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**TOWN OF HAMPDEN
MASSACHUSETTS**



Stormwater Committee
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Gary Weiner, Chair
Mark Langone
John Matthews
John Plaster
Andrew Netherwood
Dena Grochmal
Karl Sternberg

**Stormwater Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 5, 2019**

Approved on 2/20/20

Members Present: Gary Weiner, Mark Langone, John Matthew, John Plaster

Guests: Kristen Gumlaw, Nancy Zebert

Gary called the meeting called to order at 5:04. The meeting is being recorded.

First order of business is that Kristen will be writing the meeting minutes for the Committee.

The second order of business is discussing the Stormwater permit and who will be the designated agent. Gary asked Tighe and Bond to review the permit and to make changes to the fee schedule and to the time frame. They also need to list the estimated start and completion dates of the project. Emily from T&B made those changes and sent them back. Gary looked at the permit and would like to discuss some issues. First, there should be a place where the inspector can make comments if a small project doesn't require a permit. Also, the expected time frame of 21 days to review and issue a permit for a large project, a subdivision for example, doesn't seem feasible. Gary said that would be a major problem for a subdivision as generally it doesn't get through the process in 3 only weeks. The Stormwater agent would have to wait for both the planning board and conservation to review the application as well and so the estimated time of 3 weeks to issue a permit should be changed. Gary will talk to Tighe and Bond to rework the language on the permit.

Karl Sternberg arrived at 5:09

Karl submitted suggestions to the committee for bylaw changes. John Matthews asked if they were going to submit this to the Selectboard. Gary said he wasn't sure.

Andrew Netherwood arrived at 5:10.

John suggested that it would be a good idea to submit the bylaw to the Selectboard and ask for their comments before having to resubmit to Tighe & Bond. The committee still needs clarification as to who the designated enforcer is. Considering recommending that the building inspector can be responsible for smaller projects

while Tighe & Bond is responsible for major projects. Gary said the language in the bylaw needs to be cleaned up so that it shows that the building inspector will not be required to handle the technical aspects of the major projects.

There needs to be clarity in the bylaw about the stormwater permit and the appropriate boards who need to give the final approval. With planning and conservation both having a role in the permit, it moves the inspector away from having sole responsibility. The language in the bylaw needs to be changes to frame the building inspector's role as to what he will/will not have to be involved in.

The question was asked if someone has a forestry plan, do they also need a stormwater permit? No, the need for a stormwater permit is waived as there is a forestry and agriculture exemption.

An example that was presented was Thresher Road solar. This project has gone through a rigorous review to get approved and have completed a stormwater management plan and a SWIPP. This is to ensure the entrance road on Thresher doesn't get washed out with sediment. If it was, this would be considered a stormwater issue as well as planning. John said that at this point, the driveway is changing, and they will be at the next planning board meeting to see how they can make the changes according to the bylaw. Gary asked if stormwater or planning would be responsible and John said that Planning would hold them accountable if road washes out. This project is still waiting for approval.

Andrew also mentioned that the conservation commission cannot get involved in construction issues unless it involves the wetlands.

Debate ensued about the 21-day limit to approve a permit. The project needs to be approved in a timely matter in conjunction with approval from planning and conservation. A space should be added where the building inspector can make notes that the permit is approved while waiting for other supporting documents. The wording needs to be clearer and concise.

Karl reviewed the application and cleaned up some of the language. Gary said he would review it. This will be brought back for the next meeting. Gary will send an email to the selectmen about the revisions and are anticipating that they will attend a meeting to discuss it.

Mark mentioned there is an interim town administrator. Recommended that they go to him first who can then forward it to the selectmen.

Mark has been working with Tighe and Bond and will get the final report next week to review. Gary will then send the report to everyone for review. Will then got to selectmen to review and signed. The report has to be signed and filed by September 29. T&B are planning to start sampling the outfalls this month. Emily would like to do the review for the town buildings. She will get back to Mark to set up a day/time. This is part of the permitting stormwater management plan.

The committee has received a draft of the solar bylaw. The solar bylaw includes stormwater in a very general manner than any solar bylaw needs to comply with stormwater permitting. SC has looked at it and are ok with it.

Hazardous waste collection day will not be held this year. The cost is too much. Andrew thought that this topic could be used as an educational segment as many people aren't aware of where to bring their hazardous waste. Maybe even run an education segment on fertilizer.

Long term goal is to be ready by the spring with the stormwater bylaw and permitting and educational pieces.

John Matthews left at 6:02pm.

Next meeting will be on October 3. All in favor 5-0.

Gary moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:16. Karl 2nd. All in favor 5-0.

Submitted by Kristen Gumlaw