

**EARTH REMOVAL STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2020, 7:00 PM
MINUTES**

Chairman Perkins called the virtual meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members present: Tom Delaney, Bob Hanninen, Eileen McHugh, and Ed Perkins

Member absent: George Barringer

COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION

The motion was made by Hanninen, seconded by Perkins, to elect Eileen McHugh as Chair. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote with Perkins, McHugh, Hanninen, and Delaney in favor.

MS4 ENTERPRISE FUND UPDATE

DPW Director/Member Delaney said he is working with Robert Rafferty of Environmental Partners to prepare a proposed budget for the Stormwater Management Enterprise Fund that was approved at the Spring Town Meeting on June 13, 2020. The Select Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 10, 2020, on the proposed budget and related assessment. The Committee will post a meeting to begin at 6 PM, prior to the Select Board meeting, and another to attend the public hearing at 7:15 PM.

MINUTES

The motion was made by Perkins, seconded by Delaney, to approve the July 7, 2020 minutes. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote with Perkins, McHugh, Hanninen, and Delaney in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING – CHESTNUT HILLS FARM, MARTINS POND ROAD & ORCHARD LANE

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 for a Full Stormwater Management Permit submitted by John Guinee, Chestnut Hills Farm, LLC, for the redevelopment of the site located off Orchard Lane. The construction will consist of a single-family home with an associated driveway, garage, pool and sewage disposal system as shown on the plan entitled, "Stormwater Permit Plan, Martins Pond Road, Groton, Massachusetts," prepared by Ducharme & Dillis Civil Design Group, dated July 13, 2020. The proposed construction is located on Assessors' Map 232 Parcel 30, on the easterly side of Orchard Lane and northerly side of Martins Pond Road.

Chairman McHugh called the public hearing to order by reading the notice published in the July 31, 2020 issue of the *Groton Herald*. Design Engineer Stan Dillis, of Ducharme and Dillis Civil Design Group, represented the applicant at the public hearing. Abutter Dean Luther and his attorney, Robert D'Auria, also participated.

Mr. Dillis presented the plan to construct a single-family house at the rear of the 191-acre site. The applicant plans to improve the existing gravel driveway. The driveway will remain gravel, but will be paved at the bottom of the hill at the intersection with Orchard Lane. Erosion control will be installed around the existing pond which will be enhanced to contain stormwater runoff. There is an easement held by the Groton Water Department and an Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) on the property. Both are delineated on the plan. The house will be located in a previously disturbed area of the site.

Several waivers are requested as outlined in the application. Waivers include peak control of runoff for the 100-year storm which meets State Stormwater Regulations, but not the Town's more-stringent regulations.

August 4, 2020

Page 2

Member Hanninen asked about the Operating and Maintenance plan for the driveway.

Mr. Dillis said it is included in the submission. He stated that there are existing drainage issues with Orchard Lane that must be addressed.

Mr. Dillis said there is no change in location of the curb cut on Orchard Lane. He said there is room to create a detention area at the driveway entrance.

Member Delaney said this is a proposed redevelopment of the site. The runoff is all sheet flow. He said a 10 ft paved apron for the driveway must be installed at the curb cut.

Chairwoman McHugh asked about the intersection with Orchard Lane. Mr. Dillis said they are relocating the intersection by about 10 ft so it will be out of the existing easement on the Staub property.

Chairwoman McHugh asked if the Committee should send the plan to Nitsch Engineering for review. All members said, "yes."

Abutter Dean Luther said there are problems with runoff on Orchard Lane today. There is impact from drainage on the catch basin on Degen's land. He said he is working with his attorney to resolve the problem. Mr. Luther also expressed concern about headlight glare and asked if the driveway could enter Orchard Lane at a 45° angle like it is now. He said the road is covered with black ice in the winter. He asked that the existing white oak trees remain because they act as a snow fence and prevent snow drifts across the road.

Mr. Dillis requested that he meet with Tom Delaney and Mr. Luther at the site to investigate solutions to these issues. Everyone agreed.

Abutter Bruce Easom asked if sand and salt would be used to prevent ice on the driveway. Member Delaney said the means and methods of deicing are the property owner's decision.

The motion was made by Hanninen, seconded by Perkins, to continue the public hearing on August 18, 2020 at 7:15 PM. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote with Perkins, Hanninen Delaney, and McHugh in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING – TRIO REALTY ESTATE GROUP, 340 LONGLEY 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 for a Full Stormwater Management Permit submitted by the Trio Real Estate Group, LLC, to construct a shared driveway serving three lots, demolish existing structures, construct three new houses, and sewage disposal systems as shown on the plan entitled, "Site Plan, Trio Real Estate Group, 340 Longley Road, Groton, MA," prepared by David Ross Associates, dated July 21, 2020. The proposed construction is located on Assessors' Map 226 Parcel 60, on the easterly side of Longley Road.

Chairwoman McHugh called the public hearing to order by reading the notice published in the July 31, 2020 issue of the *Groton Herald*. Landowner Corey Brook of the Trio Real Estate Group, design engineer Kevin Mark of David E. Ross Associates, and several abutters were present.

Mr. Mark presented the plan to create three new lots on a shared driveway. The existing buildings on the property will be demolished. Stormwater infiltration trenches and swales will be installed on the western portion of the site as described in the stormwater report.

Member Hanninen suggested sending the plan to Nitsch Engineering for review.

August 4, 2020

Page 3

Member Delaney said he did not believe it was necessary since this is an isolated area.

Member Perkins requested that the construction entrance be 50 ft as required. Mr. Mark said the plan shows 20 ft, but he will revise the plan.

Chairwoman McHugh asked how steep the driveway would be. Mr. Mark said it is flat at Longley Road with an 8% grade in the steepest location.

Chairwoman McHugh said there are no Low Impact Development (LID) features in the design. Mr. Mark said the infiltration trench will filter the first flush. He said he tried to design the plan to limit impact on the wetlands.

Chairwoman McHugh asked who would maintain the driveway and clean the crushed stone in the infiltration trenches. Mr. Brock said a homeowners' association with the three property owners and common driveway agreement would be created.

Abutter Deirdre Slavin Mitchell, 313 Longley Road, said the homeowners' responsibility must be clearly spelled out.

Abutter James Gmeiner said the homeowners' association responsibilities should be set forth in the permit. The Committee agreed.

Dan Wolfe of David Ross Associates joined the meeting. He said the Operation and Maintenance Plan is included in the Stormwater Management Report. There are no names at the present time, but they will be included in the common driveway agreement.

Chairwoman McHugh asked if the Planning Board is responsible for the homeowners' association and common driveway agreement. Stormwater Inspector Michelle Collette said the documents must be included in the special permit application for the shared driveway. However, they should also be referenced in the Stormwater Management Permit.

Chairwoman McHugh asked members about sending the plan to Nitsch Engineering for peer review. Member Delaney said he was not sure; other members said, "yes." Landowner Corey Brock objected to the peer review.

The motion was made by Hanninen, seconded by Perkins, to continue the public hearing on August 18, 2020 at 7:30 PM and to send the plan to Nitsch Engineering for review. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote with Perkins, Hanninen, Delaney, and McHugh in favor.

OLIVIA WAY PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee met with developer Peter Cricones and his attorney, Brian Levey, to discuss progress on installation of the remediation plan to correct drainage issues at Olivia Way in the Reedy Meadow Estates subdivision. The Committee asked Mr. Cricones to respond to its letter dated July 11, 2020 regarding a work schedule and information on construction of remedial measures.

August 4, 2020

Page 4

Attorney Levey explained the process before the Planning Board on the performance bond and definitive plan modification, as proposed by the Planning Board. He said Mr. Cricones has not been able to check off all the items in the Committee's July 11, 2020 letter, but he is willing to work with the Committee to get the project done.

Mr. Cricones said he lined up the contractor to do the work. The materials are available now, and work will begin in August. Design engineer Doug Lees is on vacation now but will be available to supervise the survey work next week.

Member Perkins asked who the contractor is. Mr. Cricones said JP Brown of Dracut is the contractor.

Member Perkins asked about the acquisition of materials. Mr. Cricones said they are working on it.

Member Hanninen asked Mr. Cricones to provide a written schedule to the Committee for its meeting on August 18, 2020. Mr. Cricones said he plans to start work before then and will work with his engineer.

Chairwoman McHugh said it is important to have and schedule and track progress with the Committee, the Town's consulting engineer, Conservation Commission, and Planning Board.

Many homeowners expressed concerns about having a schedule and being able to track benchmarks.

Chairwoman McHugh said there is no reason to wait until August 18, 2020 to begin work.

Member Perkins reminded Mr. Cricones that his engineer is required to submit a report to the Committee every two weeks during construction (see SW Permit 2019-04, Condition #30). Mr. Levey said there are no reports at the present time, but reports will be submitted every two weeks when work is begun.

The Committee will walk the site on Saturday, August 15, 2020 at 8 AM. Stormwater Inspector Michelle Collette will schedule a pre-construction site visit with Nitsch Engineering, the developer, the design engineer, and the contractor.

The Committee will discuss progress at its meeting on August 18, 2020.

The motion was made by Perkins, seconded by Delaney to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote with Perkins, Hanninen Delaney, and McHugh in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
Earth Removal Stormwater Inspector