

FINAL

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD
CITY OF STAMFORD
MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 20, 2022
REGULAR MEETING
CONDUCTED VIA INTERNET AND CONFERENCE CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary H. Stone, Chairman
Joseph Todd Gambino, Member
Leigh Shemitz, Member
Laura Tessier, Member
Stephen Schneider, Alternate Member

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

David J. Kozlowski, Alternate Member
Thomas C. Romas, Alternate Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Robert Clausi, Executive Director
Courtney Fahan, OSS, Land Use Bureau

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Stone at 7:35 p.m. Seated to vote for the meeting were Mr. Stone, Mr. Gambino, Dr. Shemitz, Ms. Tessier and Mr. Schneider.

Mr. Stone introduced the first item on the agenda.

➤ **MINUTES:**

September 21, 2022 Special Meeting Draft Minutes:

Consideration of the minutes of the September 21, 2022 Special Meeting was carried over the November 17, 2022 Regular Meeting since only two members were present who were eligible to vote.

APPLICATIONS & PERMITS:

Acceptances/Extensions/Withdrawals:

#2022-20 – 470 Sawmill Road – Lot B7 – Quesited Consulting LLC for Richard E. Coleman: To construct an in-ground pool and required fencing proximate to a watercourse and wetlands on a property located within the drinking water supply watershed of the Mianus River (East branch). The property is situated along the east side of Sawmill Road, and is identified as Lot B7, Account 002-4352, Card S-025, Map 57, Block 394, Zone RA-1, and is \pm 1.38 Acres.

#2022-21 – 235 Woodbine Road – Lot 9 – Quesited Consulting, LLC for Rittereiser: To install a new septic system within portions of the Upland Review Area on property situated within the drinking water supply watersheds of the Rippowam River (Upper Reach). The property is situated along the north side of Woodbine Road, at the northeast intersection with Cedarwood Road, and is identified as Lot 9, Account 001-5996, Card E 018, Map 18, Block 190, Zone RA-1, and is \pm 1.054 Acres.

Discussion: Mr. Stone acknowledged the receipt of the minimum information necessary to accept EPB Permit Application Nos. 2022-20 and 2022-21.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Ms. Tessier and second by Mr. Schneider, the Board voted to **ACCEPT** EPB Permit Application Nos. 2022-20 and 2022-21.

In Favor: Stone, Gambino, Shemitz, Tessier and Schneider
Opposed: None Abstaining: None Not Voting: None

Action Items:

#2022-18 – Barnes Road – Account #003-8064 – Heatherwood Association: The applicant is seeking to legitimize the pond aerator installation and replacement of the electric cable that runs to the pond aerator compressor within watercourses and a conservation easement. The existing cable is located on a homeowner's sub meter and will be relocated to a Heatherwood community-based power source to allow professional access to the circuit breaker. The property is located within the Rippowam River watershed and lies outside of the drinking water supply watershed. The property is located along the east side of Barnes Road, and is identified as Unit 117, Account 003-8064, Map 89, Block 359, and Zone RD.

In Attendance: No one

Discussion: Mr. Stone recused himself from consideration of this application and Dr. Shemitz stepped in as acting chair. A summary of the application offered by Mr. Clausi provided details of the project and impacts to the area from the prior installation of the aeration system without prior EPB review and the other work yet to be completed.

Dr. Shemitz asked the board members if there were any questions.

Mr. Gambino asked if a building permit had been filed for the work that is now underway. Mr. Clausi answered in the affirmative and added the issuance of the electrical permit was one of the reasons staff found out about this situation.

Hearing no further questions from the members or the public, Dr. Shemitz called for a motion from the

Board.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Mr. Gambino and second by Ms. Tessier, the Board voted to **APPROVE** EPB Permit No. 2022-18 with the 9 conditions outlined in the EPB Agenda Summary Report dated October 13, 2022 as there will be minimal environmental impact and subject to the review and approval of EPB Staff.

In Favor: Gambino, Shemitz, Tessier, and Schneider
Opposed: None

Abstaining: None

Recused: Stone

- **SITE PLAN REVIEWS:** None.
- **SUBDIVISION REVIEWS:** None.
- **SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS/ENFORCEMENT:**

48 Sleepy Hollow Lane Lot 19 Est. of Linda Santagata Update regarding correction of unauthorized activities

In Attendance: No one

Discussion: Mr. Clausi updated the board on the plan that has been devised to begin to address the unauthorized activities that were conducted a number of years ago by a prior owner of 48 Sleepy Hollow Lane and which the Board previously ordered to be corrected. The Stormwater Management department will use an access from Haig Avenue and through Sleepy Hollow Park to reach the ±100-foot long section of watercourse that was channelized and has become blocked. This operation will require removal of some shrubs (mostly invasive Winged Euonymus), but no trees. Part of the route crosses a wetland, which Mr. Clausi stated is not soggy. The work is expected to be completed by the second week of November.

Mr. Gambino asked if the City was taking this action this because the property owner will not. Mr. Clausi said the property owners have not corrected the violations in over 20 years, the project will both restore the watercourse and clear a serious blockage of the City's upstream stormwater infrastructure, and reimbursement for this operation will be pursued by the Corporation Counsel.

Ms. Tessier asked whether the soils in the wetland are mineral or organic in nature. Mr. Clausi stated this wetland consists of mineral soil.

The members were generally supportive of the project. No formal action was taken by the Board.

- **OTHER BUSINESS:** None

ADJOURN:

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Mr. Gambino and second by Mr. Schneider, the Board voted to **ADJOURN** the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2022.

In Favor: Stone, Gambino, Shemitz, Tessier, and Schneider
Opposed: None Abstaining: None Not Voting: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Gary H. Stone, Chairman
Environmental Protection Board