

TOWN CLERK

**Weymouth Conservation Commission
Council Chambers, Town Hall
75 Middle St., Weymouth
December 5, 2012 Meeting**

Present: Laura Harbottle, Chairperson
Scott Dowd, Commission Clerk
George Loring, Commissioner

Not Present Steve DeGabriele, Vice-Chairman

Also Present: Mary Ellen Schloss, Administrator
Recording Secretary: Patricia Fitzgerald

Cmmr. Harbottle called the December 5, 2012 meeting to order at 7:00PM, in the Town Hall Council Chambers, Weymouth, MA.

Minutes

Cmmr. Dowd moved to approve the minutes for Oct. 24th, seconded by Cmmr. Loring. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

**Libbey Parkway Gas Main Installation – Amend Order of Conditions – Hearing
Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid
DEP File # 81-1109
Under Local Ordinance and Wetlands Protection Act**

Appearing before the Commission was Brad Malo, Coastal Engineering Co.; abutter cards were submitted. Mr. Malo reminded the Commission that the project and the OOC were approved in August, 2012. He explained that the bridge is actually a twin culvert and the original proposal was to connect the existing gas main from the Pleasant St. side of the project toward Middle St. and run it along the edge of the existing paved roadway. The original proposal was to hang the gas pipe along the side of the bridge decking. As this is a 200-ft. Riverfront area with associated wetlands, there is a significant amount of work proposed. The previous proposal needed approval by the Town Engineer, Chip Fontaine, who was reluctant to attach the gas main to the side of the bridge and asked that it be put under the culvert. He said the gas main will remain 6" in diameter on each side of the river, along the edge of the paved roadway, but at the point of 129 ft., from the east side of the bridge, they are proposing a receiving pit and, along the westerly side of the bridge, a sending pit. An apparatus will be erected on the westerly side of the bridge (the culvert crossing) and they will horizontally drill, at an angle to the ground, below the bridge culverts and up through to the other side.

Mr. Malo showed the Commission a 1:1 scale and explained that:

- The proposed gas main (shown in red) will be about (3) ft. below ground surface.
- At about 75 ft. from the edge of the culvert crossing, below the bridge, the proposed gas main installation will be horizontally drilled at an angle, below the twin culvert on an angle and then sloping on the other side back to a point on the easterly side about 115 ft. from the culvert edge.
- There is no ground disturbance in this area except for an excavation area 5-6 ft. wide x 20 ft. long along the receiving pit, plus an area of broken ground 5x5 along the sending pit.

Mr. Malo said these are the changes being requested at the request of the Weymouth engineer and will actually be a significant reduction in work; he provided pictures to show how this work will be reduced and then explained the process and machinery to be used:

- Drilling rig is at an angle to the ground.
- Wattle is proposed around the sending pit to protect excavated material.
- The horizontal drilling apparatus uses an auger to penetrate the ground and rods extend the excavation.
- At Libbey Parkway, a pump truck will remove any mud/water mix that may ooze out and take it off-site.
- Perimeter erosion controls will be installed as shown on the plan.

Original OOC plan and erosion controls are adequate because the new proposal is actually a reduction in work within the buffer zone and Riverfront Area and less excavation in close proximity to the river.

Mr. Malo submitted the protocol from Bay State Piping (letter from David Scott, Principal, to B. Malo, 12/5/2012). He said that if the Commission approves the change, the protocol can become part of the OOC.

Cmmr. Harbottle asked if the pipe must be pressure tested before it is connected; Mr. Malo replied yes.

Cmmr. Harbottle asked if drilling fluid would be contained in the excavated area.

Mr. Malo said hay bales or wattles will be used around the excavated area and hay bales are being called for at the shoulder of the road.

Ms. Schloss asked how long it is expected to take; Mr. Malo said (1) day to drill plus (1) day to pull the pipe back through.

Ms. Schloss asked how the pumped material will be contained.

Mr. Malo responded that the compacted material builds up in the sending pit. He said the pit is 3'x3'x8' long which creates a sort of sump and beyond that is sedimentation protection; he added the receiving pit is a bit larger.

Ms. Schloss asked if wattle will be used in the roadway; Mr. Malo said soil will be placed around the excavation site and, outside of that, they'll use wattle or hay bales to contain excavation.

Ms. Schloss asked if the proposed/permitted alterations in the Riverfront area are changing; Mr. Malo said it was okay to leave as is.

There were no public comments or questions.

Changes to the Order of Conditions were discussed, including:

- Change reference to the plans.
- Condition #32, revise erosion controls relative to the revised project.
- Add condition about the berm, erosion control and vacuum truck.
- Site protocols and protection measures.

Cmmr. Loring moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Cmmr. Dowd. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Cmmr. Dowd moved to approve the amended Order of Conditions, seconded by Cmmr. Loring.
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

LCI Sewer Replacement – Preconstruction Submittals, Discussion
DEP File # 81-1093

Ms. Schloss explained that this is the sewer replacement project that is taking place in the Idlewell neighborhood. She has been getting construction submittals and they want to start active excavation and construction the week of Dec. 17th. The way the Order of Conditions was worded, certain construction submittals need Con Comm approval; Environmental Partners designed the project and is reviewing the submittals. The Commission's main concern is the Dewatering Plan, which Environmental Partners rejected because it didn't have enough detail. It was resubmitted and received on Dec. 3rd; she has provided her comments and is expecting to get an additional resubmittal. The Temporary By-pass Plan is really technical, but it has been received. The Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan has been received and has been reviewed. She said this will be a pretty tough area in which to work.

Ms. Schloss asked the Commission how much detail they were looking for and offered to e-mail the plans to them for their review. She asked if they would be comfortable with having the plans reviewed on a staff level.

Cmmr. Dowd suggested that Cmmr. DeGabriele be given an opportunity to weigh in on the decision.

Cmmr. Harbottle said she didn't have a problem with the review on a staff level and then asked if there was a way to lessen the amount of work Ms. Schloss will have involving this project.

Ms. Schloss said the town will have an Environmental Partners' Resident Engineer out at the project every day and Steve Ivas, an Environmental Monitor hired by the applicant, will be out there when needed.

Ms. Schloss suggested rewording the Conditions in the future to provide for more flexibility when it comes to reviewing project plans.

Ms. Schloss said she will be going out to the site the week of Dec. 10th adding that there will be an extra high tide on Dec. 14th. Cmmr. Loring will also go out.

Whitman's Pond Vegetation Management Plan - Update

Ms. Schloss said ESS Group, a consultant funded by the Community Preservation Committee, did an excellent presentation on Nov. 29th. She said they did not support lake-wide chemical treatment.

Cmmr. Dowd said they took samples in regards to dredging; the type of materials dredged up will dictate the way in which it is disposed.

Ms. Schloss said landfill capping at Southfield was brought up as a possible location.

Cmmr. Dowd said they went over different strategies such as 'winter-draw down' (a combination of crystallization from freezing and desiccation).

Cmmr. Schloss said (2) weeks of dry cold weather are needed.

Cmmr. Dowd said they typically begin drawdown around Halloween. He said public safety is also an issue, if people are to walk across the mud flats.

Cmmr. Dowd explained that a new herbicide being proposed is only effective just after application (like "chemically mowing the lawn"), then it begins to grow again; Ms. Schloss said it didn't have any limitations on use in drinking water.

Cmmr. Dowd said the Mayor seemed interested in dredging – if the pond is deep enough, the sun can't get to the bottom to grow invasives.

Other Business/Conservation Report

New Commission member: The Mayor has approved Tom Tanner; it will be voted on Dec. 17th.

January 9, 2013 meeting: Legion Field Certificate of Compliance will be on the agenda. There will be a site walk Dec. 11th.

Board of Health Well Regulation: The Board of Health is seeking comments on its proposed regulation by Dec. 21st. The regulation will probably be adopted on Jan 2nd. The regulation is relative to drilled wells that do not fall under the DEP's rules for public wells (irrigation wells, drinking wells). The regulation includes a 50-ft. set-back from wetlands for potable wells and there may be a request for cross-reference language, if drilling is within Conservation jurisdiction.

Iron Hill Dam: bank restoration was done and when coffer dams are removed:

- Additional restoration will be done.
- Slide and leaf gates will also be installed.
- Water will be held until turbidity settles out.

A request has been made to train herring wardens on gate operation.

Weyfair Path: erosion controls are up and pre-construction is done; construction will start week of Dec. 10th.

Weymouth Salvage: They have started to remove material from the lower meadow area. LSP and Cathy Kiley will be going out regarding possible hazardous material in the meadow area adjacent to stream.

Tirrell Woods: Ms. Schloss will be out there Dec. 6th to meet with SITEC in regards to some compliance and enforcement issues (to discuss cart path restoration and look at erosion controls).

35 Regatta Road: A monitoring report has been received from the consultant; they want the Administrator to go out to look at some trees that they want to prune and to look at some beach grass. The issue of boat restoration/location still needs to be resolved. Cmmr. Harbottle asked if the Harbormaster could be asked to help with this issue.

120 Pine St.: Cmmr. Loring will go out to the property on Dec. 6th.

Fore River Bridge: 401 Water Quality Certification Amendment has been issued by DEP for the (2) temporary trestles needed for bridge construction period access. Ms. Schloss stated that bridges are exempt from the Wetlands Protection Act.

National Grid: annual listing of herbicides has been received.

Adjournment

Cmmr. Loring moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15PM and to meet again on Jan. 9th in Town Hall Council Chambers, Weymouth, MA, seconded by Cmmr. Dowd. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Fitzgerald

Approved:

Scott Dowd, Conservation Clerk

Date