

**TOWN OF WILBRAHAM**  
240 Springfield Street  
Wilbraham, Massachusetts 01095  
(413) 596-2800, EXT. 204



**WILBRAHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Meeting Minutes from January 23, 2023**

**Members Present:** Acting Chairman; Stoughton Smead, William Meeker, Cathy Lawless and Robert McMaster

**Staff:** Melissa Graves

**7:00 PM Request for Determination of Applicability**

**Town of Wilbraham Department of Public Works**

**Project: Culvert Expansion adjacent to 185 Stony Hill Road**

**Present: Dena Grochmal, Wilbraham Engineering Assistant**

This Request for Determination has been filed by the Town of Wilbraham, Department of Public Works for Storm Drainage Improvements on Stony Hill Road. The work is limited to the area surrounding the existing culvert located on Stony Hill Road approximately 1,300 feet from Boston Road. The culvert would be extended 20' to the west and constructed to the end of the existing culvert. Straw wattles would be installed along the brook to prevent sediment from entering the brook. If required, water will be pumped from one side of the road to the other during grouting operations or directed by use of sand bags. The adjacent banks will be loamed and seeded with New England Wetlands vegetated mixed or approved equal.

**Motion:** William Meeker, issue a Positive #2 for the area, Positive #5 for the by-law and a Negative #3 for the Work proposed

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Robert McMaster

**In Favor:** Stoughton Smead, Cathy Lawless, William Meeker, and Robert McMaster

*Materials Referenced: WPA Form 1 – Request for Determination of Applicability with supporting Stormwater Drainage Repairs Plan dated 12-1-22 and WPA Form 2 – Determination of Applicability*

**Other Business**

**Request for Event on Public Property**

**Wilbraham Friends of Recreation**

The group is planning for the annual Falcon Trail Race at the McDonald Nature Preserve. The event is scheduled for Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. and will be a rain or shine event. It will be a ribbon marked trail of approximately (5K) 6.2 miles. They expect 100 preregistered participants. Proceeds will go to improvements at Wilbraham recreational facilities.

**Motion:** William Meeker, approve the event on April 16, 2023 for the Falcon Trail Race at McDonald Nature Preserve

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Cathy Lawless

**In Favor:** Stoughton Smead, Cathy Lawless, William Meeker, and Robert McMaster

**Other Business Continued**

**Request for Certificate of Compliance 5 Squire Drive**

The applicant has submitted all the required documents for the release of the Order of Conditions that was issued for the development of this parcel. The home is complete and the grading has been done.

**Motion:** William Meeker, issue the Certificate of Compliance for 5 Squire Drive with DEP File #341-0384

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Robert McMaster

**Unanimously in Favor:** Stoughton Smead, Cathy Lawless, William Meeker, and Robert McMaster

**Request for Certificate of Compliance 7 Surrey Lane**

This address was originally part of a subdivision in 1989 but was not closed out when complete by the developer. The current owner is in the process of selling the property and would like to close this file. After looking at the original site plan and the current plan on GIS, it appears to be in complete compliance with the original Order of Conditions.

**Motion:** William Meeker, issue the Certificate of Compliance for 7 Surrey Lane with DEP File #341-136

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Cathy Lawless

**Unanimously in Favor:** Stoughton Smead, Cathy Lawless, William Meeker, and Robert McMaster

**Emergency Certification 12 Mile Brook**

Chairman Christopher Brown signed an Emergency Certificate for the removal of several beavers that built a dam downstream from the 12 Mile Brook pedestrian bridge. The water was almost completely stopped and flooded that entire area around the bridge and the two trails leading to the bridge. As of this meeting, 6 beavers were removed from the area and the dam was dismantled to a point where the water could run freely. The level of the water has receded almost to the banks of the stream and there is muddy access to the bridge. The Open Space Committee is working on a plan to curb beaver activity in close proximity to the bridge.

**Motion:** William Meeker, ratify the Emergency Certificate for the removal of the beavers

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Robert McMaster

**Unanimously in Favor:** Stoughton Smead, Cathy Lawless, William Meeker, and Robert McMaster

**Discussion                    12 Mile Brook Beaver Assessment Project**

Members of Open Space Committee contacted Mike Callahan of Beaver Solutions LLC for a possible long-term solution to the beaver activity at 12 Mile Brook. An assessment can be completed in March at a cost of approximately \$300.

**Motion:** William Meeker, approve the \$300 from the Conservation Commission Professional Services Fund for the assessment of beaver solutions at 12 Mile Brook

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Cathy Lawless

**Unanimously in Favor:** Stoughton Smead, Cathy Lawless, William Meeker, and Robert McMaster

Having no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:00 P.M.

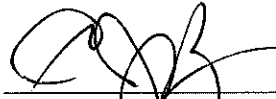
Submitted:

Approved As To Form And Content:



Melissa Graves, Administrative Assistant

Date: 2/27/23



Christopher Brown, Chairman

Date: 2/27/23