

MINUTES
MANSFIELD INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 3, 2010
Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

Members present: R. Favretti (Chairman), M. Beal, R. Hall, K. Holt, G. Lewis, B. Pociask (7:02 p.m.),
P. Plante, B. Ryan
Members absent: J. Goodwin
Alternates present: F. Loxsom (7:05 p.m.), K. Rawn
Alternates absent: V. Stearns
Staff present: G. Meitzler (Wetlands Agent)

Chairman Favretti called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and appointed alternate Rawn to act in Goodwin's absence.

Holt MOVED, Ryan seconded, to add to the agenda a communication from Algonquin Gas Company. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes:

4-5-10 – Hall MOVED, Beal seconded, to approve the 4-5-10 minutes as written. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4-14-10 Field Trip-Holt MOVED, Hall seconded, to approve the 4-14-10 minutes as written. MOTION PASSED with Beal, Favretti, Holt and Hall in favor and all others disqualified.

Communications:

The 4-21-10 draft Conservation Commission minutes and the 4-27-10 Wetlands Agent's Monthly Business report were noted.

Old Business:

W1450 - Town of Mansfield - Healey easement path in buffer

Holt MOVED, Ryan seconded, to grant an Inland Wetlands License under the Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Mansfield to the Town of Mansfield (File W1450) for construction of a 12-foot wide by 250-foot long gravel access-way, on property owned by Michael and Mary Healey, located at the rear of 476 Storrs Road, as shown on a map dated 4-15-09 and as described in other application submissions.

This action is based on a finding of no anticipated significant impact on the wetlands, and is conditioned upon the following provisions being met:

1. Erosion and sedimentation controls (as shown on the plans) shall be in place prior to construction and maintained during construction and removed when disturbed areas are completely stabilized.

This approval is valid for a period of five years (until May 3, 2015), unless additional time is requested by the applicant and granted by the Inland Wetlands Agency. The applicant shall notify the Wetlands Agent before any work begins, and all work shall be completed within one year. Any extension of the activity period shall come before this Agency for further review and comment.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

W1451 - Town of Mansfield - IWA Regulation revision per new statute

Item is tabled until the June 7, 2010 Public Hearing.

New Business:

W1452 - Shifrin - Request for Modification: Mansfield Hollow Hydro Project

Sam Shifrin reviewed the modification request of an existing approval. The proposed changes will be for the relocation of the power house and a reduction of its size. Shifrin reviewed the permitting procedure and stated that all permits from the federal government, state and town have been approved. He noted that the previously-placed property line on the plans was incorrect and it now is located accurately in the middle of the river. Based on this, the power house relocation will meet the setback requirements. The power house will have five turbines which will produce enough power to run the mill and an additional 180 homes. The mill will be used for research and development including the development of software for the project. Occasionally for the turbines will be changed to try different styles. Shifrin noted that there are 80,000 existing dams in the United States, and 4,000 of them in New England, and all have the potential to be used for a hydro electric project similar to his, therefore he hopes to broaden this use to other communities.

After a brief question period, Hall MOVED, Holt seconded, to approve modifications to an Inland Wetlands License pursuant to the Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Mansfield granted to Sam & Michelle Shifrin (file no. W1452), for modifications to approval of permit W1339 previously issued to Sam & Michelle Shifrin installation of Hydro-Power facilities at the Kirby Mill within regulated areas located at 114 Mansfield Hollow Road. The modifications include relocation of the structure containing the turbines, a portion of the inlet conduit, and modification to the outlet sluiceway, as shown on a revised site plan dated 4/26/2010, and in other application submissions.

This action is based on a finding of no anticipated significant impact on the wetlands, and is conditioned upon the following provisions being met:

1. The conditions of the previous approval are to remain in effect except for the following modifications.
2. Erosion and sedimentation controls shall be in place prior to construction and maintained during construction and removed when disturbed areas are completely stabilized.
3. A double row of silt fencing is to be placed along the downhill side of the construction area.

This approval is valid until April 3, 2011, at which time a renewal of the modified permit is required if work has not been completed. The applicant shall notify the Wetlands Agent before any work begins, and all work shall be completed within one year. Any extension of the activity period shall come before this Agency for further review and comment.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

W1453 - Gottmann - Gurleyville R - deck in 150' area

Hall MOVED, Holt seconded, to receive the application submitted by Karen and Clifford Gottmann (IWA file #1453) under Section 5 of the Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Mansfield for the construction of a deck at 580 Gurleyville Road on property owned by the applicants as shown on a map dated July 22, 1999 revised to April 26, 2010 and as described in other application submissions and to refer the application to the staff and Conservation Commission for review and comment. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

None noted.

Other Communications and Bills:

Meitzler summarized a communication from Algonquin Gas regarding a notification that they will need

to repair the protective coating on some pipe near Woodland Road. It was agreed by consensus that there would be no significant impact and no further request for information was deemed necessary.

Adjournment:

Favretti declared the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Holt, Secretary