

**CITY OF CHICOPEE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes of Meeting
June 5, 2019**

Pursuant to Mass. General Law Ch. 131, Section 40 and the Chicopee Wetland Ordinance Ch. 272, the Chicopee Conservation Commission held a public hearing on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 6:15 PM, RiverMills Senior Center, Classroom 30, 5 West Main St., Chicopee , MA 01020

James Reidy opened the meeting at 6:18 PM and announced that the meeting was being recorded and asked if anyone was recording the meeting to please state their name and address for the meeting record.

Conservation Commission attendance:

| Member | Present | Absent | Excused |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| James Reidy, Chair | X | | |
| Jessica Dzwonkoski | | | X |
| Celeste Donovan | X | | |
| Charles Payne | X | | |
| Nicole Dewberry | X | | |
| Sharon Balcom | X | | |

Planning/Conservation Staff attendance:

| Member | Present | Absent | Excused |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Lee Pouliot, Director | X | | |
| James Dawson, Development Manager | X | | |
| Patrick McKenna, Assistant Planner | | | X |

Item 1: RDA for pruning of trees overhanging 7th hole of the Chicopee Country Club. Work will occur within Riverfront Area of Cooley Brook and in Buffer Zone. Location: Chicopee Country Club, 1290 Burnett Rd., Chicopee, MA 01020. Applicant: Chicopee Country Club, same address.

Notes: Michael O’Neill of the Chicopee Country Club explained that leaning and overhanging tree limbs were posing a hazard and encroaching vegetation was impeding air circulation around the 7th hole of the golf course. The reduced air circulation was resulting in damage from fungus. Commission Members visited the site on May 6, 2019 to verify the issue. The 7th hole lies within Riverfront Area of Cooley Brook as well as Buffer Zone. The Commission’s opinion was that pruning overhanging limbs would not have a negative impact on the resource area as long as work was limited to pruning of limbs only. No vegetation is to be removed completely to the ground and no soil disturbance will be allowed.

Motion to approve a Negative 2 and a Positive 6 Determination was made by Celeste Donovan and seconded by Charles Payne. Vote was 5-0 to issue a Negative 2 and Positive 6 Determination.

| Member | Approve | Deny | Continue | Abstain |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|
| James Reidy, Chair | X | | | |
| Celeste Donovan | X | | | |
| Charles Payne | X | | | |
| Nicole Dewberry | X | | | |
| Sharon Balcom | X | | | |

Item 2: RDA for cold-planing, adjusting manhole and catch basin frames, repairing driveway aprons as needed and resurfacing curb to curb. Work will occur within Riverfront Area of the CT River. Location: Paderewski St. Applicant: City of Chicopee DPW, 115 Baskin Dr. Chicopee, MA 01020

Notes: Robert Wrzesinski of the City Engineering Department explained the RDA noting that the end Paderewski Street lies within the Riverfront Area of the Connecticut River. The project is for milling and resurfacing the street from curb to curb. No enlargement is proposed.

Motion to approve a Negative 2 and a Negative 6 Determination was made by Nicole Dewberry and seconded by Charles Payne. Vote was 5-0 to issue a Negative 2 and a Negative 6 Determination.

| Member | Approve | Deny | Continue | Abstain |
|--------------------|---------|------|----------|---------|
| James Reidy, Chair | X | | | |
| Celeste Donovan | X | | | |
| Charles Payne | X | | | |
| Nicole Dewberry | X | | | |
| Sharon Balcom | X | | | |

Item 3: RDA for cold-planing, adjusting manhole and catch basin frames, repairing driveway aprons as needed and resurfacing curb to curb. Work will occur within Riverfront Area of the Chicopee River and in Buffer Zone. Location: East Main St. from Baltimore Ave. to American Legion Bridge. Applicant: City of Chicopee DPW, 115 Baskin Dr. Chicopee, MA 01020

Notes: Robert Wrzesinski of the City Engineering Department explained the project. The project is for milling and resurfacing the street from curb to curb. No enlargement is proposed. The project will occur within Riverfront Area of the Chicopee River as well as within Wetland Buffer Zone.

Motion to approve a Negative 2 and a Positive 6 Determination was made by Sharon Balcom and seconded by Charles Payne. Vote was 5-0 to issue a Negative 2 and a Positive 6 Determination.

| Member | Approve | Deny | Continue | Abstain |
|--------------------|---------|------|----------|---------|
| James Reidy, Chair | X | | | |
| Celeste Donovan | X | | | |
| Charles Payne | X | | | |
| Nicole Dewberry | X | | | |
| Sharon Balcom | X | | | |

Item 4: RDA for rehabilitation of existing house and construction of an addition. Work will occur within 100' buffer of terrace escarpment soils. Location: 66 View St. Applicant: Harmony House of Western MA, P.O. Box 6135, Holyoke, MA 01040

Notes: Rick Rivet presented the Harmony House project to the Commission. Mr. Rivet explained the proximity of the project to the slope. Staff noted that the project was not occurring within the Terrace Escarpment (TE) Soils but was within the 100' buffer to TE soils. The Commission has jurisdiction of TE soils as well as the 100' buffer to them. The Commission conditioned their Determination with the following conditions: Erosion Control shall be set 10' back from the top of the slope; Applicant shall use hay bales and silt fence as the method of erosion control; erosion control shall be inspected by Staff prior to any construction on the project.

Motion to approve a Negative 1, a Positive 5 and a Positive 6 Determination was made by Nicole Dewberry and seconded by Sharon Balcom. Vote was 5-0 to issue a Negative 1, a Positive 5 and a Positive 6 Determination.

| Member | Approve | Deny | Continue | Abstain |
|--------------------|---------|------|----------|---------|
| James Reidy, Chair | X | | | |
| Celeste Donovan | X | | | |
| Charles Payne | X | | | |
| Nicole Dewberry | X | | | |
| Sharon Balcom | X | | | |

Item 5: NOI for site improvements including parking areas, access driveways, subsurface infiltration system, utilities and landscaping. Work will occur within Riverfront Area of the Chicopee River and Inland Resource Areas. Location: 63 ½ Main Street and 0 Main St. Applicant: Robert Libera, Chicopee Sports Center, Inc., 49 Fairfield Ave, Apt. 2, Chicopee, MA 01013

Notes: Alan Hanscom and Steven Borgati presented the project to the Commission explaining Preliminary Plans had been before the Planning Board. Mr. Hanscom referred to the comments provided by Mass DEP and based on the comments requested a continuance of the NOI to allow the submittal to be reworked to address the Mass DEP comments. The Board accepted the request and voted to continue the hearing to June 19, 2019.

Motion to continue the NOI was made by Celeste Donovan and seconded by Sharon Balcom. Vote was 5-0 to continue the NOI to June 19, 2019.

| Member | Approve | Deny | Continue | Abstain |
|--------------------|---------|------|----------|---------|
| James Reidy, Chair | | | X | |
| Celeste Donovan | | | X | |
| Charles Payne | | | X | |
| Nicole Dewberry | | | X | |
| Sharon Balcom | | | X | |

Item 6: Minutes from May 15, 2019

Motion to approve was made by Sharon Balcom and seconded by Nicole Dewberry. Vote was 5-0 to approve the minutes.

| Member | Approve | Deny | Continue | Abstain |
|--------------------|---------|------|----------|---------|
| James Reidy, Chair | X | | | |
| Celeste Donovan | X | | | |
| Charles Payne | X | | | |
| Nicole Dewberry | X | | | |
| Sharon Balcom | X | | | |

Item 7: SIGN BILLS!

Notes: Staff noted there were no bills to sign.

Item 8: Upcoming Project updates/Discussion

- Enforcement Orders – East Main St. – No plan or NOI submittals by the violators by the Commission’s May 17th deadline.

Notes: The Commissioners were in favor of Staff drafting a demand letter to the violators stating they must respond to the Enforcement Order requirements by June 28, 2019 or face possible fines.

- Upcoming workshops – dates, presenters.

Notes: James Reidy discussed his thoughts on upcoming workshop topics.

Item 9: Adjournment – Next scheduled meeting is June 19, 2019

Motion to adjourn was made by Charles Payne and seconded by Celeste Donovan. Vote was 5-0 to adjourn.

| Member | Approve | Deny | Continue | Abstain |
|--------------------|---------|------|----------|---------|
| James Reidy, Chair | X | | | |
| Celeste Donovan | X | | | |
| Charles Payne | X | | | |
| Nicole Dewberry | X | | | |
| Sharon Balcom | X | | | |

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM