



**CITY OF TORRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2020 Regular Meeting**

1. Call to Order: In response to the Governor's Executive Orders regarding COVID-19, this meeting is being held remotely using the ZOOM online meeting platform and is open for public viewing using the login information provided on the posted agenda.

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm (meeting start delayed to wait for the end of a previous Board of Finance meeting)

2. Roll Call & Announcements: Members present: Tomasz Kalinowski, Dan McGuinness, Robert DeMallie, Jim Fedorich, Christine Altman & staff Jeremy Leifert.

Members Absent: None

Members of the public: No members of the public logged into the remote meeting.

3. Minutes:
 - a. May 14, 2020 Regular Meeting: **Motion to accept the minutes of the May 14, 2020 regular meeting as presented was made by D. McGuinness and seconded by J. Fedorich. Motion passed unanimously.**
4. New Business:
5. Old Business:
 - a. Review and approval of advisory comments for Besse Pond cleanup project for application before the Inland Wetlands Commission

Review and discussion was conducted on two documents drafted by staff: the project checklist for Conservation Review and the draft memo to approve and send to the Inland Wetlands Commission. Specific discussion occurred regarding preservation of an area of cattail on the property for wildlife habitat, preservation of larger trees, proper soil and erosion controls and the planned reuse of the organic spoils from the pond. The commission members were in agreement to accept the draft memo as written by staff and forward to the Inland Wetlands Commission.

Motion to accept the language of the advisory memo on the Besse Pond cleanup project and forward the document to the Inland Wetlands Commission was made by J. Fedorich and seconded by D. McGuinness. Motion passed unanimously.

- b. Continued discussion/schedule for open space parcel inventory and data collection

No action has occurred on this item since the May Commission meeting, but staff will send out a list of smaller parcels that can be done by single commission members. Larger parcels that need to be done in

groups will be held off until the COVID-19 threat subsides. J. Leifert will drive by the smaller parcels to confirm access and contact the commission members to assign review parcels.

c. 2020 DEEP Open Space Acquisition Grant Round discussion


J. Leifert indicated that he had tried to reach out to the property owner of the “Leoni” property on Winsted Road by email on two occasions since the last meeting, but has not received a response. The Commission will likely miss this DEEP land acquisition grant round. The Commission discussed the benefit of trying to get the property owner in to attend a Conservation Commission meeting to go over the possibility of purchasing the property, and prepare for an application during the 2021 grant round. Staff will continue to try and reach out to the owner to try and set something up.

6. Communications: None

7. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by D. McGuinness and seconded by J. Fedorich. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm


6-18-20

Jeremy Leifert, Asst. City Planner
Staff to Conservation Commission
Cc: City Clerk, Mayor's Office