

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
JANUARY 8, 2024
TOWN HALL FIRST FLOOR MEETING ROOM
5:00 EDUCATIONAL MEETING
6:00 PM MEETING
MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioners present: Rene Wood, Chair
 Ted Pitman, Vice Chair
 Anya Rosoff
 Don Roeder

Others Present: Pamela Tambourine, Board Administrator

Members of the Public – See Sign-in Sheet

Chair R. Wood opened an Educational Zoom Meeting at 5:00 PM.

Presentation/ Training with David Cameron: A training module via Zoom PowerPoint presentation on the practical implementation of the agriculture and forestry provisions (including exemptions) of the Wetlands Protection Act Regulations.

Chair R. Wood opened the Conservation Commission meeting at 6:00 PM.

Continuation of Public Hearing on NOI from Solitude Lake Management re: McCain Pond on 400 East Rd. The Commission continued the public hearing on the McCain Pond project, and Dominic Meringolo has requested in writing that the Commission continue the public hearing until February 12 at 7 pm, and he will submit the revised NOI by January 19.

D. Roeder motioned to continue the public hearing to 7 pm on February 12, 2024, per the request from Dominic Meringolo, Solitude Lake Management. The motion was seconded by T. Pitman. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Discussed and approved the Issued WPA Emergency Certificate Form for East Road Bridge – Removal of the Bridge.

Commissioners approved emergency certification for bridge removal.

R. Wood made a motion to approve and sign the WPA Emergency Certificate. The motion was seconded by D. Roeder and passed unanimously, 4 -0.

Discussion and possible action on complaints: 375 Hewins Street; 635 N. Main Street; 0 Hemlock; 142 Main Street.

375 Hewins Street: A site map was presented for members to review the violation of tree cutting in the wetlands. T. Pittman will supply a document from the DCR.

635 N. Main Street: Concerned of dumping debris in Wetland area.

0 Hemlock: Concerned about 2 fences built in the pond, a water resource area.

142 Main: Possible wetland violations. Photographs were provided of the area.

Discussion and approval of FY2024 Conservation Commission Budget:

MACC Dues of \$212.00

Addition of \$100 in Books and Publications.

Budget Request at \$14,412.00

Up\$162.00 from FY23

All other line items remain the same.

R. Wood made a motion to adopt the budget. The motion was seconded by T. Pittman and passed unanimously, 4 -0.

Approval of minutes – 11/13/23 and 11/27/23

D. Roeder made a motion to approve both sets of minutes of 11/13/23 and 11/27/23, as corrected seconded by T Pitman. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Update on Order of Conditions for Dry Brook Bridge – Mud Slab

The contractor provided updates to their approved NOI on this project. The Commissioners felt it did not change the NOI.

R. Wood motioned that the Conservation Commission will take no action on a letter of December 22 regarding the update to the Dry Brook Bridge. The motion was seconded by D. Roeder and passed unanimously, 4 -0.

Discussion of Scenic Mountain Act and Next Steps:

The Commissioners and the public discussed efforts to protect the mountain range. Elevations slope concerns and opinions vary among Commissioners and public opinion.

Discussed the potential impact of a new development on the town's water quality and scenic views. Chair Wood introduces a draft of revised regulations as well as elevation maps for review.

Jim Larkin provided his concerns of building on ridgeline. The Commissioners discussed having regulated slope areas only within regulated elevation areas. There will be a public hearing by the Commission before the associated maps and text will be given to the Select Board.

Public Inquiries:

Susan Butler had suggestions for the Scenic Mountain Act. Her questions were answered where possible and her comments taken. Susan summited hand written suggestions about the SMA and SMA maps.

Commission Member Items:

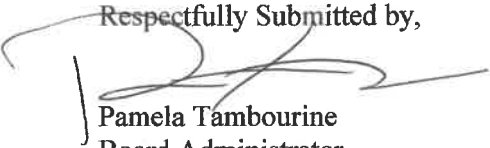
R. Wood Chairman appointed to remain Chairman until the end of the fiscal year June 30.

T. Pitman motioned R. Wood would remain in position until someone else is nominated, seconded by D. Roeder. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Review Mail: Mail was reviewed.

T. Pitman motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by D. Roeder. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Pamela Tambourine
Board Administrator

Documents reviewed at this meeting:

- Agenda
- Draft Meeting Minutes
- Emergency Certificate for East Street Bridge
- Scenic Mountain Act Draft Revision
- Printed Maps and Photos Showing for Complaint Areas
- Letters from Susan Butler
- DCR. Cutting Plans