

# WINDHAM INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION

**Minutes for Thursday, May 8, 2014**

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Members present were Joseph Marsalisi, Joseph Wagner, Helmut Traichel, and Katherine Eves. Also present - James Finger, Wetlands Agent and guests: Richard Mihok, Civil Engineer, and Mr. and Mrs. Cusumano, property owners.

**The Golf Club At Windham – 184 Club Road, Windham** seeking Wetlands permit to expand or clean out existing ponds, and to expand one fairway that is classified as a wetland area.

Civil engineer Richard Mihok and property owners Mr. and Mrs. Cusumano came before the commission to present the plans to clean and expand two of the three ponds on The Golf Course At Windham. The third pond would be cleaned of silt and a liner installed. The property owners would also like to install new wells on the property to lessen their demand on Willimantic Water Works. They are also seeking to continue with general maintenance over time.

Chairman Traichel asked for more information on the planned expansion. Mr. Mihok presented another map that showed the plans to extend the fairway near the cemetery.

Mr. Cusumano reported that the goal of this plan is to improve the property and save money for the Golf Club. Mrs. Cusumano stated that the proposed work is meant to improve the property for golfers and the town as a whole.

Mr. Finger commented that the phragmites mentioned earlier in the conversation are an invasive species and he would recommend that material be separated from any soil that would be returned to the pond - and not placed anywhere else on the property as fill in an effort to control the prolific growing plant. Mr. Finger would also like to see a Functions Value Report from the soil scientist who has flagged the property, as well as a plan for de-watering the ponds. Mr. Finger also requested a list of plants that will be used in the improvements of the ponds.

Commissioner Eves stated that while she feels the planned cleaning and expansion of the ponds is a good idea, she is concerned about the aquatic life in the ponds and would like to be assured that it will be protected during the process.

Mr. Finger reminded the commission that it is necessary that they make determination on whether or not the plan would have a substantial impact, and thus require a public hearing.

Commissioner Eves made a motion that the commission finds that this application does not propose a substantial impact to wetlands. Commissioner Traichel seconded the motion, and all voted unanimously in favor.

**Other Business** In other business as Wetland Agent, Mr. Finger reported on projects he approved as follows:

- Installation of a blind for bird and wildlife viewing, at Lake Marie on Back Road in Windham.
- Forestry harvest operations at 421 No. Windham Road, near the North Windham School.
- Forestry harvest operations at 64 Jordan Lane, Windham
- New house lot at 558 Jerusalem Road, Windham

**Routine Business**

Miscellaneous- Mr. Finger drew commissioner's attention to the hand-out regarding inland/wetland training. He explained that he had a voucher for one person to attend the course but funding would have to be found for others to attend. However, he added that he also had DVD's available. Commissioner Wagner said he wanted to take advantage of the live presentation, and others expressed interest in the DVD. Commissioner Eves said she was interested in looking at the DVD's.

**Correspondence** – Mr. Finger reported the following:

- An invitation from Camp Horizon's to an event at their new dining hall at 127 Babcock Hill Road. The event is scheduled for June 6, 2014, with an RSVP date of 5/15/14, and featuring music, refreshments, and surprises.
- Notice from the State of CT regarding CL&P's Certificate of Environmental Impact, regarding their Interstate Reliability project. While the project is region-wide, it has little impact on Windham.
- Notice of approval from CT-DOT for statewide drainage maintenance of rail facilities.
- And, notice of environmental clean-up of contaminated soil at 7 Storrs Road, Mansfield - the former Mobil Station near Foster Drive.

**Approval of Minutes** – Minutes of the September 12, 2013 meeting were distributed with the agenda - but, since they have already been filed, no vote was necessary.

Commissioner Eves made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Traichel seconded the motion; all voted in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Laukaitis for James Finger, Inland Wetland Agent