

**CITY OF GARDNER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Gardner City Hall – Manca Annex
115 Pleasant St., Room 202

978-630-4014

Gardner, MA 01440

fax 978-632-1905

MEETING

Monday, April 25, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Virtual meeting, no in-person attendance

Under the Governor's current bill regarding open meetings and Covid 19, this meeting will be held via Zoom. Detailed instructions for participating in the meeting via Zoom are posted at the bottom of this agenda, or can be obtained by emailing Katie Guertin, Conservation Agent, at kguertin@gardner-ma.gov. All documents and permit applications can be provided electronically. Please send request to kguertin@gardner-ma.gov. All persons interested in this matter, or who desire to offer testimony, are invited to participate.

Members Present:

Chairman Greg Dumas, Michael Hermanson, Norman Beauregard, David Beauregard, and Donna Lehtinen. Also present were Conservation Agent Katie Guertin and Administrative Clerk Kris Singer.

Members Absent:

Duncan Burns and David Orwig

Guests & Visitors:

Chris Anderson – Hannigan Engineering, Gardner McPherson – abutter to Riverside Rd.

MEETING – brought to Order Chairman G. Dumas at 6:30 pm

Minutes

Vote to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of April 11, 2022

- Motion to approve Minutes “As Printed” made by M. Hermanson, seconded by N. Beauregard, and voted all in favor.

Notice of Intent

The Gardner Conservation Commission will hold a joint Public Hearing under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance on a **Notice of Intent** filed by **Gregory Romac**, for the removal and replacement of the bridge, located on Riverside Road, Gardner (H22-3-10). The proposed work is located within the buffers to Bordering Vegetated Wetland and Riverfront Area.

Continued from 3/28/22

- G. Dumas and M. Hermanson went to the site. They noted elevation changes on both the Gardner and Templeton sides.

- M. Hermanson stated that the goal is to avoid debris flowing into the river.
- G. Dumas noted that all changes asked for by the Commission were addressed.
- Chris Anderson from Hannigan Engineering noted that Templeton is instituting some erosion control. He also noted that on the Gardner side, there will be rip rap to help alleviate the sediment along the road.
- G. Dumas asked if the question of the weight that the bridge can handle had been answered. C. Anderson replied that McKenzie Engineering said that it would comply with Age 20 Highway loading, thus allowing for any trucks which will travel over it.
- M. Hermanson noted that the new bridge will be stored near by and pre-constructed for installation. He is concerned about the residents who live on the north side of the river as the bridge is their only access point. What is the timeframe for shutting down the bridge to install the new dock? C. Anderson replied that at minimum there should be one or two days of no access.
- G. Dumas asked if a Building Permit will be needed. C. Anderson responded yes, both from Templeton and from Gardner.
- K. Guertin surprisingly noted that there are no comments yet from the DEP.
- G. Dumas would like K. Guertin on site when the new bridge is installed.
- C. Anderson also mentioned that controls will be put into place in the river when heavy equipment is present.
- A Motion to close the hearing was made by D. Beauregard, seconded by D. Lehtinen, and voted all in favor.
- A Motion to approve with the Standard Order of Conditions and with the Condition that K. Guertin will be notified prior to the installation of the bridge was made by N. Beauregard, seconded by D. Lehtinen, and voted all in favor.
- Gardner McPherson, an abutter to Riverside Rd, came onto the zoom meeting late, so G. Dumas gave a brief overview of what was discussed thus far.

New Business

Emergency Certificate, Dunn Park

- K. Guertin advised that there is a sewer easement near the water. During recent heavy rains, there was danger of the sewer line flooding and leaching into the pond. She issued an emergency certificate to do the work to secure the sewer easement.
- G. Dumas mentioned that he's never known this to have happened in the past.
- K. Guertin also advised that a vote was not required by the Commission, just signatures to ratify the certificate. The certificate is only in effect for 30 days, and the work is already completed.

Trail Cam

- G. Dumas obtained their trail cam and suggests putting it at the overlook on Leo Dr as he's seen campfires there. He would also like to obtain costs to buy a couple more cameras.

New School site visit

- G. Dumas reminded the Commission of their upcoming site visit at the new school.

Future Zoom Meetings

- G. Dumas advised the Commission that they can still have meetings over zoom until July, 2022. He also confirmed that they can conduct the meetings via Zoom after July as long as there is a quorum of Members at

City Hall. M. Hermanson mentioned that he heard that a Bill may be going through at the State level to make Zoom meetings allowed indefinitely.

Rte 140, near the college

- N. Beauregard noticed that the DPW is getting ready to pave on Route 140, near the college. Did the DPW approached the Commission regarding this work? K. Guertin believes that since there is no expansion of the road, the paving may not trigger the Commission's involvement. She will look into it, though.

Pearly Brook

- G. Dumas noted that there are camps and evidence of campfires again at Pearly Brook. He would like the police to investigate.

Parking Lot at Elks Club

- G. Dumas asked about this project, and K. Guertin advised that she expects them to come before the Commission soon. As she understands it, they will not be paving, but using just gravel.

Union St

- G. Dumas mentioned that he noticed approximately 10 rotting cars in the wetlands off Union St. He was unsure of the address, but K. Guertin will look into it and send a letter to the property owner.

Upcoming Meetings

May 9

- 6:57 pm** A motion to adjourn was made by H. Hermanson. The motion was seconded by D. Lehtinen, and voted unanimously, all in favor.

NOTICE: These Agenda items consist of items that are reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting and are specifically allowed to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Katie Guertin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Gardner Conservation Commission

Time: Apr 25, 2022 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82492509577?pwd=SUE1VHNVUmk1QStRSG9ZWjlnRm8xQT09>

Meeting ID: 824 9250 9577

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