

Montague Conservation Commission

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MEETING MINUTES Thursday July 8, 2021- 6:30pm

Commissioners Present: Justin Fermann, Mark Fairbrother, Sean Werle, D. Francis

Commissioners Absent: Laurie Reid, Toby Carter, Anthony Reiber, D. Henson

Staff: Walter Ramsey

Present: Peter Glick, Michael Perrault, Greg Yankchenko, Jesse O'Donnell

6:30pm: *MOTION by J. Fermann to accept the minutes of 5/13/21 Seconded S. Werle. Vote: J. Fermann (AYE), D. Francis (AYE), S. Werle, (AYE), M Fairbrother (AYE) MOTION PASSES.*

Minutes amended to reflect that J. Fermann did not vote to adjourn at the last meeting. MOTION by S. Werle to accept the amended minutes of 6/6/21 Seconded by D. Francis. MOTION PASSES Vote: J. Fermann, D. Francis (AYE), S. Werle, (AYE), M Fairbrother (AYE) MOTION PASSES.

6:32pm: RDA #2021-08 filed by the Franklin Regional Transit Authority to determine if the development of a 27,700 square foot vehicle maintenance and operations facility is subject to the Wetlands or Riverfront Protection Acts. The property is listed as Sandy Lane, Assessors Map 21 Lot 149.

Peter Glick: The site plan approval, including a storm water and drainage plan, was accepted by the Planning Board in June, 2021. Glick discusses the specs (acreage, parking and building dimensions) of the site plan. Isolated wetlands, delineated in a 2014 study by the Town are depicted on the plan. These are not jurisdictional. Glick identifies one certified vernal pool and several potential vernal pools in proximity to the project. The closest potential pool to the site is about 178' from the west corner and about 300' from the south-west corner. Glick discusses the entrances and exists for building, parking and additional staff parking. The site is fenced and gated-in. A fueling station is proposed. While not required, the building and fueling station are greater than 100 feet from the isolated wetlands.

Jesse O'Donnell presented the stormwater design. The systems design for a peak flow for a hundred year event exceeds the existing capacity of the site. In the event of an intense storm, water will be directed from the basin through the retaining wall and beneath the wetland.

Peter Glick reviews erosion control during construction. Silk socks will surround the perimeter. Infiltration basin areas will be used as temporarily sedimentation basins. They would only excavate them down to 3' feet above the final grade so sediments and fine particles are removed in final grading.

S. Werle asks about the fueling station. Glick responds there is both an above ground diesel and gasoline tanks. Double walled tanks, leak detection, current standards met.

J. Fermann asks about how much material will be removed. Glick responds that quite a bit of fill has been added (as much as 10 feet) over the years. That will need to be replaced with structural fill.

Conservation Agent adds that the area was used as a quarry for the DPW and over years the DPW has been

filling it back-year. Conservation Agent adds that the isolated vegetative wetlands were delineated in a 2014 Town Commission planning report by Stockman and Associates. To be clear, they are not filling the isolated vegetation wetlands as part of this project.

*Sean Werle marked a MOTION to issue Negative Determination checking Box 1 and 6 for **RDA #2021-08 filed by the Franklin Regional Transit Authority** for Sandy Lane, Assessors Map 21 Lot 149. Not in Seconded by J. Fermann. VOTE: J. Fermann (AYE), S. Werle (AYE), D. Francis (AYE), M. Fairbrother (AYE). MOTION PASSES 7:05PM*

Regrettably, Deb Henson announced her resignation via an email to the Chair after more than 2 decades of service. She was a valuable asset to the Commission and will be missed by the Commissioners.

MOTION by D. Francis to ADJURN the meeting. Seconded by S. Werle VOTE: J. Fermann (AYE), S. Werle (AYE), D. Francis (AYE), M. Fairbrother (AYE). MOTION PASSES 7:08pm