merging the lots upon applying for a building permit for the project.

Vice Chairman Brown asked if the retaining walls would affect water runoff and how the walls will be maintained. Ms. Pinard stated there will be crushed stone within the blocks and at the base of the wall and no maintenance will be required. She added that once the blocks are in place, the wall will be stable. She expects the project to take about a week.

No one from the public spoke regarding the application.

MOVED (BURNS) SECONDED (HEMINWAY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO MAKE A DETERMINATION OF A NONSIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY FOR IW201803.

MOVED (HEMINWAY) SECONDED (BURNS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR IW201803.

MOVED (HEMINWAY) SECONDED (BURNS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE WITH CONDITIONS IW201803 – Cathy Pinard owner/applicant, request for modification to a permit to conduct regulated activity for two retaining walls at 12 East Shore Road, APN 149-098-0000.

Conditions:

1. Silt fence and hay bale locations to be adjusted to incorporate limits of disturbance around proposed retaining wall closest to the lake.
2. Silt fence and erosion control measures shall be installed then inspected by the Wetlands Agent prior to activity, and remain fully operational until the site is stabilized.
3. Subject to compliance with Town Engineer comments dated February 11, 2022.
4. Stone level spreader to be added to outlet area of any roof drain or footing drain.
IV. OLD BUSINESS: None

V. NEW BUSINESS:

1. IW201019 – Request for renewal and transfer of a permit to construct single family home, related utilities, and associated activity at property located on Fairview Avenue, APN 019-120-0001.

Chairman Braga stated the property received original permit approval on December 20, 2010. The Conservation Easement agreement was filed and placards were posted as required by the permit. State statute changes in 2011 allowed the permit to be valid for 9 years, and recent 2021 legislation changes allow it to be valid for 14 years up to 19 years from the date of approval with extensions. No major changes to the site plan are proposed, however minor site changes are expected within the upland review area such as the building footprint.

Joe Carnemolla, 16 Crystal Ridge, Tolland, CT was present to represent the request. Mr. Carnemolla stated he is representing the lot owner, Steve Hany and the prospective buyers. The lot will be purchased by John and Katlyn Carnemolla. He submitted a revised foundation plan to the agency and explained they recently changed the footprint of the proposed dwelling into a T-shape.

Mr. Colonese noted a portion of the proposed dwelling is within the upland review area, and stated the proposed dwelling is shown 76 feet from wetlands. Mr. Carnemolla said they are looking to start construction this spring and doesn’t foresee needing additional time for completion beyond December 20, 2024.

MOVED (HEMINWAY) SECONDED (BURNS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF PERMIT IW201019 FOR FOURTEEN (14) YEARS FROM ORIGINAL DATE OF APPROVAL UNTIL DECEMBER 20, 2024 AND UPDATE PERMIT WITH GRANTEES, JOHN AND KATALYN CARNEMOLLA – Request for renewal and transfer of a permit to construct single family home, related utilities, and associated activity at property located on Fairview Avenue, APN 019-120-0001.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the January 24, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes.

MOVED (HEMINWAY) SECONDED (BURNS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 24, 2022 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.
2. Correspondence/Discussion:

   a. CT DEEP Municipal Inland Wetlands Agency Comprehensive Training Program

       Mr. Colonese said the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is offering the Municipal Inland Wetlands Agency Comprehensive Training Program again and it is now free and online. CT DEEP allows for individuals to complete the program within 60 days. The Agency was provided information regarding the training program and where to sign-up online.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

       MOVED (BURNS) SECONDED (HEMINWAY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 14, 2022 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY AT 6:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Barbra Galovich, Recording Clerk