

**Town of Auburn  
Conservation Commission  
March 2, 2021**

**Members present:** Jeff Porter-Chairman. Peg Donovan, Vice Chair. Diana Heaton, Member. Stephanie Hanson, Alternate Member. Minutes recorded by Denise Royce.

**Absent:** Richard Burnham & Ed Fehrenbach &, Members. Mark Ampuja, Alternate Member.

Mr. Porter called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and moved into reading the preamble to everyone present.

**MEETING PREAMBLE DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

Good Evening, as Chairman of the Conservation Commission, I am declaring that an emergency exists and I am invoking the provisions of RSA 91-A:2, III (b). Federal, state, and local officials have determined that any public gathering of people may pose a substantial risk to our community in its continuing efforts to combat the spread of COVID-19 and is reinforced by Emergency Order #16 issued by the Governor on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. In concurring with their determination, I also find that this meeting is imperative to the continued operation of Town government and services, which are vital to public safety and confidence during this emergency.

Governor Sununu issued Emergency Order #12 on March 23<sup>rd</sup> which provides local government boards the ability to conduct business using technology to hold remote meetings and not provide a public place of meeting but provide for the public's ability to listen to the meeting. As such, this meeting will be conducted without a quorum of this body physically present in the same location.

At this time, I also welcome members of the public accessing this meeting remotely. Even though this meeting is being conducted in a unique manner under unusual circumstances,

the usual rules of conduct and decorum apply. Any person found to be disrupting this meeting will be asked to cease the disruption. Should the disruptive behavior continue thereafter, that person will be removed from this meeting.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by Roll Call vote as required by RSA 91-A:2, III (e).

Let's start the meeting by taking a Roll Call attendance. When each member is called please state your name, and also please state whether you are physically attending the meeting or are remotely attending the meeting. If you are remotely in attendance, is there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law (RSA 91-A:2, III (c)).

**Roll Call was taken with the following Members and Alternates present:** Jeff Porter-Chairman. Peg Donovan, Vice Chair. Diana Heaton, Member. Stephanie Hanson, Alternate Member.

**Also Present:** Bill Parker, Amy Flourney, Bill & Lisa McCarty.

**The following members were absent:** Richard Burnham & Ed Fehrenbach, Members. Mark Ampuja, Alternate Member.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

**Parker Garden Design  
On Behalf of Bill & Lisa McCarty  
6 Hook Road, Tax Map 13, Lot 14-1  
Zoned Rural  
Discuss Wetland Buffer (Hook Brook)  
Continued from February 2, 2021**

Mr. Porter began by turning the meeting over to whoever would be presenting on behalf of Bill and Lisa McCarty and pick up where we left off last month. Mr. Parker began by saying that, everyone should have received the revised plans that were sent out. With that said, Mr. Parker stated that, he would take any questions that the Board may have and go from there. Ms. Flourney explained that, the revised plans show some of what

was discussed last month at the Conservation Commission meeting and wanted to know if the diagrams explain it a little better. Mr. Parker added that, the concern was where they were going to place this pool which was a sensitive area and one of the requests was to shift it back of which they were able to do as it was moved back to the existing lawn line. Mr. Parker talked about pool failure and explained that, the portion of the pool that would be above ground would hold approximately 850 gallons of water and the portion of the pool that was below grade would hold approximately 2,380 gallons of water. Mr. Parker also pointed out that, they also put into the design of a simple collection system so that if anything did happen to the pool that, that would all be captured into a dry well away from the area and away from the leachfield too. The other precautionary system that they put in too was a rain garden but with a swale berm that would prevent any of that water making its way to the wetlands.

At this time, the Board reviewed the diagrams that were sent to each of the Board members. Mr. Porter stated that, he would really like to see the area in its current state before they start ripping up the soil which was kind of where he was at now but would let the rest of the Board speak for themselves. Mr. Porter further added that, he understands that the house was already within the buffer but was just trying to do the right thing by preserving it because you are on top of a Level One wetland and it feeds Lake Massabesic. Mr. Parker appreciates that and would assume that the next step would be a site visit with some of you folks just to see what is really there. Mr. Parker stated that, they were months away from breaking ground and they knew there was a complication here with regard to the wetlands and that was why they are going through this process. They may find that this is just not going to fly and maybe they can find another location and again, that is why they are going through the process. They want to do what is right as well so whenever they would like to do an actual site visit, they can stake out where they would like to place the pool. Mr. Porter asked Mr. Parker if it was premature to go before the Zoning Board of Adjustment without having final plans approved. If it is still in the development stage, wouldn't it make more sense to wait until the Board had time to look at it first. Mr. Parker believed that, the next logical step before they do anything else, would be meet at the site. Mr. Porter agreed and commented that, their conceptual diagrams look great, but his concern is that they are impacting more of the wetlands than it already is. Mr. Parker did not understand the point of this meeting as he felt that they should have just had the Board come out to the site to take a look at the property. A brief discussion ensued with regard to design changes and taking a look at the area. Mr. Porter turned it over to the Board members. Ms. Heaton talked about the design changes and pointed out that, these changes make it a lot more doable than before. Mr. Parker thanked Ms. Heaton for her comment and added that, what he would be happy to do with Ms. Flournoy is, whenever they decide when to meet that they would get there ahead of anyone who would be joining in and they will roughly stake out where they are proposing to put the patio and the pool and even stake out where they would be including a dry well and rain garden.

At this time, the Board members, Mr. and Mrs. McCarty, Ms. Flourney and Mr. Parker talked about scheduling a site walk as soon as possible with the Conservation Commission Members. Mr. Porter also asked Mr. Parker about pushing this out to an April ZBA Hearing or was that too late for them. Mr. Parker believed this was a process that would take some time and they were not planning to show up with an excavator next week and they want to take the right steps but don't want to drag it out too long. A few dates were thrown out there for the Board and everyone to decide and March 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm was agreed upon by everyone. Mr. Parker reiterated that, they would get there before the Board to set up everything before the Board members get there and that they were all set for Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. Mr. Porter thanked everyone for their time and that they would see everyone on the 26<sup>th</sup> and the discussion ended.

Mr. Porter moved on to the approval of the meeting minutes for February 2, 2021.

## **MINUTES**

**Ms. Heaton moved to approve the minutes of February 2, 2021 as written. Mrs. Donovan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mrs. Donovan voted yea, Ms. Heaton voted yea, Ms. Hanson voted yea, and Mr. Porter also voted yea. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Porter thanked the Board members for calling into tonight's meeting and that he really appreciated it and it was a great discussion. With that said, Mr. Porter asked for a motion to adjourn.

## **ADJOURN**

**Mrs. Donovan moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Heaton seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mrs. Donovan voted yea, Ms. Hanson voted yea, Ms. Heaton voted yea and, Mr. Porter voted yea. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting stood adjourned at 7:29 p.m.**

**The next Conservation Commission meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Currently, all upcoming meetings will be held via remote teleconference unless otherwise noted. The call-in number can be found on each Agenda posted on the town website at [auburnnh.us](http://auburnnh.us).**