

**INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
**Special Meeting of December 12, 2019 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, Craig Ferris, Kendall Horch

**Staff Present:** Steve Hnatuk, Land Use Officer, Dawn Fried, Clerk

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

**PENDING APPLICATION**

**Application IW #18-25 (MOD)**, Planters' Choice LLC, 153/155 Huntingtown Road to modify the original permit to treat water in upland area at 155 Huntingtown Road and create additional wetlands at 153 Huntingtown Road to comply with Army Corps requirements.

Darryl Newman, Planters' Choice, LLC, 140, 153 & 155 Huntingtown Road gave an overview of the revised mitigation plan and presented a site map to the Commission. Mr. Newman described the creation of a new wetland, which he also referred to as a wet meadow, rather than restore the existing wetland on 153 Huntingtown Road which was recommended by the Army Corps.

Mr. Newman explained that the proposed plunge pool was slightly moved to the northwest to capture water in the upland area and will pitch away from the watercourse. It will continue to handle the same volume of water.

Mr. Newman described a proposed bridge that will crossover the watercourse. There will be concrete blocks on each side of the bridge that are buried 12 inches in the ground with 6 inches exposed. The blocks on each end will hold the I-beams in place and the I-beams will be flush with the ground. The bridge should hold up to 10,000 pounds which is more than adequate for a 2,000 pound farm tractor. Ms. Horch questioned if the bridge will have a ramp. Mr. Newman stated it will be a 3 to 1 slope with an easy incline and easy access. The material will be made of 6 inch (and smaller) gravel which is angular and locks together. The goal of the bridge is to not disturb the watercourse underneath.

Mr. Ferris asked Mr. Newman to explain "Area 4" which is the watercourse that flows into the Pootatuck River. Mr. Newman stated the area will be treated with check dams and vegetation and dries up in the summer.

Ms. Salling stated that she saw significant progress on the mitigation and is in favor of daylighting, the check dams and vegetation that were recommended by the Army Corps.

With no further questions Mr. McCabe moved to APPROVE Application IW #18-25 (MOD), Planters' Choice LLC, 153/155 Huntingtown Road to modify the original permit to treat water in upland area at 155 Huntingtown Road and create additional wetlands at 153 Huntingtown Road to comply with Army Corps requirements with standard conditions A, B, C, D, E, F, L, O and P.

Additionally, condition of approval:

Planters Choice Nursery shall not cross the stream in Area #2 with vehicles until it has been spanned by a bridge. Said bridge plan details will need to be submitted to and approved by the Land Use Agency within 90 days of this approval. The bridge description in these minutes will be noted.

The approved plans are: Mitigation Plan for 140, 153 and 155 Huntingtown Road, prepared by A2 Land Consulting, LLC, prepared for Newman Holdings, LLC. Dated Revised September 25, 2019. And all supporting documents, specifically JMM Wetland Consulting Services Report Dated October 29, 2019. Mr. Ferris seconded. All in favor.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES for the Special Meeting of November 25, 2019**

Mr. Ferris moved to accept the minutes from November 25, 2019. Mr. McCabe seconded. Ms. Horch abstained. The remaining Commissioners were in favor. The minutes from November 25, 2019 were approved.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Salling spoke briefly about the Commission's discussion at the last IWC meeting regarding third party reviews. Ms. Salling would like to add this topic to the next IWC agenda.

Ms. Salling spoke about the process for nominating new officers for the Inland Wetland Commission for the new year. She would like the Commissioners to email her if interested in becoming an officer. The names will be added to the nominating slate which will be voted on at the next IWC meeting by the nominating committee.

Ms. Salling reminded the Commissioners to renew their term if needed.

Ms. Salling announced the resignation of Vanessa Villamil. Ms. Salling thanked Ms. Villamil for her service and stated that Ms. Villamil's interest in the IWC was most welcome.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no additional business, Mr. Ferris moved to adjourn. Ms. Horch seconded. All in favor. The meeting of December 12, 2019 was adjourned at 7:59 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted, Dawn Fried.*