

Minutes

Watertown Conservation Commission

Council Chambers

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

7:30p.m.

Conservation Commission Members Present: Pallotta McDermott, Martin, Fairbairn, Hammett, Taverna, Bering

Staff Present: Hayward

Members of the Public Present: See Sign-In Form

1. Public Hearing Continuance – NOI - Restoration of Watertown Landing, Galen Street at Charles River Road, DCR, Cecil Group Representative

The Cecil Group submitted site specifications and an erosion/shoreline stabilization plan. The stabilization plan is to be conducted in the manner of the ACOE work done at Squibnocket Park.

Pallotta McDermott remarked that the site specifications will be included in the OOC. Rick Corsi, DCR, and David O'Connor, Cecil Group, concurred.

Pallotta McDermott inquired as to the equipment that will be used for the stabilization. O'Connor responded that a backhoe/front-end loader would be used.

Taverna inquired if a turbidity boom will be placed. O'Connor responded that an individual with waders would complete the job.

Fairbairn questioned about the silt fence notes in the plan. O'Connor indicated that the plans had been updated.

Hammett inquired whether the specs would be included in the OOC. O'Connor affirmed that they would be included.

Fairbairn inquired how the "desire line" would be treated for walkers. He suggested pea stone gravel.

Corsi noted that there were no railings along the path. He felt that the heavily landscaped shoreline would ease the goose situation. Hammett inquired if this project was related to the Vegetation Management Plan. The CC felt that it was a separate issue.

The public portion of the hearing was closed by a unanimous vote.

2. Public Hearing Continuance – RDA – Rehabilitation of Pleasant Street, Town of Watertown, Bayside Engineering, Inc, representative.

Pallotta McDermott noted that it was important to discuss storm water issues before discussion on the actual rehabilitation of the road.

Hammett handed out copies of the following:

- *Watertown Phase II Storm water Management Plan,*
- *EPA Order and Watertown IDDE Plan,*
- *EPA Water Samplings 2003-2004 (all dry weather events).*

Hammett provided a summary of the information she has gathered and from what was put together since 2003 and the EPA enforcement.

Hammett noted that the presentation is about basic information and she would like additional information concerning illegal connections in the Pleasant Street area. She noted that CRWA conducted samplings at Sawins Pond Brook. She inquired about those samples.

Mee noted that a lot has been done. He felt that the storm water issue has brought the CC and DPW together. He noted that what was proposed for Pleasant Street is better than what exists. He informed that Watertown sweeps better than other towns. He added that the DPW had purchased air sweepers and Mud Vac that clean up particulates better than regular sweeps.

Mee informed that particle separators sizing and hydraulic loss would cause flooding around town. He felt that deep sumps with hoods would be an improvement over existing conditions.

He noted that fires were a concern and all water/erosion control measures are taken. Drains and catch basins were checked after the fire at Haartz-Mason and the water was clean entering the river.

He noted that particle separators are required for parking lots of over four cars. He'd like to have retention/master separators but he does not have enough room. He indicated that future plans to upgrade the system around town would be conducted as funding became available.

Bering requested that a copy of the final draft CC Ordinance be given to Mee for his comments. Mee suggested that the CC and DPW align together concerning storm water issues since they had the same concerns.

Mee noted that there are over 26 outfalls to the river in Watertown. EPA requires a top down investigative approach. The Town is presently reviewing its procedures and Sawins Pond is being looked at.

Pallotta McDermott inquired if they have identified the source of the fecal odor at Sawin Pond Brook. Mee responded that the DPW found a faulty manhole at UPS. The DPW has bought a boat to monitor from the river. Bicycles are used to inspect from the boardwalk. He noted that Arlington and Edwards Roads have residents that have connected sewers to the drains. Bering inquired if assistance could be provided to disconnect these individuals. Mee noted that they are trying to identify the residents.

Pallotta would like to meet regularly with the DPW to continue the dialogue. Mee concurred.

Hammett inquired if Pleasant Street drainage system could be fully inspected before construction.

Pallotta McDermott asked Hayward if he located the tree funding escrow account for Pleasant Street. Hayward was attempting to locate the account. Mee noted that he would work with Hayward under the *Public Tree Shade Act* for the planting.

Annie Clark, Trees for Watertown, informed that pictures were taken to identify where trees could be planted. While there was not a lot of space, she'd like to be part of a tree planting plan. She'd like to see more pervious sidewalks and parking lots required in Town. Mee responded that there is an ongoing discussion with businesses to increase green space. He noted that businesses are being looked at to store storm water underground so that it can recharge groundwater storage chambers.

Martin inquired if there are curb cuts being proposed. Mee responded that 22 feet curb cuts are being required by MassHighway.

Hammett was satisfied with the presentation. She inquired how long the Pleasant Street Master Plan would take. Hayward was not sure.

The motion to close the public portion of the hearing was unanimously approved.

Vote: Hammett moved that a negative determination be granted for the Rehabilitation of Pleasant Street RDA. Taverna seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Violation at Walker Pond

Angelo Paolini reported that he was unaware that he was so close to the pond. He approached UBS to rent the site since Belmont would not allow storage on any site due to insufficient space. Pallotta McDermott inquired when he would be removing the material. Paolini responded within 2-3 months. Pallotta McDermott inquired how he could guarantee that no one else will place material there. Paolini reported that there were a lot of people keeping an eye on the site including the Town DPW. Hammett wants to revisit the item in two months. Paolini requested three. Pallotta McDermott requested that Hayward keep the CC updated and that Paolini keep in touch with Hayward.

4. Old Business

Pallotta McDermott requested that Mee be placed on the agenda in June.

Hammett requested that the Ordinance be placed on the agenda.

5. OOC Restoration of Watertown Landing

Site specification documents are to be included in the OOC. 18a, b, c, d, e; 22; 23; 24; 26; 27; 30; 31; 33; 35; 36; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41a, b, c, g.

6. RDA Rehabilitation of Pleasant Street

Special Conditions: Hoods will be placed on all catch basins.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm