

Conway Conservation Commission
Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Location: Town Hall All-Purpose Room

Facilitator: Grace Larson

Members Present: Bob Armstrong, Bob Nowak, Bruton Strange

Administrative Assistant: Lara De Lucca

Other Attendees:

Matt Kelly, Epsilon Associates

Jonathan Roberge, Eversource

Meeting called to order 7:00 p.m. by Grace Larson

1. Review and approve minutes of previous meeting, September 28, 2021

Motion to approve minutes as submitted by Grace, seconded by Bruton, approved 3-0-1.
(Bob N. abstains, absent from 9/28 meeting.)

2. Financial Matters

- Invoices received: Recorder - \$275.00

Motion to approve for payment by Grace, seconded by Bob A., approved 4-0-0.

3. BOH/Building Permits/Site Reviews

- 240 Reeds Bridge Rd – New deck – Diagram supplied signed off, no resources

4. Forest Cutting Plans

- Nelson Hanby – Lot on Shelburne Falls Rd

Lot 407-003. Undeveloped property, has a little bit of a stream on the edge of the property.

Part of property is designated primary habitat, hard to tell if the cutting would be in that.

Grace will ask Alison Wright if she has any comments or concerns.

5. Mail/Announcements/Miscellaneous Matters

- **Nexamp update on Enforcement Order**

New plan provided by Nexamp. Grace will contact Mark to ask him to interpret/comment, and possibly attend a site visit with ConCom.

- **Emergency Order – 624 Cricket Hill Rd, Transformer leak – Release Notification from Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup**

Bruton will check if there is anything else ConCom has to do with this.

- **Consultation – Solar Panels – 222 Elm St – Site visit to be determined**

- **Open Space and Recreation public forum – Wed Oct 19, 7pm by Zoom**

Bruton will attend.

- **RDA – 266 Elm St – Drinker – House addition/New septic system – Site visit needed**

Property is catty-cornered to wetland. Will also need BOH approval.

6. Public Hearings and Meetings

- 7:10 Eversource – discussion –Transmission Line rebuild

Discussion to provide information on proposed rebuild project of Lines 1231 and 1242.

Anticipated start date is Fall 2022, and it will be a 1-year long project. Rebuild of whole line from Hinsdale to Greenfield, 26 miles. Lattice towers are from 1925, so at end of their service life. And they will also install new overhead conductor wires.

New conductors are more efficient and carry more load, they also expand when at peak load, which causes them to sag and possibly sway in the wind. For this reason, select trees will be removed along the southern edge of the right-of-way for the entire length of the project. Will cut at grade (not roots), and trees will be removed by machinery, which may require construction mats to cross wetlands. No permanent fill of wetlands or at riverfront.

For mitigation of tree removal, Eversource is exploring the possibility of becoming a partner with 2 land trusts in a 109-acre conservation project in Agawam.

There will be some road construction – proposed access improvements within the 100 foot buffer zone

NOI Application will be submitted as soon as plans finalized, hopefully November.

Motion to adjourn by Grace, seconded by Bruton, approved 4-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:44

Next regular meeting: October 26, 2021