

# TILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

November 15, 2021

## MINUTES

Members present: Chuck Mitchell, Chair; Helen Hanks; Bob Hardy; Jim Cropsey; Paul Rushlow; Jon Scanlon; and Kathi Mitchell

Guest: Spencer Tate, Meridian Land Services

### Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:01 p.m.

1. **Spencer Tate** - Silver Lake Road R 10 Lot 34 Brad/Vicki Ewens - The applicants propose to subdivide their 6-acre property into two lots. They have filed a dredge and fill permit with NH DES (File #2021-03314) to cross a wetland to gain access to the proposed second lot. The crossing will contain a 24" HDPE culvert embedded six inches with headwalls and 2:1 fill slopes. There were a number of questions and concerns about whether the applicant needs a driveway access permit from the State since this is a State road and the current driveway is being altered. The type of planning road material is not known at this time. Gravel vs. asphalt could create different issues which would need to be dealt with, namely sedimentation and runoff. The members asked where snow would be placed as the driveway was plowed. It cannot be placed in the wetlands. There was a discussion about the described seasonal wetlands and the amount of water seen on the entire property currently. There will be 1628 sf of permanent disturbance and 568 sf of temporary disturbance. Silt fencing and erosion controls will be in place while the work is being performed. There was a question about soil borings, and Mr. Tate said there is sandy material below the wet soils. The commissioners noted that there will be erosion concerns once the new house is built. There were questions about culvert maintenance, but it appears that is not planned. The commission suggested a detention pond would be a solution to several of the issues. The plan is to stockpile removed soil onsite which will be seeded and stabilized within three days.
2. **Minutes** – The October minutes were reviewed. Helen made a **motion** to approve the minutes and Bob seconded the motion. All were in favor.
3. **Old Business:**
  - a) **Loon Project** – This will be discussed next month.
4. **New Business:**
  - a) **Joint meeting of Planning Board and ZBA** – TCC members were invited to attend and to offer input regarding possible zoning amendments.
5. **Correspondence:**
  - a) **NH DOT File #2021-02122** 528 Laconia Road Restoration Plan – Commission members took pictures from Laconia Road showing extensive bulldozer work which appears to have increased the size of the property as well as the height. There were heavy ruts and signs of soil erosion after heavy rains. There was no Restoration Plan Approval document posted on site. There were no siltation or erosion controls in

view. The property had not been seeded or mulched with three days of the work being completed. The accumulated pile of tires had not been removed. The secretary notified Jen Drosiak of NH DES who suggested that the TCC contact the owner. We also do not know who did the work on site. There was a question about whether the Town once owned apporportion of the property. The secretary will check.

- b) **NH DES File #2021-02889 Shoreland Permit** for 785 Laconia Road denied. Commissioners driving by have noticed that silt fencing and a piece of heavy equipment are in the front yard of the property in spite of the application being denied.
- c) **WWN email** was received thanking the TCC for their donation.

#### 6. Other:

- a) **WRTA Trail** – There continue to be questions about who is responsible for maintaining the trail in the three communities. Chuck has been in touch with the Tilton Town Administrator as well as WRTA members and there is no clear answer.
- b) **Trenching on School Street** – There is a lengthy trench underneath the power lines across from David Wadleigh’s home which is filled with water given that it is in a wetland. The chair will contact Eversource to see if they have information about this matter.
- c) **Comments** were prepared for the Planning Board and Mr. Tate regarding the proposed dredge and fill permit referenced in item #1. See below.
- d) **Trees** on Main Street

Helen made the **motion** to adjourn which was seconded by Chuck. All were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Mitchell, secretary

Comments from 6c above:

1. It would be wise to check with NH Department of Transportation before doing any work since this driveway will now be serving two distinct lots, to see if a special permit will be required whereas the driveway will come out onto a State road.
2. Not knowing what/how the proposed driveway crossing the wetlands will be designed, there is a concern that if the outer edges are sloped into the wetland, that sand etc. could run off into the wetlands during rain events.
3. Runoff and siltation are issues that should be addressed. If the back lot is logged, runoff coming down the hill will impact the wetlands and cause siltation issues in addition to any erosion from a non-paved driveway. The TCC strongly recommends that a retention pond be built as the base of the slope on the back lot to collect any sedimentation.
4. It is hoped that there will be some regular maintenance to assure that the HDPE pipe will not become clogged or inoperative.

4. Stockpiled topsoil taken from the driveway construction will need to have a sock (or other siltation means) to control runoff and sedimentation as soon as it is deposited and remain until the overseeding has stabilized the soil.
5. The applicant needs to be aware that they are not to push or cause snow from the driveway to be deposited into the wetlands.
6. If, and when, the proposed house is connected to the sewer line, the wetlands will need to be dug up and disturbed again, requiring an additional permit. It might be wise to put in a connecting pipe for the sewer at the same time that this project is being done.