

**INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

July 12, 2023 @ 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, Scott Jackson, Mike McCabe, Kendall Horch, Suzanne Guidera, Craig Ferris

Staff Present: Kiana Maisonet, Land Use Enforcement Officer, Dawn Fried, Clerk

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

PENDING APPLICATION

IW Application #23-15 by Debbie Malin, property located at 219 Hattertown Road, for a pond dredging.

Ms. Malin stated there are two ponds on either side of the driveway. Ms. Salling stated the Commissioners have visited the site.

Ms. Maisonet asked whether a contractor has been hired. Ms. Malin stated no, they have interviewed one contractor but would like a second opinion.

Ms. Maisonet asked whether there was an excavation plan or dewatering plan. Ms. Malin stated the contractor will have those plans.

Ms. Maisonet asked whether there was wildlife in the ponds and if there was a plan to relocate them. Ms. Malin stated yes, there are turtles, frogs and small catfish. Ms. Malin asked the Commission their advice on the matter of relocation.

The following suggestions were made:

- Ms. Salling suggested using the DEEP website as a resource.
- Mr. Ferris suggested putting the fish in a cooler with oxygenation.
- Joel Malin suggested a kid's pool with pump.
- Mr. Ferris suggested doing one pond at a time. Ms. Malin liked that idea.

Mr. Malin stated they will begin the project when the water table is low, either this August or next August.

Mr. Ferris asked where the spoils will be placed. Ms. Malin stated the spoils will be leveled out on top of the hill.

Mr. Jackson asked whether the disturbed lawn area will go back to a lawn. Ms. Malin stated yes, she wants the lawn to remain a lawn and the wooded area to fill back in.

Ms. Horch asked if erosion controls will be in place. Mr. Malin responded yes, whatever is needed.

Ms. Salling asked the Commission how they felt about voting on the application without a contractor's plan in place. Ms. Salling appreciated that the applicant has good intentions but they would like something more definitive. The Commission agreed that conditions will be added to the approval to ensure the correct process is enforced.

With no further discussion, Mr. McCabe moved to APPROVE Application IW #23-15 by Debbie Malin, property located at 219 Hattertown Road, with standard conditions A, B, C, D, E, F, O and P with the following additional conditions to be reviewed and approved by the Land Use Staff: Contractor's plan for excavation, dewatering, erosion controls, spoils placement, replanting of vegetation, handling of native species.

The approved plans are: "Hattertown Road", June 28, 2023 and all supporting documents. Mr. Ferris seconded. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of June 28, 2023

The Commission found no substantive errors. Ms. Horch moved to accept the minutes from June 28, 2023. Mr. Jackson seconded. All in favor. Ms. Guidera and Mr. Ferris abstained. The minutes from June 28, 2023 were approved.

ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION

IW Application #23-16 by Selmani Properties, LLC , property located at 91 South Main Street, for the remediation and mitigation of wetlands.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Commission spoke about modifying the IW regulations and agreed the best time to have discussions would be the fall. Ms. Kendall offered to research other towns' regulations. Ms. Maisonet will look into some dates.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business, Ms. Horch moved to adjourn. Mr. Jackson seconded. All in favor. The IWC Meeting of July 12, 2023 was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn Fried