

HAMILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
June 28, 2018
Hamilton Senior Center, 299 Bay Road, Hamilton MA

Members Present: Virginia Cookson, Bob Cronin, Chris Currier (7:05 pm), Richard Luongo (Chairman), and George Tarr.

Coordinator: Jim Hankin

This meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with a quorum established.

Notice of Intent. Hamilton Landfill, Chebacco Road. Install utility poles as part of the solar facility project. Emily Gardner of AMEC, Chebacco Road Solar PV LLC Applicant,
Richard Luongo opened the public hearing.

Emily Gardner was present on behalf of AMEC and Chebacco Road Solar. Ms. Gardner indicated that the Notice of Intent had been filed for five utility poles, four of which would be constructed by the client and one pole by National Grid. The project would impact wetland buffer zones, associated upland resource areas, and bordering land subject to flooding. No work would occur in wetlands. Additional poles would be constructed in Manchester, which would be permitted by National Grid. AMEC was filing for the one National Grid pole in Hamilton to offer a complete application.

The plan featured red dots for the AMEC poles and blue dots for National Grid poles. Virginia Cookson noted the vernal pools on the plan, which were clear on the site walk. George Tarr questioned why the red dots were closer than the blue dots. Emily Gardner responded that National Grid poles were 30' to 50' apart with the first three poles being 30' then 50' then 140'. The proposed poles would connect to an existing pole, according to Ms. Gardner. Richard Luongo asked what Hamilton would gain from the installation. Ms. Gardner responded that they would receive the lease agreement. Jim Hankin added that they would receive power from the project. While it was questioned how the Town would receive power when it was being directed in the opposite direction, it was considered that it might be metered with a credit received by the Town.

It was noted that green lines indicated wetlands on the plan and buffer zones were also noted. Virginia Cookson said she thought the vernal pools appeared closer on the site walk than on the plan. Jim Hankin said it could be put in the conditions that the Coordinator and/or the Commission would inspect the location prior to work start to determine if a discrepancy existed between the plan and the on-site pole locations.

Virginia Cookson asked how far back from the road the poles would be located. Emily Gardner explained that the area was heavily treed so the poles would be close to the road. Richard Luongo noted the vernal pools were close to the road. While Ms. Cookson noted Stormwater Management enforcement would be conducted by another department, it was agreed that any area within the Commission's jurisdiction would still be under the purview of the Commission. Ms. Cookson noted an error on the street name, which Ms. Gardner would have fixed.

Jim Hankin asked for clarification that the cross hatched corridor shown on the site plan would not be clear cut. Emily Gardner said the area given was a worst case scenario and the applicant would only cut branches that were necessary to keep the area clear for poles and wires. Nothing outside the corridor area would ever be cut.

Motion to close the public hearing made by Virginia Cookson.

Chris Currier seconded.

Vote: Unanimous in favor to close the public hearing.

Virginia Cookson made motion to issue an Order of Conditions for the solar array project poles on Chebacco Road as covered by the Notice of Intent with no special conditions other than the boiler plate conditions.

George Tarr seconded.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Certificate of Compliance, 168 Asbury St. Expired Orders of Conditions and Permit for a septic system. Glenn Johnson, Applicant. Dan Johnson Designer. DEP 172-0392.

Jim Hankin explained that the septic was installed in 2002. The Orders of Conditions were recorded but a Certificate of Compliance was never recorded. The current owner was refinancing and the title search indicated the lack of a Certificate of Compliance. Mr. Hankin showed photos of the site. Mr. Hankin found no debris in the wetland.

Chris Currier made motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 168 Asbury St.

George Tarr seconded.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Minutes

George Tarr made motion to approve the minutes of April 11, 2018.

Virginia Cookson seconded.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

May 9, 2018 and June 13, 2018 would be postponed until July

Discussion

Reappoint Marcia Dolce to a three year Open Space Committee term.

Motion made by Virginia Cookson to appoint Marcia Dolce to the Open Space Committee to expire June 30, 2021.

Chris Currier seconded.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Items for July 11, 2018 agenda.

Virginia Cookson's discussion topics (Stormwater Management, vernal pools, Donovan playground policies and other items) could be spread out over several meetings or discussed at the July 11, 2018 meeting.

Coordinator's Report.

The July 7, 2018 site walk would be conducted with the landfill visit at 8:15 am. and 408 Bridge St. 9:00 am. Jim Hankin would send a reminder. Virginia Cookson said the landfill vegetation was growing.

Gretel Clark and the Interim Town Manager were considering having the Open Space Committee become an independent committee. If that happened, a Commission vote to dissolve the Open Space Committee as a Commission subcommittee would be required.

Jim Hankin noted that the cell tower suit had been settled.

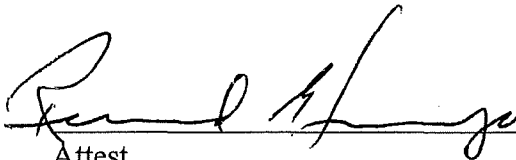
Adjournment

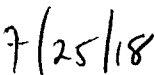
Motion to adjourn made by Bob Cronin.

Seconded by Chris Currier.

Vote: Unanimous to adjourn at 7:37 pm.

Prepared by:
Marcie Ricker


Attest


Date

