

APPROVED

ADAMS CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman James Fassell and Commission Members Brian Bishop, Tom Robinson and Tammie Shafer

MEMBER ABSENT: David Lipinski

OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Koczela, BEK Associates; Jeff Snoonian, iBerkshires and Recording Secretary Pam Gerry

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Fassell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Commission members tabled the minutes of June 27, 2019 to their next meeting. Members showed concern regarding their need for additional information on the Avenger herbicide spray being used by the Town of Adams on the Ashuwilticook Trail. Chairman Fassell stated to the members that he would communicate with the town's ecological consultant, Bill Lattrell and DPW Operations Supervisor, Tim Cota for the necessary answers regarding these concerns.

CONTINUANCE REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION; 28-34 BURT STREET filed by Robert J. Tomkiewicz. Applicant is requesting to satisfy FEMA'S requirement of land being disturbed in a flood plain located at the south side of Burt Street and east of the intersection of Burt Street and Friend Street.

Chairman Fassell addressed Brian Koczela, representing the applicant from BEK Associates. Mr. Koczela stated to the members that Mr. Tomkiewicz was currently paying a high cost for flood insurance on his property, adding that minor changes would be required to resolve this issue. He explained to them that one section located in the back of the owners property had a small cellar entryway which was below the 100 year flood elevation. He further stated that Mr. Tomkiewicz could place a 2' x 6' plank in front of the cellar hatchway with 10 shovel fills of soil placed in that area which would remove him from the flood zone area and place the property beyond the 100' buffer zone and out of the 200' riverfront zone. Mr. Koczela let the members know that he was required to contact FEMA with his approval from the Conservation Commission so he could move forward.

Chairman Fassell asked the Commission members if they had any further concerns with the applicant's request.

Member Robinson stated to the Commission that they should support the townspeople and that he had no concern with approving the applicant's request. Member Shafer agreed with Member Robinson.

A motion was made by Member Bishop, seconded by Member Robinson to issue a Negative 4 Determination of Applicability, passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

- Adams DPW Operations Supervisor, Tim Cota notified the Conservation Commission Office that the herbicide spraying had been completed along the Ashwilticook Rail Trail.

Chairman Fassell stated that they did not receive any complaints from the general public.

- Update: MEPA public session for Specialty Minerals (6-28-19)

Member Shafer stated that she performed an informative site visit during the public session at Specialty Minerals. She told them that over the next 50 years they would be removing the slag piles and refilling the entire quarry while further discussing the various procedures involved to members.

- Invasive Hogweed surrounding the solar array panels located at the Adams Landfill Solar Field on East Road have been treated with an herbicide by an independent group with Conservation Commission approval.
- 423 West Road update (single family construction).

Chairman Fassell stated to the members that Joe Trybus, contractor for the new single family home on 423 West Road submitted an email informing the Conservation Commission Office on August 6, 2019 that is company would begin their construction.

Member Robinson stated that when he was near the site, he witnessed the silt fence in place.

Chairman Fassell read an email from Administrative Assistant, Deb Dunlap from the Town Administrator's Office informing the Conservation Commission of the appointment of Natasha Bordeaux as their newest member replacing former member Corey Bishop who recently had resigned.

REVIEW MAIL:

1. Specialty Minerals Quarterly Report
2. National Grid

ADJOURN: A motion made by Member Robinson, seconded by Member Bishop to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 P.M., passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary

Date

