

**Town of Leicester Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
October 21, 2020**

*[Note: This meeting was held remotely using GoToMeeting]*

MEMBERS PRESENT: JoAnn Schold, Dawn Marttila, James Cooper

MEMBERS ABSENT: Stephen Parretti, Chair

STAFF PRESENT: Michelle Buck, Town Planner, Tiffany Peters, Department Assistant

MEETING TIME: 6:30 PM

AGENDA:

**1 Certificate of Compliance**

- a) Worcester Regional Airport, Mass Port Authority (DEP# 197-0533), removal of beaver dam
- b) Rochdale Holdings (formerly Worcester Tool & Stamping Company), 11 Hankey Street (DEP#197-295), environmental cleanup

**2 Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA)**

- a) Main Street (Map 21, Parcels B2-0 & B3-0) (RDA 2020-15) *continued*, Applicant: Massachusetts Electric Company, installation of underground conduit, duct bank and one pole
- b) 46 Lake Drive (RDA2020-16), Applicant: Randy Graham, installation of pump chamber for a new septic

**3 Approval of Minutes:**

- a) September 16, 2020

**4 Board Discussion/Miscellaneous**

- a) Ratification of Emergency Beaver Certificate - National Grid (Willow Hill Rd)
- b) Follow Up (82 Baldwin St, 83 Charlton, 57 Fairview, 1039 Stafford Street)
- c) Burncoat Park Quotes
- d) Miscellaneous Project Updates/Site Inspection Updates
- e) Correspondence/Other New Business

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM

**Certificate of Compliance**

**Worcester Regional Airport (DEP# 197-0533)**

Mr. Stolecki states that they obtained an Order of Conditions in 2011 for the removal of a beaver dam that was built at an inlet of a large culvert that goes underneath the main runway at Worcester Regional Airport. In 2011 approximately 50 cubic yards of dam material was removed and brought out the 100-foot buffer and graded flat. Mr. Stolecki states they will be submitting a subsequent NOI to address the continuing beaver issues.

**Motion:** Mr. Cooper moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP # 197-0533

**Second:** Ms. Marttila

**Discussion:** None

**Roll Call Vote:** All in favor (3-0-0)

### **11 Hankey Street, Rochdale Holdings (DEP # 197-0295)**

Mr. David Magnuson, Vice President of Rochdale Holdings, states that in 2002 they were approved for environmental cleanup and the work was also completed in 2002 but they did not obtain a Certificate of Compliance at that time. They are looking to obtain it now since they are in the process of selling the property. He states they have been doing annual and semiannual monitoring on the site since 2002 with the goal of closing out the site, but currently the site remains open. Ms. Schold questions the stability of the site and why there is continued monitoring. Ms. Magnuson states that the levels of nickel and other elements must stay below a certain limit in order to close it out. He said the natural attenuation of this is a slow process and as of now it has not been consistently low which is why it is still being monitored. He states that the reports are managed by DEP which are available online and that the new buyer will take over responsibility of monitoring the site. This is continued until the next meeting to allow time for the Board to review the DEP monitoring reports and do a potential site visit if needed.

### **Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA)**

#### **Main Street (Map 21, Parcels B2-0 & B3-0) (RDA 2020-15)**

Ms. Schold states that the Commissioners visited this site. Ms. Heidi Graf gives an overview of the project which involves installing 245 linear feet of underground conduit and duct bank system, one new distribution pole located and associated site and maintenance work. Ms. Marttila states that during their site walk there were some issues with erosion that needed to be addressed. These issues need to be addressed prior to this project starting with either the Highway Department or DOT. Ms. Graf states that they she sent information related to these issues to the Environmental Lead and to the Construction Supervisor, so they can monitor it during construction. Ms. Schold states that they need to make sure all disturbed areas are stabilized, that the construction site is restored to preexisting conditions, and that backfill from auguring holes for poles is removed. The Commission would also like to be notified 7-14 days prior to starting the project.

**Motion:** Mr. Cooper moved for a negative 3 determination subject to the conditions that the Commission is notified before start of work, that all soils created from auguring new poles is removed and that site is stabilized to its preconstruction condition.

**Second:** Ms. Marttila

**Discussion:** None

**Roll Call Vote:** All in favor (3-0-0)

#### **46 Lake Drive (RDA 2020-16)**

Mr. Peter Lavoie of Summit Engineering states that there is an existing two-bedroom house with a failed septic system on a 6,000 s.f. parcel adjacent to Burncoat Pond. The failed septic is

approximately 70 feet away from the pond. They want to abandon the existing leach field and put a thousand-gallon pump chamber along with 15 feet of force main within the 100-buffer zone (about 80 feet away from the pond). It would pump across the street and move the leach field out of the buffer zone (about 160 feet away from the pond). Ms. Marttila confirms that this is going across the street on a separate parcel. Mr. Lavoie verifies that this is correct as the owner also owns a 10,000 s.f. lot on the other side of the road. Ms. Marttila asks if the septic being on the lot across the street will cause issues when being sold. Ms. Buck explains that it is two separate parcels however, without a septic the house could not be occupied. Mr. Randy Graham, the homeowner, states that the lot across the street is deeded as an unbuildable lot.

**Motion:** Ms. Marttila moved for a negative 3 determination for the installation of a new pump chamber at 46 Lake Drive subject to the condition that they put siltation devices in place and notify the Commission prior to starting work.

**Second:** Mr. Cooper

**Discussion:** None

**Roll Call Vote:** All in favor (3-0-0)

### **Approval of Minutes: September 16, 2020**

**Motion:** Mr. Cooper

**Second:** Ms. Marttila

**Discussion:** None

**Roll Call Vote:** All in favor (3-0-0)

### **Board Discussion/Miscellaneous**

#### *Ratification of Emergency Beaver Certificate – Willow Hill Road*

National Grid requested an emergency beaver certificate on September 14<sup>th</sup> which needs to be ratified. Mr. Parretti authorized Ms. Buck to sign the certificate. Ms. Schold believes they may be required to file with Conservation after being issued an emergency certificate. This will be followed up on at the next meeting.

#### *82 Baldwin Street*

The owner, Ramez Almonla, is present. He says they started a garden and did not realize they were working in the wetlands. He agrees to contact the Department Assistant and provide his contact information so they may set up a site visit.

#### *83 Charlton Street*

The property owner contacted the office to notify us that he is working with EcoTec, Inc. Prior to the next meeting we will reach out to Mr. Art Allen of EcoTec, Inc. for an update.

#### *57 Fairview Drive*

The department has not been able to contact property owner regarding wetlands violations. Ms. Schold states she will reach out to DEP for assistance.

*1039 Stafford Street*

The property own has not attended a meeting or contacted the department since Cease & Desist letter was issued in July. Ms. Schold states she will reach out to DEP for assistance.

*31 & 0 Chapel Street*

NOI still has not been submitted for this property. Ms. Schold states that she would like to see this on the next agenda.

*Oak Bluff Lane*

A complaint was received by DEP for this site. Graz Engineering issued a response to the complaint which will be forwarded to the DEP. If the Commissioners want to walk the site, Brian MacEwen has offered to walk the site with them.

*Burncoat Park Quotes:*

Quotes have been received by Mr. Art Allen of EcoTec, Inc. and Mr. Glenn Krevosky of EBT Environmental which they plan on using NOI funds for. They are also working with Mr. Kevin Quinn of Quinn Engineering and Ms. Alice Webb of EarthDesign on the master plan. Ms. Buck notes that the difference in pricing is because EcoTec's quote includes a Wetlands Evaluation Report. They will wait to vote on this until all Board members are present.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Mr. Cooper

**Second:** Ms. Marttila

**Discussion:** None

**Roll Call Vote:** All in favor (3-0-0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM

**Documents included in meeting packet:**

- Agenda
- Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP # 197-0533
- Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP # 197-0295
- Request for Determination of Applicability, associated paperwork and plans for Main Street (Map 21, Parcels B2-0 & B3-0)
- Request for Determination of Applicability, associated paperwork and plans for 46 Lake Drive
- Meeting minutes for 9/16/2020
- Emergency Beaver Certificate for Willow Hill Road
- Letter to the Conservation Commission from Mike Callahan at Beaver Solutions dated 9/14/2020
- Beaver Dam Breaching Procedures from Beaver Solutions
- Google Earth Map of Willow Hill Road
- Burncoat Park quote from EBT Environmental
- Burncoat Park quote from EcoTec, Inc.
- Site plan of Burncoat Park from Coyle Engineering
- Email from Ahmed Ismail to Department Assistant dated 10/7/2020
- Letter to the Conservation Commission from Tarik Elkorchi
- Cease & Desist Letter dated 9/30/2020 sent to 82 Baldwin Street

**Documents submitted at meeting:** N/A