



Woodstock
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency
Meeting Minutes
Monday – December 4, 2023
held virtually via Zoom

The IWWA meetings will be conducted on zoom until further notice. Public sign-in instructions can be found on the town website, woodstockct.gov prior to the meeting time. Documents for the meeting can be found on the website under the IWWA tab.

I. The call to order by Chair Mark Parker was at 7:02 PM

II. Member Roll Call: Mark Parker, William Rewinski, Marla Butts, Stuart Peaslee at 7:06 PM (sworn in as a full member). Dan Maalo, Wetlands Agent. First Selectman Jay Swan. Acting Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

III. Appointment of Alternates (if necessary): N/A

IV. Action on minutes of previous meeting:

Motion M. Butts seconded by W. Rewinski to approve the Minutes of November 6, 2023 with modifications carried unanimously: Administrative Business #7: #c...revising ~~Planning and Zoning~~ IWWA documents... and Pending Applications #5 #a ...no wetlands soils will be disturbed.

V. Pending Applications

a. 09-23-08 – 2 Big Horn Lane/Madelyn Straub (in attendance)/Re-construction of existing lake wall: The latest drawing of the cross section of the retaining wall was “screen-shared” and questions were asked/answered. Members noted that they had previously looked through the materials; a comparison was made to an application in the past along the same waterfront.

Motion M. Butts seconded by W. Rewinski to accept application 09-23-08 at 2 Big Horn Lane/Madelyn Straub for Re-construction of existing lake wall as shown on the application carried unanimously.

b. 10-23-02 – Route 169 (MBL 7280-29-58A)/Patrick Blomberg/Driveway crossing: Spencer Schmeelk (the Contractor) is present representing the applicant. Additions proposed to the previously approved application (2012) are outside of IWWA jurisdiction. No watershed area or wetlands areas changes have occurred. **Motion M. Butts seconded by W. Rewinski to approve application 10-23-02 – Route 169 (MBL 7280-29-58A)/Patrick Blomberg for a Driveway crossing carried unanimously.**

c. 10-23-03 – 41 Hiawatha Heights/Sugato Mitra/New Retaining Wall along Lake Bungee: P. E. Dennis Blanchett, J&D Engineering, was present to review the extension of the wall using concrete blocks and to verify the capability of the concrete retaining wall as able to withstand the forces from behind; the original work was approved in August. The location on the east end of the wall where the structure wraps around is under consideration today and was reviewed. The neighbor, at 77 Hiawatha Drive, provided a memo of acceptance of the planned work (11-07-2023).

Motion M. Butts seconded by S. Peaslee to approve application 10-23-03 – 41 Hiawatha Heights for Sugato Mitra for a New Retaining Wall, to butt against an existing concrete wall on the northeast end along Lake Bungee, carried unanimously.

VI. New Applications

a. 11-23-01 – 0 & 204 Roseland Park Road/Austin Harmon (was present) representing Hull Forestry/Timber Harvest: the applicant is a Trustee of Roseland Park and Golf Course. The work will be focused on the sections of the property west of the golf course. There are at least 9 wetlands crossings, including 5 watercourses and some intermittent streams; each was categorized and discussed. One of the down-slope stream has current erosion. Temporary bridge mats, existing trails and landings

were reviewed. The harvest is planned for winter to maintain soil stabilization, with seed and hay applied at all crossings. Erosion controls were specified. **Motion W. Rewinski seconded by M. Butts to approve application 11-23-01 at 0 & 204 Roseland Park Road/Austin Harmon representing Hull Forestry for Timber Harvest as a Use as of Right carried unanimously.**

b. 11-23-02 – 978 Route 169/Eric Hansen for Woz family/Timber Harvest: The term Clear Cut with Reserves indicates that selected varieties of trees have been identified and will be flagged to remain, such as healthy elms and those with active cavities; this management plan creates a better future parcel and creates a favorable environment for small mammals. W. Rewinski questioned an area of the map labeled “Upland Review area” but it was clarified as being a wetland area. Eric Hansen if a revised map should be submitted; W. Rewinski accepts the statement Mr. Hansen made, acknowledging the inaccuracy in the map, as being adequate. M. Butts noted that water courses in the area drain to the north toward County Road. **Motion M. Butts seconded by S. Peaslee to approve application 11-23-02 at 978 Route 169/Eric Hansen for the Woz family/Timber Harvest, with recognition that some activities will take place within the wetlands area carried unanimously.**

VII. Administrative Business: D. Malo reviewed the remaining time in his role in Woodstock, probably through January, 2024, if not a little longer, handling inspections and the administration of projects. He will provide a report in full at the January IWWA meeting. The files and office materials are being examined. It is a goal to work with our HR person to seek candidates to fill the 3 Alternate seats on the IWWA; a person who may be a candidate may be invited to a future meeting. The Wetlands Agent position has been posted; alternative ideas for recruiting a college student in an appropriate field of study were posed. Staffing needs will be part of the 2023-2024 Budget request which should be on the agenda for next meeting. First Selectmen Jay Swan spoke about some possible ways of structuring a new position, combining land use roles. Bylaws review will be coming up; the actual review takes place in February along with election of officers. Application forms can be revised, but the wetlands and flood map changes will require an update again.

Pending Business: *A meeting with Michael Grenier, 399 Roseland Park Road, has been scheduled. The berm, which is currently in place, located in an Upland Review area, does not have an impact on the wetlands. Mr. Grenier has not yet drafted a document regarding the series of previous steps taken on the parcel of land. * Mr. Bentley’s drainage situation (Bungay Hill Road at Lakeview Drive) awaits a DEEP Dam Safety jurisdictional decision. Written instructions were sent to him in August. Engineer Carl Asimovic, at an IWWA meeting regarding this situation, stated that he sees it as a possible risk.

VIII. Citizens’ Comments: Chair M. Parker called upon the IWWA members to structure the meetings so the public has adequate opportunity to speak, although time and subject guidelines for each speaker would need to be stated. A call for a Public Hearing on an application is possible, allowing questions. M. Butts suggested adding this to the Bylaws in February. The *Public Comment* agenda item can appear twice: once prior to “Pending Applications” and again later in the meeting; this is done in other nearby towns. S. Peaslee added that the use of Roberts Rules of Order should be stressed.

IX. Adjournment:

Motion M. Butts seconded by S. Peaslee to adjourn carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM by Chair M. Parker

To see/hear the meeting: <https://youtu.be/cg6NrXodbzk>

Respectfully submitted by Dotti Durst, Acting Recording Secretary *Dorothy Durst*

DISCLAIMER: These minutes have not yet been approved by the IWWA. Please refer to next month’s meeting for approval/amendments