

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

Chairman Savage called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Members present: Steven Savage, Tom Delaney, Bruce Easom, and Bob Hanninen
Members absent: George Barringer

DRAFT AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 198

The Committee discussed the proposed amendment to Chapter 198 Stormwater Management Low Impact Development. Jared Gentilucci of Nitsch Engineering recommended revisions that would bring the by-law into compliance with the new *Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook and Regulations*.

The most significant revision in the proposal is to Section 198-4 Applicability, Section A (2). This section has been misinterpreted in the past and has caused confusion to applicants and abutters. The Committee also discussed adding a provision stating that a Limited Stormwater Permit may not be required if the Conservation Commission has issued an Order of Conditions for the site.

The Committee will propose the following revision to Section 198-4, Section A (2):

Activity disturbing an area of land greater than 5,000 contiguous square feet and if the disturbed portion of the slope is 10% or greater or the soil cut or fill exceeds four feet in vertical depth at its deepest point as measured from the natural ground level. The Committee may determine that a Limited Stormwater Permit is not required if the Conservation Commission has issued an Order of Conditions pursuant to C. 131, § 40, and in Chapter 215, Wetlands.

There was discussion about whether the Committee has the authority to require performance bonds. The Committee will ask the Town Manager to check with the Town Counsel.

The motion was made by Easom, seconded by Hanninen to submit an article for the Fall Town Meeting as follows:

“To see if Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton by deleting Chapter 198, “Stormwater Management – Low Impact Development,” in its entirety and replacing it with a new Chapter 198, “Stormwater Management – Low Impact Development,” on file with the Town Clerk.”

MINUTES

The motion was made by Hanninen, seconded by Easom, to approve the minutes of June 4, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

The Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, to hold a public hearing on the proposed amendment to Chapter 198.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
Earth Removal Stormwater Inspector