



**Conservation Commission
Town of Townsend**

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Jenifer Eaton, Vice Chair
James Gates

James LeCuyer

Anne LeCuyer
Joan Savoy, Clerk

Jessica Consolvo, Conservation Agent

Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, September 8, 2021 @ 7:00 pm
Selectmen's Chambers, 2nd floor**

1.0 Preliminaries – Votes May Be Taken:

1.1 Open Meeting Roll Call Meeting called to order by Vice Chair JE at 7:02pm
Roll Call JE(P) JL(A) AL(A) JG(P) JS(P)

1.2 JE announces the meeting is being video recorded. No one else is recording.

1.3 Chairman's Additions and/or Deletions

1.4 Agent's report JE reports several building permit intakes, site visit for 75 Turnpike Rd, JG corrected JE stating it was 73 and there was one other site visit, 5 Balsom. JE reports that JC has emailed the DA to the resident at 5 Balsom. JS thanks family at 5 Balsom for submitting RDA.

1.5 Chair's report JE reminds the audience that they need to be recognized prior to speaking. JE reports that minutes are up to date and that the emergency beaver order was completed Friday August 3rd, 2021.

1.6 Review/Approve the meeting minutes from 8/25/21

JE reports that they have not been received.

2.0 Appointments and Hearings – Votes May Be Taken:

2.1 – Vote for Officers: Chair and Vice Chair JG feels that this should wait. JE states that she added this to the agenda to get a general consensus and our thoughts regarding the topics. She feels that we should wait until we have a full commission. JG asks if we have advertised the open positions. JS replies that one of the positions has been posted. JG reminds the Commission that we only have 30 days to post the notice.

JG motions to postpone any appointment of officers, JS seconded.

JE(Y) JG(Y) JS(Y) – all in favor

3.0 Work Session – Votes May Be Taken:

3.1 – Discuss referral sent to Conservation by Planning Board for 5 Main Street. Vote on comments to return to them JS makes comment regarding page 5 of submission, states that applicant is requesting waiver of parking lot tree planting by-law. JS feels that if they are paving, they should be planting. JG states it is a grandfathered lot and that he does not know the by-law off hand but there should be a certain number of trees per parking spot, regardless, the tree being removed should be replaced within the parking area with an urban-tolerant tree. JG states that trees should be added to follow the town by-law for the additional spots. JS asks Commission liaison a clarifying question in regards to planting trees for all the parking spaces since they are paving the entire lot. JG states that they will fight that but for the additional parking spots, we could push for some additional trees. JG states that this is really a Planning Board thing vs Conservation. JS feels that a site walk is needed to check the distance to the Squannacook River. JG responds that it should be on the plan, we should clarify with Stan Dillis and that because it is not on the plan, we should assume that it is outside of the buffer. JS believes that it should be checked but we will check with SD first. JE said that we should request a stormwater plan. JG states that we should review the stormwater bylaws. He states that the soils in the area are sandy gravel and that the infiltration trench should work well. JG mentions maintenance. JS states that she would like to see the distance to the Squannacook river on the plan. JE agrees. Joe Flynn (JF), 12 Squannacook Terrace, requests to make a comment. He has concerns with storm water discharge, there was an issue approximately 15 years ago. JF voices his concerns regarding the additional parking. JE & JG thanks JF for his comments. JS lists overview of comments to include maintenance, distance from Squannacook River, stormwater plan & trees. JC jumps in and reiterates the tree planting waiver but feels that planting mitigation or buffer should be considered due to the additional impervious surface. JF clarifies that a culvert discharges into FEMA floodplain. JE reads back comments to be submitted to the Planning Board.

JS moves to submit comments to the Planning Board. JG seconded.

JE(Y) JG(Y) JS(Y) – all in favor

3.2 – Thoughts and comments about Townsend Area of Critical Concern (ACEC) JS gives overview of what ACEC is, that area that is within Townsend and the possible changes that the state is proposing. JG states that we should look at this as a town and community, specifically road maintenance and salting practices. JE feels that we should get a detailed map. Discussion to be tabled until the next meeting.

3.3 - TWB fee schedule: view comparable rates and vote on whether or not to increase JS, asks if comparable rates can be shared via email and a decision be made at the next meeting.

JS moves to review surrounding community fee schedules and vote at the next meeting. JG seconded.

JE(Y) JG(Y) JS(Y) – all in favor

4.0 Correspondence – Votes May Be Taken:

4.1 – Update on Campbell Farm CR *JE met with Dana Roberts and that there are two minor edits needed and that the Planning Board would be reviewing it September 13th.*

4.2 - Legal Notice from Zoning Board of Appeals for 18 Main Street *JS reads legal notice.*

4.3 - Legal Notice from Zoning Board of Appeals for 203 Main Street *JS reads legal notice.*

4.4 - *Effective Immediately* all Legal Notices shall be written by ConsComm and published in either the *Lowell Sun* or *Sentinel & Enterprise*, with applicants then being billed. *JE reads the announcement.*

4.5 – Clerk to report on availability of funds to ConsComm *JS met with town accountant regarding accounts. JS listed accounts, what individual accounts can be used for and available account balances.*

4.6 – Email from Thomas Rebula of DEP concerning Lots 1 & 2 South Row Road, DEP 308-0681 and 308-0682. They suggested Tuesday 9/14 and we have asked that the Agent be able to attend, so it will have to be a M, W or F. *JE notes that a response was received and the sitewalk is scheduled for Wednesday, 9/15 at 11am.*

V. Items for discussion at next meeting: Comments for Zoning Board of Appeals, discuss Japanese Knotweed.

VI. Next meeting: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 7 pm, BOS Chambers, 2nd floor

VII. Adjournment:

JS Moves to adjourn at 7:59pm. JG Seconded

JE(Y) JG(Y) JS(Y) – all in favor

