

**COVENTRY INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

By: Mathieu

Time: 7:09 p.m.

Place: Town Hall Annex

2. ROLL CALL:

		PRESENT	ABSENT
REGULAR MEMBERS:	Martin Briggs	X	
	Lori Mathieu, Chairperson	X	
	Patricia Laramee	X	
	Sam Norman, Treasurer		X
	Thomas Woolf, Vice Chairman		X
ALTERNATE MEMBERS:	Mike Powers		X
	Open		X
STAFF:	Todd Penney, Wetlands Agent	X	

3. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:

None

4. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. #18-34W – Applicant: Town of Coventry, Agent Mark Kiefer, Director of Public Works; Activity: Stormwater infrastructure to alleviate ponding on northbound travel lane in the vicinity of 237 Wrights Mill Road.**

Staff recounted the history of this application. A 2016 aerial map was presented along with photos of the area. There is a letter regarding this issue in the file from 1992 yet the issue has not been resolved.

Staff has been recently working with Kathleen Santoro, owner of 237 of Wrights Mill Road, about the subtle low spot in front of this property. Santoro is trying to sell the property, although she no longer resides here. A recent inspection found the septic pipe full of water. The problem is exacerbated by a ground water bleed from the under drain or footing drain from 165

Wrights Mill Road which then follows the gutter flow. The bleed runs 24 x 7. There is another bleed from the Murzin property. The water then super saturates the area of the septic system of 237 behind the house. Water also remains on the travel lane of the road causing people to move to the other land to avoid the puddle. This is a safety issue for cars traveling up the hill not being able to see that a car has come into their lane.

The solution will be to install an offset catch basin to catch the water at the low spot off the gutter line and run a pipe off of the road. Another basin will be installed across the road where there is another low spot. Farther down the road at Mrs. Wrights property there is a wet area that does not allow them to access the hayfield in certain conditions. John Ianni flagged a very small area of wetlands approximately 180 sq. feet; this is in the upland review area. Beyond the hay field bar way, there is an intermittent watercourse. The first 120' of 12" pipe will run along a rather flat area before getting to the 10% grade; 140' of pipe will then run to a rip rap plunge pool. For the Wright property a 12" pipe will be laid flat across the field access so the flow will not impede their access and cause ponding.

Mrs. Santoro has signed an agreement to have this work done as it encroaches on her property.

This work will mainly be addressing a storm water problem in a roadway to get the water off in an efficient manner. This will be a good improvement and is mindful of protecting the wetland. Silt fence will be installed.

Motion: Move that the Inland Wetlands Agency approve application #18-34W – Applicant: Town of Coventry, Agent Mark Kiefer, Director of Public Works; Activity: Stormwater infrastructure to alleviate ponding on northbound travel lane in the vicinity of 237 Wrights Mill Road.

By: Briggs

Seconded: Laramée

Discussion: Staff will stake out the area and will be there during the work. This is an important effort for many areas nearby and is protective of the wetlands.

Voting:

For: Mathieu, Briggs, Laramée

Against: None

Abstain: Briggs

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Acceptance of New Applications

None

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A. December 19, 2018

Motion: Move that the Inland Wetlands Agency approves the minutes of the December 19, 2018 meeting.

By: Briggs

Seconded: Laramee

Voting:

For: Mathieu, Briggs, Laramee

Against: None

Abstain: None

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Inland Wetlands Regulations Updates

A review of the changes was made by Staff and the Agency. Staff will submit an application for regulation changes at the next meeting. The IWA will accept it and then it will go to a public hearing at the March meeting.

Ken Slater, the Town Attorney, is a wetlands expert made these changes which reflect the updated statutes changes from 2007 to 2019. The following changes generated some questions from IWA and Staff that will be asked of Slater for clarification.

- Definitions t - question about the removal of some language.
- Section 4, b - Staff does not understand what this is to mean.
- Section 6.2 – ask about this addition. Clarify what this section is referring to.
- Section 9.3 – ask for clarification.
- Section 11.6 - IWA permits are obtained first; follows the PZC time frames.
- Section 14.1 - should have been in the regulations all along
- Staff will speak to Slater about the language regarding fines.
- Update the last page with the new member's names.

Mathieu suggested it may be a good practice to have the Town Attorney review the state statute changes yearly and update the Town's regulations as necessary.

CT Water company is going to be replacing the antiquated water pipes in the Northfield subdivision. The main runs from Shady Lane to Brookside Lane. Staff met with them today and asked for a construction sequencing plan to review. Under section 4.1.d this allowed as of right. Staff has an email from Ken Slater confirmed this to be true. The mains are part of the distribution and withdrawal functions of the utility. The main has asbestos which is slowly infilling itself. There are frequent breaks in the pipes causing the roads to be all patched up. Three miles of main will be replaced. This work will be done in 2019. The Town will repave all of the roads and replace the deteriorating catch basins that have been in place since the 1960s in 2020.

The contractor for the fire department did the work on the pond in front of CNHMS. He

excavated for two hours and mounded and packed the material removed. Excavated for 2 hours.

8. CORRESPONDENCE:

None

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Mathieu adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Yvonne B. Filip

Yvonne B. Filip, IWA Clerk

PLEASE NOTE: The minutes are not official until approved by the Inland Wetland Agency at the next Agency meeting. Please see the next Agency meeting minutes for approval or changes to these minutes.