



Town of Dighton
Stormwater Committee Minutes
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 16, 2023
Old Town Hall
Upper-Level Meeting Room
Dighton, MA 02715

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

The meeting was called to order by Nancy Goulart, Chairman, at 1:20 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.

Chairman Goulart asked members of the public to fill in the sign-in sheet for the record.

Attendance - Roll Call

Present: Thomas Ferry, Nancy Goulart, Lisa Caledonia, Robert Woods, Jr., David Phillips

Absent: James Aguiar

Also In Attendance: Kerrie Easterday (via Zoom)
Laureen Beausoleil, 1680 Pine Street
Craig Souza, 15 Maris Lane (via Zoom)
Ahmed Hafez, Brook Street Solar (via Zoom)
Lewis Crews, Clearway Energy
Rick Bessette, Northeast Building
Jessica Daly, 23 Maris Lane
Jay Alves, 485 Tremont Street
Duncan Harvey, 865 Lees River Avenue, Somerset
Frank Crisafulli, 1730 Wellington Street

Chairman Goulart requested a motion to take Agenda 5. B. out of order. It was moved by Tom Ferry, seconded by David Phillips, 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 Update

Lew Crews reported that all modules were installed on the racks. All ground wire with all conduits were also installed with the infiltration trench going in last. The project is 85% complete, and with the two contractors working for them, they are moving along. There were no questions from committee members.

Frank Crisafulli would like the minutes from July 19, 2023 amended to reflect the fact that he had issued a complaint to the Stormwater Committee based on flooding from the project property onto his property as well as into his basement. Chairman Goulart requested a statement in writing

along with the complaint for the record. She stated that she was not sure the minutes could be amended but would look into that. She again requested photos of the flooded basement. Mr. Crisafulli stated the pictures will be forthcoming. He stated that water issues have gotten better, and only flooded once since July 19, 2023.

The erosion controls in different areas have been repaired in the past couple of weeks and photos were received as part of the weekly reports. Lisa Caledonia stated that she has no issues from a conservation standpoint and suggested that Mr. Crisafulli hire an engineer. She also noted that all solar projects require SWIPS which are assigned by contractors doing the inspections when over 1/4" of rain falls. They are public information.

It was moved by Robert Woods, Jr., seconded by David Phillips and **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE** to take Agenda Item 4.c. Maris Lane – Drainage Problems out of order.

Agenda Item 4.c.) Maris Lane – Drainage Problems

Jessica Daly stated that once the sidewalk was installed, she has had sitting water in the front and side yard. Rainwater has come through the rock wall. It has been clean since silt fence was installed. No water accumulates in her basement at this time.

Robert Woods stated that he drove on Maris Lane and saw pooling in Craig Souza's yard days after rainfall. Problems arose once the trees were cleared on the lot next to Mr. Souza. Rick Bessett has tried to mitigate the flooding issue as best he could, but unfortunately although he added a trench line of rip rap and 3/4 stone, the problem continued with each rain event. The Daly home was most likely built too low. Jessica Daly stated that when Craig and she bought their homes, there was an easement between them, with a pipe to go underneath the road to the retention pond. When installed, the pipe was set too high due to both homes being built too low. The high pipe was removed. Then an easement was added behind the fence line to the retention pond, which proved successful, until the sidewalk was installed. Now with Lot 27, the leaching field is as high as her bedroom window.

Rick Bessette added the 5' rock wall and silt fence. Mr. Bessette stated that the last five homes built were part of the original subdivision plan, with the sidewalk binder in accordance with Planning Board approval. The sidewalks were a requirement and were inspected by an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance officer. A possible option discussed with Thomas Ferry would be to take one of the manhole covers off and make it a catch basin which could relieve some water runoff and add a pipe low enough into Jessica's and Craig's properties to the retention pond which is owned by the Home Owner's Association (HOA). The rock wall was never supposed to be there, but something had to be done to divert the flow towards the street. The silt fence will be removed once the ground is stabilized. Chairman Goulart noted that the committee cannot guarantee the problem will be fixed. Maris Lane still remains a private road and it is up to the HOA to maintain it. Chairman Goulart stated that this will be placed on September's agenda for a progress report.

4. Committee Business

Agenda Item 4.a.) Strawberry Fields - Status

Hearing scheduled for November.

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

Site visit pending. Will be on September's Agenda.

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

Consultant to come out in August. Will be on September's agenda.

Agenda Item 5.e.) 531 Hart Street

Tom Ferry increased the shoulder. Water has stopped flowing across the street.

Agent's Reports:

6.a.) Conservation Commission Updated on 508 Customs, 0 Horton St, Map 10, Lot 53

508 Customs - Nothing to report. Will be put on September's agenda.

Mrs. Caledonia had to leave at 3:00 p.m. but left a note which stated that a letter was sent on August 16 to 0 Horton Street from the Conservation Commission advising the owner that a wetland scientist is required. All work must be stopped. There will be an update at the September meeting.

6.b.) 210 William Street

Nothing to report.

7.) Public Input:

None

8. Correspondence:

0 Oak Street property Map 7, Lot 2 a letter was sent by Lisa Caledonia, Conservation Agent, informing the owner of violations including clearing and filling within a regulated wetland. Mrs. Caledonia to update at the September meeting.

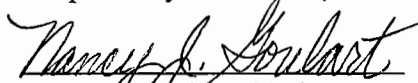
9. Approval of Minutes for July 19, 2023

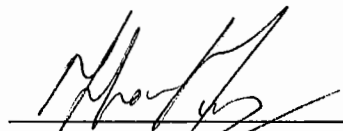
It was moved by Tom Ferry, seconded by David Phillips, to approve the minutes of July 19, 2023. The vote was three in favor – Tom Ferry, David Phillips, Nancy Goulart; no votes in opposition; one abstention vote – Robert Woods, Jr. The motion did not pass. The minutes for July 19, 2023 will be placed on the agenda for approval at the September 20 meeting.

Agenda Item 10. Adjournment

It was moved by Tom Ferry, seconded by David Phillips, and **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE** to adjourn the meeting at 3:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Nancy J. Goulart, Chairman


Thomas C. Ferry, Clerk

Documents: Letter to Jay Alves, 485 Tremont Street; letter dated August 16 to 0 Horton from the Conservation Commission; Letter to 1033 Oak Street