



Town of Dighton
Stormwater Committee Minutes
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, July 19, 2023
Old Town Hall
Upper-Level Meeting Room
Dighton, MA 02715

RECEIVED
Town Clerk-Dighton, MA
SEP 28 2023
Time: 8:00 AM
By: (Signature)

The Stormwater Committee (SWC) meeting was called to order by Nancy Goulart, Chairman, at 1:11 p.m. She read the following statement. "This is a public meeting being audio recorded for cable broadcast and internet posting on YouTube."

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Heather Nicora was introduced and welcomed to the meeting. She will take minutes at the SWC meetings and provide other assistance as needed.

Attendance - Roll Call

Present: Thomas Ferry; Nancy Goulart; Lisa Caledonia; Joseph Figueiredo; David Phillips; James Aguiar

Absent: Robert Woods, Jr.

Also Present: Laureen Beausoleil, 1680 Pine Street; Lewis Crews, Clearway Solar; Ricky Rodrigues, 531 Hart Street; William Frenette, 563 Hart Street; Francis Crisafulli, 1730 Wellington Street; Jessica Daly, 23 Maris Lane; Rod MacIsaac, 511 Hart Street; Ahmed Hafez, Grasshopper (via Phone)

It was moved by Tom Ferry, seconded by Joseph Figueiredo, and **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE** to take Agenda Item 5.b. Clearway Solar Project out of order.

Agenda Item 5.b.) Clearway Solar Project – Report

Lewis Crews reported that the first, five rows of panels were installed as were drainage basins. Meridian will install the infiltration trench which will be the final step. Panel deliveries are complete. Police details continue to be present with the work being done. Stormwater measures have held up with all the rain. One puddle area outside a basin will be fixed with loam. The project is currently 45% complete. Racking has been completed. Panels were being installed along with pads for the transformers, breakers and switch gear. Lisa Caledonia observed tree trimming on July 6, 2023. Tom Ferry inquired about the southwest corner grindings becoming too dammed. Lewis Crews replied that the areas were draining now due to an additional 6-foot spillway.

4. Committee Business

Agenda Item 4.a.) Lot 29 Middle Street – Clearing Less than 35,000 square feet

Chairman Goulart reported that John Evangelho, owner of property on Middle Street, Lot 29, contacted her to make sure that what he has done to control runoff meets stormwater management standards. He is clearing an area that is less than 35,000 square feet so he does not need a stormwater permit. Lisa Caledonia stated there are no wetlands. Chairman Goulart said this item was on the agenda for informational purposes only in case anyone wondered what was being done on this lot.

Agenda Item 4.b.) Stonegate/Able Landing, LLC - Status

Richard Feodoroff, representing Stonegate Landing, LLC., met with the Zoning Board. Residents have complained that the roads were not properly constructed and are in poor condition. The town has not accepted the roads in the development and the town cannot take over the roads in their current condition. A bond was not required when this project was approved so there is no money available to do the work. Lisa Caledonia stated the wetlands need to be reflagged for any extra lots.

Agenda Item 4.c.) 485 Tremont Street – Land Disturbance

Chairman Goulart sent a letter to the owner of record for 485 Tremont Street via certified mail. As of this date, she has not received the signed receipt for the letter. A large land disturbance has been reported and there are concerns about endangered species in this location. This will be on the August agenda. The Conservation Commission (Con. Com.) is also looking into this location.

It was moved by Lisa Caledonia, seconded by Tom Ferry, and **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE** to send a second letter to the property owner using the services of a constable.

5. Active Project Updates

Item 5.a.) Brook Street Solar – Site Visit Photos 7/5/23, Follow up to 3rd Party Review

Chairman Goulart stated she would like to table this to later in the meeting to see if Ahmed Hafez joins the meeting by ZOOM.

It was moved by Joseph Figueiredo, seconded by Thomas Ferry, and **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE** to table Item 5.a. until later in the meeting.

Agenda Item 5.c.) Blue Wave Solar - Tremont and Middle Streets Projects

Chairman Goulart stated that there is a site visit pending. Tom Ferry had nothing new to report.

Agenda Item 5.d.) Araujo Farms – Soil Stockpiles/Irrigation Pond – Conservation Commission Update, if any

Lisa Caledonia stated that there was no additional info received. She is waiting for a wetland scientist to review the site and prepare a report.

Agenda Item 5.e.) 531 Hart Street

Ricky Rodrigues of 531 Hart Street provided photos showing water running across the street into his property. He would like the town to install a larger pipe at the culvert. There has been much erosion over the years. William Frenette of 563 Hart Street stated that the road was now pitched to the north, when it used to pitch south. He suggested adding a swale where there is ledge at

John Roderick's old cabin. Lisa Caledonia asked if check dams would help. Tom Ferry stated they would make it worse. He also stated that a pipe no smaller than 12 inches in diameter could be added with a deep trench and cover. The burden for this work is on the property owner. Ricky Rodrigues mentioned most of the water flowed down the rocks, across the lawn, but not into the driveway during heavy rainfall. The flow issue is mainly at the gully. Tom Ferry suggested a buildup of road grindings, and said the owner should regrade.

Rod MacIsaac of 511 Hart Street said that ninety percent of the water comes across the road with some of it running onto his property. Chairman Goulart asked if there was a culvert. Tom Ferry said there was one down the road. Ricky Rodrigues was wondering if it was completely blocked. This will be on the August agenda. A site visit will be made.

Agenda Item 5.b.) Clearway Solar – Araujo Farms

Francis Crisafulli stated that he has had water problems since the start of the project. He lives 150 feet from the property line of the solar field. Water is currently in his basement. He stated that the drainage basin fills and over flows. Chairman Goulart again requested pictures of his basement. Chairman Goulart said that Todd Pilling investigated and found no water on the Crisafulli property from the solar farm. Tom Ferry asked what Francis Crisafulli would like done. Francis Crisafulli said he would bring pictures to the next meeting. He further stated that stormwater runs parallel to his property line at which time Chairman Goulart stated that if the water flows parallel to his property, then water does not go onto his property. Mr. Crisafulli stated that the water is concentrated close to his property line. Chairman Goulart stated that Clearway said there is no water going onto anyone's property, and the basins are working. Pictures were again requested prior to the August meeting.

Item 5.a.) Brook Street Solar – Site Visit Photos 7/5/23, Follow up to 3rd Party Review


It was moved by David Phillips, seconded by Joseph Figueredo, and **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE** to take Item 5.a. off the table for discussion now that Ahmed Hafez joined the meeting by phone because the ZOOM link did not work.

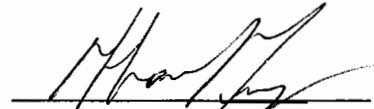
Chairman Goulart referenced the photos she took on July 5, 2023 during a site visit with Tom Ferry at the Brook Street Solar Farm. Comparison with the photos taken on June 7, 2023 showed that there was new vegetation growth in some areas. There is still bare ground along the south side of the panels and on the western side, near the battery racks. The July visit showed wildflowers and weeds growing. The east side basin contained water, but it was draining slowly. She and Tom Ferry could hear water gurgling and the moving water was visible in the two black plastic drainage pipes in the basin. The big basin near the entrance contained more water than during the June visit and it also is draining slowly. The third-party review report that showed TBD (To Be Determined) regarding compliance with the state Stormwater Handbook has been revised to "no" which means that the basins do not meet the requirements of said handbook. Consensus of the two engineers at the June SWC meeting was that siltation is the problem. The site needs to be stabilized. Ahmed Hafez had said that the seeding would be done in late June, early July. At the August meeting, a progress report will be presented. At the next Planning Board (PB) meeting, Ahmed Hafez plans to notify the PB of a minor modification for removal of additional trees on the south side. Drones revealed shading from tall trees and some diseased trees. Chairman Goulart stated that there was grass seed on site in a storage area.

Agenda Item 10. Adjournment

It was moved by James Aguiar, seconded by Tom Ferry, and **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE** to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Nancy J. Goulart, Chairman


Thomas C Ferry, Clerk

Documents: 14 Photos from Ricky Rodrigues, 531 Hart Street; Minutes for March 15, May 17, and June 21, 2023; photos taken by Nancy Goulart on 6/7/23 and 7/5/23 at the Brook Street Solar Farm; letter to owner of property at 485 Tremont Street; Third-Party Review report on Brook Street Solar Farm