

**INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of October 10, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.**  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center  
3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT

**These Minutes are subject to Approval by the Inland Wetlands Commission**

**Present:** Sharon Salling, Mike McCabe, Vanessa Villamil, Kristen Hammar, Suzanne Guidera, Craig Ferris

**Absent:** John Davin

**Staff Present:** Steve Maguire, Senior Land Use Enforcement Officer, Dawn Fried, Clerk

Ms. Salling opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Application #18-22 by Planters Choice LLC**, property located at 140, 153, 155 Huntingtown Road and 23 Meadowbrook Road, for wetland mitigation and stormwater improvements to correct an Inland Wetland Violation.

Mr. McCabe read the public notice in to the record. Ms. Salling welcomed the public and stated the Public Hearing process.

Darryl Newman represented Planters Choice, LLC. Mr. Newman gave an overview of the proposed improvements and remediation plan.

The basic overview is to control the stormwater to meet the CT DEEP standards, slow down the velocity of the water, reduce erosion, treat sediment and nutrients, put clean water back into the watershed and improve water quality.

Mr. Newman stated he had the assistance of Mike Riordan, Riordan Surveying, Abigail Adams, professional landscape architect, Brian Baker, professional civil engineer and Jim McManus, professional soil scientist, JMM Wetland Consulting Services, LLC, all of whom helped develop the plans but could not be present this evening.

Mr. Newman presented each individual site plan to the Commission. The following details of the plans have been proposed: creation of several riprap drainage swales, bio-swales, detention basins and improved grading on the site.

#### Site Plan - 140 Huntingtown Road

Mr. Newman discussed the pond that has been there since 1939. Everything pitches to the settling pond which recaptures the water. The depth of the pond has been increased from 2 feet to 3 feet to meet CT DEEP standards. A drainage pipe will be added to slow down the velocity of water to the pond. The smaller water shed will send water into a swale. The areas will be vegetated as required. A catch basin with a 24-inch pipe is proposed off of the neighbor's property off of Huntingtown Road.

#### Site Plan - 153 Huntingtown Road

Mr. Newman stated Planters Choice inadvertently filled in wetlands so they are proposing a 2-to-1 replacement of the wetlands. There will be 4,150 sq. ft. of wetland area which will be maintained twice a year with wetland seed mix.

#### Site Plan - 23 Meadowbrook Road

A flat area created for plant storage will be stabilized with an erosion control mix and/or hydroseeding. The stonewall serves as the wetland delineation and the slope will be hydro seeded. There is a riprap swale that goes directly into the wetland.

Mr. Ferris stated fill has been pushed into the wetlands in a number of places. He questioned whether the material will be removed from the wetlands. Mr. Ferris stated the first step to a mitigation plan should be removal of the material from the wetlands rather than create another wetland.

Mr. Newman stated that moving the material is not a great effort and he would be happy to do so. Mr. Ferris stated it would be up to a soil scientist to determine the upland area.

Mr. Ferris questioned whether there were calculations or a report that has been submitted. Mr. Newman stated yes a report was done and will be submitted.

Mr. Ferris questioned the following:

- whether there were calculations regarding nutrient removal.
- whether nitrates are being added to the stream.
- whether retention times have been calculated
- whether there was monitoring of outflows

Mr. Newman stated he will monitor the outflow of nitrates over the summer when the nitrates are most volatile. Mr. Ferris would like to see a monitoring plan.

Ms. Salling would like to see the data from the experts.

Mr. McCabe stated he would like to see a map of the delineation of the wetlands. Mr. Newman stated the maps are printed in color and he thought the Commission had copies. Mr. Newman will make sure the Commission receives the wetland delineation maps.

Mr. McCabe questioned whether there will be any more remediation done of the largest flat area of Meadowbrook? Will there be any managing of the slopes or stabilization of the run-off areas?

Mr. Newman stated the run-off is northeast. The stone swale captures the watersheds of the upper areas. Check dams will be added to the front area to slow the water down. Mr. McCabe would like a

presentation of the check dams at the next meeting. Mr. McCabe would also like an engineer's assessment regarding any additional silting and run-off of the Meadowbrook area.

Mr. Maguire stated that sediment has settled in to the wetland area near the mulch pile along the road. Mr. Newman would be happy to look at the area. That area wasn't addressed in the reports.

Mr. McCabe questioned whether the run-off will flow directly into the riprap drainage swale on 153 Huntingtown Road.

Ms. Guidera questioned if these mitigation plans addressed all of the violations.

Mr. Maguire had the following questions:

1. What is the plan for the two outlets behind the pond. Mr. Newman stated it will travel through the stormwater treatment and will flow into the larger sediment pond. The discharge will be eliminated.
  2. Would like calculations of nutrient removal and sediment removal.
  3. Pesticide use? Concerns of run-off from pesticides. Mr. Newman said they use safe chemistry and they take it very seriously. Mr. Newman stated there are no issues.
  4. Where are the original wetland boundaries? Would like to hear from Mr. McManus.
- Mr. Newman is happy to comply and will request additional data.

Ms. Guidera and Mr. Ferris are concerned with Mr. McManus's report. Will the original wetlands be restored? Mr. Newman would like to mediate the wetlands as soon as possible.

Ms. Guidera would like Mr. McManus to be present at the next meeting.

Ms. Salling questioned whether the area will be monitored. Mr. Newman will monitor indefinitely twice a year in June and September. Ms. Salling requested a plan for monitoring.

Mr. McCabe noticed white drainage pipes coming from the pond on 140 Huntingtown Road and questioned where the water was draining.

Mr. Ferris asked if the water is used for irrigation. Mr. Newman stated they do not pull water from the streams but use the wells and they recycle fifty percent of the water.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Lisa Goosman, 15 Meadow Brook Road stated Planters Choice waters every day. Is the sediment going into the wetlands?

Norm Cephrey, 20 Meadow Brook Road stated that the wetlands and swamp are dried up.

Ted Makuch, 222 Brushy Hill Road questioned whether water sampling for drinking water has been done. Mr. Maguire stated that it is not IWC's purview.

Brian Fisherman questioned whether notices will be sent out? Mr. Maguire stated everyone should have received abutter notices. Mr. Maguire asked for a show of hands. No one in the audience received a notice. Mr. Maguire will look in to this matter.

**It is recommended that the Public Hearing be continued to allow time for the applicant to submit the documents requested by the Commission. The next Public Hearing is scheduled for October 24, 2018 at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT.**

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES for September 26, 2018**

Ms. Hammar moved to accept the minutes from September 26, 2018. Mr. McCabe seconded. All in favor. Mr. Ferris abstained. The minutes from September 26, 2018 were approved.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Salling gave a brief overview of the IWC Special Meeting on October 10, 2018 regarding the Water Pollution Control Plan. Ms. Salling stated Mr. Hurley's explanation for the revision was to remove the "priority matrix..." table and replace with a more general "Policies and Objectives" section. Mr. McCabe recommended adding a paragraph (back in) that was removed from the original WSA plan.

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS**

**Application IW #18-23 by Daniel Furphy**, property located at 28 Bridge End Farm, for ramp access on waterfront property for jet skis.

**Application IW #18-24 (MOD 16-20) by Sunrise Church Hill Road, LLC. Matt D'Amico**, property located at 73 & 74 Church Hill Road to construct a 12,237 sq. ft. building with associated parking, drainage and utilities.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no additional business, Mr. Ferris moved to adjourn. Ms. Villamil seconded. All in favor. The meeting of October 10, 2018 was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted, Dawn Fried.*