

Conservation Commission – Town of Spencer

Minutes



Conservation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 6:15 p.m.
Town Hall, McCourt Social Hall

If remote, please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<http://meet.goto.com/spencerODIS/conservation>

IN-PERSON AND REMOTE MEETING

IN ORDER TO CALL IN, PLEASE CALL: 1-571-317-3122 AND USE ACCESS
CODE: 454-205-589

**PLEASE MUTE PHONES & TV'S AT ALL TIMES EXCEPT WHEN
SPEAKING!**

1. The Meeting was opened at 6:17 p.m. The speakers were crackling, and it was hard to communicate remotely with Ms. Emerson & Mr. Snow.

Commissioners Present: Charlie Bellemer, Margaret Emerson (remote), Mary McLaughlin, Dennis Shiver, Shannon Housh & Warren Snow (remote)

Staff present: Jane Green
Staff absent: Lauren Vivier

2. Sign: Release Enforcement Order at R16-8, R16-8-2, R16-8-5, R16-8-6 Chickering Road. The Commission signed a form to release the Enforcement Orders that were approved at the 8/23/23 meeting. The applicants' Attorney wanted documentation.

3. Public Hearings/Meetings:

6:22 p.m. Opened the Public Hearing for the Notice of Intent for Michael Tyrrell Property: Property: Transmission Line ROW Meadow Rd, Bixby Rd and Maple Street, Spencer, MA DEP#293-1071

Carolyn Gorss, a Professional Wetland Scientist for BSC Group, joined remotely to represent the New England Power Company. The project is for soil boring testing. Ms. Gorss discussed the location of the soil borings. The purpose of the soil borings, is to evaluate the subsurface conditions for foundation design associated with the future replacement of these transmission line structures. They are over one hundred years old and National Grid and New England Power Company are planning for the maintenance work that will be required in the future. They need the data from the soil borings to evaluate what kind of foundation will work. They will use Best Management Practices. The boring holes are about 4-6 inches wide.

James Pervier, of 4 HJ Perron Road, wanted to know if they will be changing the high-tension lines. Ms. Gorss said yes, they will be changed. Tim Smolen, of 188 Charlton Road, wanted to know when the project was going to start. Ms. Gorss was not sure of the date. She suggested to Mr. Smolen to call National Grid to inquire. Ms. McLaughlin read the standard conditions and the Commission agreed to the 25-foot waiver and the project.

A motion to close the public hearing (Bellemer/Housh) 4/0 passed

All in favor: Housh-yes, Shiver-yes, Bellemer-yes, McLaughlin-yes

A motion to approve the OOC with conditions and the specified waiver (Bellemer/Housh) 4/0 passed

All in favor: Housh-yes, Shiver-yes, Bellemer-yes, McLaughlin-yes

4. Other Business: There was no “other business” for this meeting.

5. Agent’s Update:

The Agent was not present. An update will be provided at the following meeting.

6. Citizen Input:

- a. **Community Preservation Act** – Roger Foss, a resident of Spencer, wanted the Commission to know that this article was passed at the Board of Selectmen meeting. He handed out an informational document on the Community Preservation Act that became a state law in 2000. Mr. Foss said that a small surcharge would be added on local property taxes. The funds would be used for updating parks, playgrounds, protecting open space and for the upkeep of historic buildings.

7. Minutes: 3/13/24

A motion to approve the 3/13/24 minutes as amended (Bellemer/Housh) 4/0 passed

8. New Applications:

- a. 27 Jolicoeur Avenue – RDA – Tree removal
- b. 152 Ash Street – RDA – Covered front porch addition

9. Continuances:

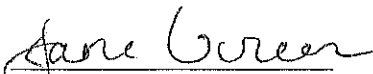
- a. 10 Meadow Road – waiting on DEP Commissioner variance (4/24/24)
- b. U24-17 Meadow Road – waiting on DEP Commissioner variance (4/24/24)

10. Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m. (Bellemer/Housh) passed 4/0.

All in favor: Housh-yes, Shiver-yes, Bellemer-yes, McLaughlin-yes

Respectfully submitted by:



Jane Green, Senior Clerk
Development & Inspectional Services

Documents Reviewed at 3/27/24 Conservation Commission Meeting

Agenda 3/27/24

Minutes 3/13/24

Chickering Road – Enforcement Order released

OOB – Transmission Line ROW Meadow Rd, Bixby Rd and Maple Street

Community Preservation Act

