

MEETING
Tilton Conservation Commission
Tilton Town Hall
November 20, 2023
MINUTES

Present: Chuck Mitchell, Jim Cropsey, Bob Hardy, Helen Hanks, Ken Norton, Paul Rushlow, Jon Scanlon, Ben Wadleigh, and Kathi Mitchell

The meeting of the Tilton Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. **Minutes** – Helen made a **motion** to approve the October minutes. Jim seconded the motion, and the minutes were accepted as presented.

2. **Old Business -**
 - a) **Salmon Run** – The fencing damaged in a motor vehicle accident has been repaired. Posts for the sign were installed. Chuck picked up the sign and delivered it to Public Works. He will put up the chain on November 21 to prevent snow plowing from damaging the test wells and keep the parking lot secure. Mowing was completed. Wildflower seeds were distributed.
 - b) **WRTA** – The Taste of the Trail event was a big success with over \$9000 raised.
 - c) **Communication Meeting** – Members reiterated their concerns about working together and the importance of sharing information with other boards and commissions. Members then discussed issues that showed the impact of not communicating well. The town’s lighting ordinance in the Zoning Regulations still references that lighting “...must comply with The New Mexico Night Sky protection Act (p.15).” The sewage regulations still state that septic systems must conform to the rules and regulations of the NH Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission; that designation was renamed to NH Department of Environmental Services in 1987. It also says that details regarding septic systems will be approved by the “appropriate” town official. The Master Plan on the town’s website (and the LRPC’s) lack even numbered pages in Chapter 2. It appears that the Planning Board is looking to change part of the Solar Ordinance. It would be beneficial to the town if all boards and commissions could communicate more readily for a variety of reasons.

3. **New Business:**
 - a) **142 East Main Street** - The Zoning Board has approved an applicant to repair vehicles in a district where it is not permitted. The members strongly support requiring an oil water separator for all car repair shops with no exceptions. There is no drain in the building so it is not known how fluids will be disposed of safely. There was a question about requiring a detention pond. There should be an annual maintenance report provided to the town showing that oils and other fluids are not leaking into environmentally sensitive locations. The project will go to the Planning Board next. There was a question about an underground hydraulic lift.
 - b) **December meeting** – Paul made a **motion** to change the meeting date and time to December 11 at 6:00 pm. Helen seconded the motion. All were in favor. Details about the after meeting were discussed.

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4. Correspondence:

- a) **Arin Mills from NH DOT** - email regarding who is in charge of plans for the guard rail project. She says it is District 3; the NH DOT representatives told the Selectboard that they were handling the project. Money was mentioned as a possible problem. Jon brought this issue to the town and the state twelve years ago. He has pictures, as well. The recent test boring situation where the town was not notified that there would be traffic problems for three days is concerning. The volume of traffic and the lack of other options create unique problems. There is also an economic impact on the community. Hopefully, this past lack of communication will be remedied in the future. Paul was at a meeting with Executive Councilor Kenney and spoke about concerns for the guard rail repairs. State partners are supposed to be working together. It will be important to keep abutters and other shareholders in the communication loop as this section of road is critically important.
- b) **LRPC** – Sean Chamberline provided the TCC with the original documents for the Ten Year Plan with the town’s rationale for requesting funding.
- c) **PbN 18 Murphy Lane** – NH DES File #2023-03047 – impact 15 sq. of bed and bank to install a 5 ft. by 3 ft. anchoring pad for an existing 4 ft. by 32 ft. seasonal dock on Lake Winnisquam.
- d) **NH DES File #2023-00801** – 1003 Laconia Road – Winnisquam Landing Condo Association Permit approval.
- e) **FEDE Regulatory Commission** – 2023 Inspection Follow-Up for Ayers Island Dam

5. Other:

- a) **246 Laconia Road** – The owner is suggesting that the town should create a new district to allow him to build and assisted living facility and workforce housing in a zone where they are not allowed. If the zoning was not changed, he claimed he could put in 48 individual homes.
- b) **Two goals** for the TCC for 2024 should be to update the Natural Resources Inventory and the Natural Resources section of the Master Plan.
- c) **Paul** reports that he can still spray invasives at Riverfront Park and Salmon Run (even though he has discontinued his license) as long as someone from town with a license is present. If Paul does the spraying, he would be willing to provide a pesticide use report. He will contact Kevin Duval at Public Works to discuss the matter.

Helen made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Paul at 8:45p.m. All were in agreement.

Respectfully submitted by Kathi Mitchell