

INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN

September 1, 2016.

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m.

Members present were Chairman Tom Sweet, Lester Davis, Dave Miner, John Moran and Andrew McLallen. Wetlands Agent Joe Theroux was also present. Absent was alternate Bob Panko and alternate Tammy Daigneault arrived at 7:55 p.m.

Audience of Citizens: Bennett Road/Buckley Drive residents and Carl Grenier.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the May 5, 2016 meeting were not approved and tabled until the next meeting. Andrew made a motion to approve the July 7th minutes, John seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion carried.

Old Business: None.

New Business: 333 Pendleton Hill Rd. Carl Grenier who has done some work on a driveway that he had a permit for 26 years ago. The permit needs to be renewed. Joe met with him on site and discussed placement of the road and Carl had some issues with the accuracy of the site plan. He has hauled in gravel and placed it off the footprint of the original driveway. Carl stated that he thought that he would only need a new permit if he modified the plans. He knows that he has dirt improperly placed and he contributed that to the driver that did not dump the dirt where he told them to. The plan was drafted in 1990 and he is not sure that anything on there is accurate. There was a major storm in 2010 which destroyed the road and washed out the banks by the stream, took out the geo textile and left a big hole. Right now he is not sure what the original contractor did to repair it and he wasn't there to see it. He had several photos that he passed around for the board to look at. The 200 feet or so of silt fencing that was taken out has been re-established and dug in. The road is primarily stone and cement. Dave Miner asked Carl about the 2002 meeting where his plan was approved with stipulations and asked if these were done. There was to be rip rap and rocks along the edges of the road and Dennison Brook. He also believed that he would have needed a DEEP permit and the utilities would need a plan for an easement. Dave asked where the pre-existing bridge was and Carl stated that it was a footbridge which is not there anymore. Joe stated that the new plan should be engineered so that it does not wash out on him again as it did in 2010. Dave mentioned to Carl that he has a couple of loads of asphalt on the property and told him he can't use that near the

wetlands. Carl asked if he could grind it up and put it on the road, and he was told it would have to be at least 100 ft. outside of the upland review area. Carl discussed with the board some of the changes he wanted to make to the original plan. Tom and Lester have already been out there to look at the site. He would like to move the dirt and fill in the low areas that were disturbed and geo textile all the way from the disturbed areas, dig down a few feet, back fill with sand, pull the geo textile up the bank and rip rap it. Lester stated that he thinks that Carl needs an engineered system and DEEP approval. Joe told him to submit a new application showing the changes and an engineered plan showing stabilization of the stream, and if the engineer says geo textile and rip rap are fine then Joe would be okay with that. After more discussion, Dave made a motion to allow Carl to grade the road, remove the pile of gravel in the road so he has access to the back of the property and no activity within the existing wetlands until he comes before the commission with an application and an engineered site plan. Lester seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion carried.

Addition to Agenda: Mr. Buckley retained engineer Bob Schuch to design drainage improvements along with drainage calculations which he handed out to the board to look at. Joe stated that what they are proposing is a trapezoidal rip rap channel starting below Scott Gibson's retention basin adjacent to his driveway. He showed on the plan the stone check dams, which shows it will be 18 inches deep and 18 inches at the bottom. There will be slopes on either side of it which should contain the run off from the road. Where there is an existing 12 inch culvert pipe, which was designed for a 35 year storm, Mr. Schuch said that with the intensity of the storms now, it might be possible that the water might come out of the channel and go around that but he will do some more calculating and possibly go up a size. Below that a new catch basin is proposed, with a 4 foot sump that will be tied in as well. It should do a good job removing the sediments and with the rip rap it should contain the flow, and whatever water comes off of the driveway will run in there and get trapped. Another thing Joe asked him was on the eastern side of the road, by Grandolfi's property, where the water just wants to run down through, Bob put a note on the plan stating that side of the road there needs a berm, a curb or something to stop the water from going in. Joe said there should be a note on the plan stating that the crown of the road has to be maintained yearly. A few of the residents of the road had a few questions and concerns about the plan and some discussion took place. The board would like to have a peer review of the plans. Joe agreed and he would also like the Road Foreman Jim Crider look at it because some of the water is coming off of the south side of the Town road. Also, he will send Mr. Schuch a letter outlining the questions and concerns the board and the residents had, so he can address them at the next meeting. Lester made a motion to accept Mr. Buckley's application for road drainage on Buckley Drive for review, Dave seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion carried.

Agent's Report: Joe reported no problems other than the Grenier property on Pendleton Hill Rd. He told the board that he will speak with Jim Crider, Voluntown Road Foreman, about the erosion problems on the south side of Buckley Drive.

Correspondence: Joe received a letter from Bob Schuch, the engineer who is helping Mr. Buckley. There was also a letter from the Attorney General regarding the litigation between Mr.

Buckley and the Town of Voluntown, and the Inland Wetlands Commission. The letter was sent to Attorney Heller and a copy to the commission. Joe read the letter to the board.

John made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dave seconded the motion, all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Thomas Sweet, Chairman

