

**EARTH REMOVAL STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017, 7:00 PM
MINUTES**

Chairman Edward Perkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall.

Members present: Perkins, Delaney, McHugh, and Hanninen

Member absent: Capes

PUBLIC HEARING – NJLJ PROPERTIES, INC., 788 BOSTON ROAD

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 198 of the Code of Groton, the Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee held a public hearing to consider the application submitted by NJLJ Properties, LLC, for a Full Stormwater Management Permit for construction of four (4) commercial buildings with associated access, parking, utilities, and landscaping. The proposed project is shown on the plan entitled, "Commercial Development, 788 Boston Road, Groton, Massachusetts," prepared by GPR, Inc., dated April 4, 2017. The proposed project is located on Assessors' Map 133, Parcel 54, located on the westerly side of Boston Road and southerly side of Sandy Pond Road.

Chairman Perkins called the public hearing to order and read the notice published in the April 21, 2017 issue of the Groton Herald. Applicant Frank Hartnett of NJLJ Properties, Inc., design engineer Bruce Ringwall of GPR, Inc, and the Committee's consulting engineer Jared Gentellucci of Nitsch Engineering were present at the public hearing.

Mr. Ringwall described the previously approved plans for the site, located at the Four Corners. A variety of plans were submitted and approved since 2006. The current plan includes a medical office building, bank, coffee shop, and retail building. The site drops off approximately 30-35 ft in the rear of the property. Everything will drain toward the low point in the rear of the site. Soils are all sand and gravel. Tree box filters will be used to capture the first flush runoff to remove Total Suspended Solids (TSS). During heavy rains, runoff will flow to the catch basins, to the StormTec® chambers, and to the basin at the rear of the site. The medical office building will be constructed by January 2018. There is an isolated wetland in the rear of the site that will be replicated. The wetland is under the jurisdiction of the local by-law, Chapter 215 of the Code of the Town of Groton, but not subject to the State Wetlands Protection Act. The owner has an easement on the abutting National Grid property to discharge runoff at the rear of the site. A 23 ft high retaining wall will be constructed along the edge of the developed area. The project requires 27,000 cubic yards of fill. There will be a 2:1 slope along the access drive that will be constructed to maintain the stormwater system in this area.

Mr. Ringwall described the erosion and sedimentation control plan including entrance ramps on Boston Road and Sandy Pond Road as described in the details and notes on the plan. Silt sacks will be installed in the catch basins. Turf reinforcement will be used on the slopes.

Mr. Gentellucci presented his report dated April 27, 2017. He said he received GPR's response dated May 2, 2017 which addressed all the outstanding issues.

Mr. Ringwall said the GPR letter dated May 2, 2017 also requested a waiver of Section 352-19 to disturb more than two (2) acres because the site was previously disturbed. Additionally, the sewer contractor will use the site as a staging area for a few months.

Member Delaney asked about snow storage areas. Mr. Ringwall said they would be delineated on the plan and no snow banks will be greater than three (3) ft high.

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Member McHugh asked about the tree box filters. Mr. Ringwall pointed out the details on the landscaping plan. He said the tree boxes will have shrubs rather than trees. The purchase of the tree boxes includes a maintenance program.

Member McHugh asked about the retaining wall. Mr. Ringwall said wall will be designed by others and will be stamped by a Registered Structural Engineer as required in the Building Code.

Member Hanninen asked about the entrances to the site. Mr. Ringwall said the applicant is re-applying to MassDOT for a curb cut permit on Boston Road.

Chairman Perkins noted that the construction entrances should be 50 ft rather than 30 ft. He asked if the 1:1 slope in the rear would be hazardous for children. Mr. Ringwall said the slope abuts National Grid's land that is fully wooded.

Stormwater Inspector Michelle Collette asked about the quality of the 27,000 cubic yards of fill because this area is in the Water Resource Protection District. Mr. Ringwall said there would be no rebar, no organics, and no unsuitable material contained in the fill. Member Hanninen said he did not have a problem with concrete, but he did have concerns about other construction materials.

Mr. Ringwall said he is meeting with the Planning Board on May 4 and May 18, 2017 and with the Conservation Commission on May 9, 2017. He requested a continuation of the public hearing until June 6, 2017.

Mr. Ringwall said he is going to ask the Planning Board to allow construction to begin as soon as the Stormwater Permit is granted. It will take time to complete the site grading and earth moving prior to issuance of a building permit.

The Committee voted unanimously to continue the public hearing on June 6, 2017.

PUBLIC HEARING – PETER BENEDICT, 164 MAIN STREET

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 198 of the Code of Groton, the Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee will hold a public hearing to consider the application for a Limited Stormwater Management Permit submitted by Gina Perini for construction of an addition to an existing house, landscape improvements, walks, patio, swimming pool, and a detention basin as shown on the plan entitled, "Site Plan, Peter Benedict, 164 Main Street, Groton, MA," prepared by David E. Ross Associates, Inc., dated March 27, 2017. The proposed lot development will be located on Assessors' Map 113, Parcel 4, on the easterly side of Main Street.

Chairman Perkins called the public hearing to order and read the notice published in the April 21, 2017 issue of the Groton Herald. Applicant Peter Benedict and design engineer Robert Oliva of David Ross Associates were present at the public hearing.

Mr. Oliva described the proposed project to construct an addition to the house at 164 Main Street and to correct drainage problems in the back yard. He said a pump and drainage system will be used to pump water from a low area to a shallow basin in the rear of the site. The soils do not drain well and the proposed remedy will protect the investment in the house. The Conservation Commission approved the plan for work in the buffer zone and riverfront area.

Chairman Perkins asked if there is flooding in the yard. Mr. Oliva said there is flooding in the low spot and basement. The project will drain the low spot to solve the problem.

Member Hanninen expressed concerns about the pump chamber under the driveway. He asked if it could be moved away from trucks. Mr. Oliva and Member Delaney agreed that the H2O loading capacity should not be a problem.

The Committee voted to close the public hearing.

The motion was made by Hanninen, seconded by Delaney, to grant the Limited Stormwater Management Permit with the following findings and conditions:

Finding of Significance

The Earth Removal Advisory Committee determined that the proposed project is significant to the interests stated in Chapter 198, Section 1 Purposes, including:

It has been determined that proper management of construction sites and post-development stormwater runoff will prevent damage to public and private property and infrastructure, safeguard the public health, safety, environment and general welfare, protect water and aquatic resources, promote groundwater recharge to protect surface and groundwater drinking supplies, and encourage the appropriate use of the land throughout the Town.

Special conditions:

1. Construction shall be done in accordance with the above-referenced plans.
2. The existing driveway shall be used as a construction. Crushed stone shall be installed at the entrance as needed to prevent tracking sediment on the public way.
3. All work shall be done in compliance with the "Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection - Stormwater Management, Volume One: Stormwater Policy Handbook, and Volume Two: Stormwater Technical Handbook," dated February 2008.
4. It is the applicant's responsibility to prevent the products of erosion and sedimentation from reaching Main Street and causing a safety hazard on the public way. There shall be no net increase in runoff or erosion to the public ways, the municipal storm drain system, or abutting properties.
5. Work shall not go beyond the limits of disturbance shown on the above-referenced plan. The stakes shall be maintained throughout construction to prevent any disturbance to the vegetation or topography beyond the limits of disturbance.
6. All disturbed areas and stockpiles must be properly stabilized. A supply of erosion control materials shall be kept on site to stabilize disturbed areas.
7. The applicant shall take effective measures to control dust and windblown erosion at all times.
8. The applicant must submit any proposed change in the above referenced plans to the Earth Removal-Stormwater Advisory Committee for its review and approval before the change is implemented.

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9. The removal of any excess earth material from the site requires a Certificate of Exemption from the Earth Removal By-law, Chapter 134 of the Code of the Town of Groton. Chapter 134, Section 10 Exemptions.
10. The applicant is responsible for obtaining any other permits (including but not limited to) those required by the Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Building Inspector, DPW Director, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.
11. It is the applicant's responsibility to insure that the contents of this permit are made known to all contractors who perform work at this site.
12. It is the applicant's responsibility to contact Dig Safe prior to the commencement of any work at the site. . The applicant is responsible for obtaining a trench permit, if required by G.L. c. 82A §1 and 520 CMR 7.00 et seq (as amended).
13. The applicant will notify the Earth Removal Stormwater Inspector at least 48 hours prior to the commencement of construction.
14. If the project is not completed within two (2) years from the date the permit is issued, it is the responsibility of the applicant to request an extension. The Committee may grant extensions for additional time provided that the applicant submits a written request for renewal no later than 30 days prior to expiration of the permit.
15. This permit runs with the land and applies to any successor in interest or successor in control.

The motion passed unanimously.

STORMWATER INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Stormwater Inspector Michelle Collette reported that the Groton Inn and Indian Hill Music are in compliance with their Stormwater Permits. She described on-going concerns at 225 Pepperell Road where a large number of trees have been removed.

MINUTES

The Committee voted to approve the minutes of March 7, 2017 and March 21, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
Earth Removal Stormwater Inspector