

Town House
625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036
Phone 413-566-2151 Ext. 110
Fax: 413-566-3513
E-mail: conservation@HampdenMA.Gov
Bonnie Geromini, Conservation Agent

TOWN OF HAMPDEN MASSACHUSETTS



Conservation Commission
Judy McKinley Brewer, Chair
Ted Zebert, Co-Chair
Andrew Netherwood
John Cushman
Thom Page
Greg D'Agostino

Cindi Connors, Assoc. Member

Hampden Conservation Commission Regular meeting and Public Hearing April 20, 2022

Meeting called to order: 4/20/2022 @ 6:10pm

All members present

Agenda Items:

1. Request for Determination – 20 St. Germain Rd. The property owner is proposing an approximate 200 sq. ft. addition to his existing home. There will be no change to the house footprint. Andrew made a motion to issue a Negative Determination #2. The work described in the Request is within an area subject to protection under the Act, but will not remove, fill, dredge or alter that area. Therefore, said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent. For extra precaution, haybales will be installed along the bank of the brook during construction. This was seconded by Thom. All voted in favor.
2. Request for Determination – South Rd. pole project. Mass. Electric Company filed a Request for reconductoring and rebuilding poles on South Road. The proposed project consists of replacing 26 existing utility poles and installing 16 mid span utility poles within the public right-of-way of South Road. Seven of the midspan poles and two anchors will be installed within jurisdictional wetland resource areas. Four trees will need to be removed within the Riverfront Area. The commission asked if the 35 inch Linden tree could be saved. If not, the company will replace with another Linden to be planted away from the line of work. MECO is consulting with NHESP to confirm coverage under the OMP. Andrew recommended that all excess soil around the new poles be removed from the site until needed. It was suggested to get permission to store the soil at the Landfill. Andrew made a motion to issue a negative 3 Determination. Seconded by Greg. All in favor.
3. Continuation of 530 Glendale Rd. – Zero Point Energy. The commission is in the process of reviewing the Tighe and Bond peer review contract by Melissa Coady. The company owner Rory Walker has signed our consultant contract and deposited the requisite consultant fee with the town treasurer. A resident brought up the question of the state registrations of the entities involved in the solar proposal. She was unable to confirm the registrations regarding “Glendale Road Development, LLC and Zero Point Energy Consultants LLC. The commission reviewed Tighe and Bonds consultant contract, but agreed to consult with the town’s legal department regarding the LLC registration issues before proceeding. Questions were also asked about the owner of the parcels. The GIS mapping lists the owner as Stateline Property Management. In the ANRAD he is listed as Stateline Landscaping Inc., Stateline Property Management and Stateline Management LLC. This will also be looked into by the towns legal department. John made a motion to continue the hearing until May 18, 2022. Seconded by Thom. All in favor.

4. 308 Somers Rd. – Restoration Plan for wetland violations. Mike Mocko, Mr. Carabetta's wetland specialist presented the final restoration plan to the commission. The plan is to grade at 2:1 facing the Riverfront, provide 6 inches of loam, and use erosion control mats. Native planting is planned and the objective is to return the area to a forest. Significant additional area beyond the Riverfront will also be restored at the same time. This is the slope adjacent to the Riverfront. The remaining area of the past gravel removal will be restored to satisfy planning requirements. The gravel removal area will be graded, provided with a minimum of 4 inches loam, seeded with a native grass mix and protected with a hydro-seed mulch. The restoration will have a two year compliance monitoring at the end of both first and second year. The new owner will file a RDA with the commission for the restoration. Ted made a motion to accept the plans for the Restoration at 308 Somers Rd. John seconded. All in favor.
5. The turtle barriers on Mr. Conway's South Road property were discussed. Thom did a site visit and found the barriers needed to be re-established in some areas. Once that is done they need to be re-enforced with stock fence installed behind them so that they will stay in place. Andrew suggested sending a certified letter to Mr. Conway explaining this. The commission felt this was a good idea.
6. Also discussed was the report of cutting on Mountain Road. The commission will look into this.

With no further business Andrew made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 pm. Motion was seconded by John. All in favor

7.