

**EARTH REMOVAL STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024, 6:30 PM
MINUTES**

Member Hanninen called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Members present: Bruce Easom, Bob Hanninen, Tom Delaney, and George Barringer (late)

Member absent: Steven Savage

731 MARTINS POND ROAD

Jim Luening, abutter to 731 Martins Pond Road, requested an appointment to meet with the Committee regarding his concerns about runoff from the abutting property. Mr. Luening requested that the discussion be postponed to the meeting on February 6, 2024.

VILLAGE AT SHEPLEY HILL

The Committee discussed the slope stabilization issues at the Village at Shepley Hill subdivision. Developer Larry Smith and design engineer, Frank McPartlan of Dillis and Roy, were present.

Mr. McPartlan said the developer completed about half of the stabilization work to date. Geotechnical fabric and 12" - 24" crushed stone have been installed. Nitsch Engineering, the Committee's peer review engineer, has inspected the work done to date.

Member Easom noted that the detention basins must also be cleaned out. He also noted that the retaining walls at the stream crossing were not cantilevered as shown on the approved plan. Developer Larry Smith said their design engineer instructed them to build the walls straight up rather than cantilevered. Nitsch Engineering agreed, and the Town approved the field change.

Stormwater Inspector Michelle Collette said the Building Code requires that retaining walls greater than four feet be designed and plans stamped by a Structural Engineer. Such plans should have been reviewed and approved by the Planning Board. Mr. Smith said the Planning Board reviewed and approved the stamped plans.

GROTON SCHOOL POND

The Committee discussed the flooding that occurred on the Nashua River Rail Trail and Smith Street when a beaver dam burst at the Groton School Pond in the fall. Engineer Frank McPartlan represented Groton School at the meeting. The Committee received a letter dated December 15, 2023 in response to the Committee's letter dated December 14, 2023.

Member Hanninen asked if there were more than one beaver dam. Member Delaney said the other dam was on Malone's property. He said the Town has a drainage easement on Peter Cunningham's lot for a 100-year storm. The Town has no responsibility for the flooding caused by the beaver dams bursting at the Groton School Pond.

Mr. McPartlan said Dillis and Roy is evaluating the dam, with the assistance of a structural engineer, on behalf of Groton School. Groton School uses this area as an ecological classroom and may want to rebuild the dam.

FLORENCE ROCHE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Committee received an email message dated December 18, 2023 from Karl Grindley, 37 Champney Street, expressing concerns about basement flooding in houses on Champney Street. The residents were concerned that the flooding was caused by construction at the Florence Roche School. The Committee

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received an email response from Eileena Long of Left Field, the Town's Project Manager. The email included detail information about the drainage systems, the groundwater table, and weather conditions. The Committee was satisfied that the concerns about basement flooding were not a result of construction at the Florence Roche School.

MAPLE AVENUE ANR LOTS

Stormwater Inspector Michelle Collette said the flooding issues on Maple Avenue have improved. Developer Cory Brock has done remediation work on the driveways and on the road. The approved Special Permit plan for the shared driveways shows retention basins at the base of the shared driveway that have not been installed yet. The Committee will remind Mr. Brock to install the basins.

(Member Barringer arrived.)

AMENDMENTS TO THE STORMWATER BY-LAW AND REGULATIONS

Stormwater Inspector Michelle Collette suggested that the Committee review the Stormwater Management By-law and Regulations to determine if any amendments or updates are needed. Committee members agreed.

Resident Judy Anderson said she observed runoff problems on Nashua Road and on North Street. The Committee will investigate the problems.

NEXT MEETING

The Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 6:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
Earth Removal Stormwater Inspector