



Londonderry Conservation Commission  
Tuesday, November 23, 2021  
Minutes

**Present:** Marge Badois, Chair; Gene Harrington, Vice Chair; Deb Lievens, member; Mike Byerly, member; Bob Maxwell, member; Jocelyn Demas, alternate member; and Mike Speltz, alternate member

**Absent:** Susan Malouin, member

**Also present:** Amy Kizak, GIS Manager/Comprehensive Planner; John Trottier, Director of Department of Public Works & Engineering; and Beth Morrison, Recording Secretary

Marge Badois called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. She appointed J Demas to vote for S Malouin and M Speltz to vote for the open position.

**Amended Wetland Permit Application – Harvey Road Culvert at Little Cohas Brook – Map/Lots 014 011 0 & 028 022 29 - John Trottier** – John Trottier, Director of Engineering and Environmental Services, addressed the Commission. J Trottier reviewed the previous wetland permit application noting that it was for the replacement of the 98-inch corrugated metal pipe culvert across Harvey Road. He said that the culvert is the town's responsibility. He gave the Commission some background noting that they only received two bids for the job, one of which was \$200,000 more than what the estimate was. He went on stating that they reached out to local bidders, as the other bidders were out of state. He said that the first bidder never got them the material they requested, so they decided to rethink their approach to the culvert. He explained that they met with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) and instead of lining the interior of the 98-inch pipe with concrete, they are now proposing to slip line it with a 72-inch pipe. He added that they will install a 60-inch reinforced concrete pipe about 18-inches higher than the invert of the pipe, which will handle the 100-year storm. He pointed out that they are increasing the permanent impact by 200 SF and also reducing the temporary impact by 200 SF to the wetlands. He said that there is a change to the total permanent bank loss to the stream channel by 27 linear feet. He mentioned that they have filed the amended permit with NHDES. D Lievens asked if there was a schematic of what this would look like in the plan set. J Trottier referenced sheet C108 in the plan set for the Commission to review. M Speltz asked if the cross section of the two new pipes would equal the same as the old pipe. J Trottier replied that is correct. M Speltz asked why they are replacing this. J Trottier replied that the bottom is rotting out. M Speltz asked what the concrete around the pipe does. J Trottier responded that they will take the new pipe and slip in it and then grout between the 72-inch pipe and 98-inch pipe so they meet. M Byerly asked for clarification on the 200 SF of both permanent and temporary impact. J Trottier reviewed the headwalls, noting that the new headwalls have wings, which is creating the impact. M Speltz commented that the Commission had asked A Kizak to talk with J Trottier to try and pursue grant money for this. J Trottier explained that A Kizak did discuss this with him, but they are not pursuing grant funding due to the time frame of the project. M Speltz asked if there are other culverts in town that would need replacing. J Trottier replied that there is no other culvert that is on his radar. M Speltz asked for clarification on the first proposal for this culvert. J Trottier reviewed the first proposal with the Commission, noting there was a machine that



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39 sprayed the concrete around the inside of the pipe, versus slip lining it with a 72-inch pipe. M Speltz  
40 asked if this is a perched culvert. J Trottier replied that it is not. D Lievens made a motion to recommend  
41 approval of the amended wetland permit as presented. M Byerly seconded it. The motion passed, 7-0-0.

42 **Hickory Hill parking lot:** J Trottier told the Commission that he reached out to Russ from Eversource  
43 regarding the potential parking lot at Hickory Hill. He explained that he went out there and there is an  
44 existing culvert that needs repair, which he brought to Russ's attention. He went on stating that he  
45 discussed with M Badois that there is a ford, which is an area where a vehicle can go across, which is  
46 primarily for construction vehicles. He added that he told Russ the ford is for heavy equipment and  
47 asked who would be responsible when a gas tank breaks and bottoms out. He pointed out that he would  
48 like to revisit this with Eversource suggesting a cross culvert, for which they would need a joint use  
49 agreement with the town for maintenance of the roadway and parking area. M Badois asked if a plan is  
50 needed. J Trottier replied that he will submit the plan they came up with to Russ at Eversource. M Speltz  
51 asked if the town would be required to maintain the culvert. J Trottier replied that is correct and noted  
52 where there are other culverts like this in town. He stated that he would be back in touch with M Badois  
53 when he has more information.

54 **35 Gilcreast Road:** J Trottier pointed out that the scope of work has been submitted to NHDES and the  
55 consultant is going to ask for an update. He commented that he will stay on it and report back to the  
56 Commission.

57 **CUP – Eversource Energy 2021 380 Transmission Line Optical Ground Wire Replacement – Eversource**  
58 **ROW on Wiley Hill Road –** Conor Madison, Assistant Project Manager from GZA, 5 Commerce Park  
59 North, Suite 201, Bedford, NH and Kelly Merritt from Eversource addressed the Commission. C Madison  
60 informed the Commission that they are seeking a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to replace static wire  
61 with optical ground wire. He pointed out that static wire is on top of transmission poles, runs from  
62 substation to substation and acts as a shield for lightning. He explained that when they usually replace  
63 static wires they use helicopters, but cannot do this for this project as it has two transmission right-of-  
64 ways owned by Eversource and National Grid. He went on stating that for safety issues they cannot  
65 string a wire there and instead are proposing to go underground from one edge of the right-of-way to  
66 the other using a three feet wide and three feet deep trench. He commented that they are in the  
67 wetland buffer, but not the actual wetland. He reviewed BMP rules for disturbance of the buffer and  
68 wetland with the Commission. He noted that they are coordinating with New Hampshire Fish & Game,  
69 as there are snakes and turtles in the area. He stated that NH Fish & Game asked them not to loam and  
70 seed the area to maintain turtle habitat. He said that they will leave it exposed and throw mulch on top  
71 for the turtles. He mentioned that they will be using the current access road off Wiley Hill Road, where  
72 there is a lot of exposed sand, which he believes is from ATV use. He stated that this project is proposed  
73 to start in spring of 2022. D Lievens asked if the shielding of lightning will be lost by trenching the wires  
74 underground. C Madison replied that this intersection alone has eight different transmission lines that  
75 have static wire lines, so by taking this line underground, it is still protected by all the other lines. M  
76 Speltz asked if the information the optic line carried was just data. C Madison replied that was correct.  
77 M Speltz asked for clarification on the legend on the plan. C Madison reviewed the legend with the



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78 Commission. G Harrington asked if they are putting down matting. C Madison replied that was correct. G  
79 Harrington asked what they will do to reduce the ATV impact in this location. C Madison replied that  
80 they are using a gated entrance already, and thought this was a National Grid right-of-way, but stated  
81 they might be able to install boulders around the sides. M Byerly expressed his opinion this satisfies the  
82 criteria for a CUP. D Lievens made a motion to recommend to the Planning Board that they approve the  
83 Conditional Use Permit. G Harrington seconded the motion. The motion passed, 7-0-0.

84 **Unfinished Business**

85 **Financial Report:** D Lievens reviewed the financial report (Exhibit 1) with the Commission, which is  
86 attached hereto. D Lievens said that the Commission can expect a check from New Hampshire  
87 Groundwater and Drinking Water Trust Fund for \$384,171. M Speltz added that the request is in. He  
88 informed the Commission that they will have to put up a sign, for which they give you an electronic logo  
89 and the Commission creates the sign. He said that he has some suggested wording such as "This  
90 property was conserved by The Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund and the Londonderry  
91 Conservation Commission." He asked if anyone would like to design a sign. M Badois volunteered to  
92 create the sign.

93 **Articles for Londonderry Times:** D Lievens noted that she received an email asking for a status update.  
94 She asked if the Commission should take some time off and if four articles a year is too much for the  
95 Commission to produce. M Speltz expressed his opinion that he does not want to forgo putting  
96 conservation matters out to the public. M Byerly volunteered to write articles. M Speltz stated that he  
97 would write a synopsis of the climate change conference in Glasgow. He asked when the deadline would  
98 be. D Lievens said not to worry before Christmas.

99 **New Business**

100 **Interview candidate:** M Badois said that they received one application for the open position. David  
101 Heafey, introduced himself to the Commission, noting that when he first moved here three years ago,  
102 one of the first places he looked for was a place to hike, as he is an avid hiker. He said that he has hiked  
103 the Musquash a lot and especially during COVID. He reviewed his experience with the Commission. He  
104 added that he recently graduated from Leadership Londonderry and connected to the Conservation  
105 Commission the most. The Commissioners introduced themselves to him and asked questions. M Byerly  
106 asked if there would be an issue with the time commitment required for the Commission. D. Heafey  
107 replied that it would not. M Speltz asked when the interview was with the Town Council. A Kizak  
108 responded that she believes it is December 6, 2021, but would double check and let him know. The  
109 Commissioners consensus was to recommend him to the Conservation Commission.

110 **2022 Meeting dates:** A Kizak told the Commission that the packet had all the meeting dates for 2022 for  
111 the Commissioners to review.

112 **Other Business**



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113 **Minutes:** The Commissioners went over the public minutes of November 9, 2021. M Byerly made a  
114 motion to approve the minutes as presented. G Harrington seconded the motion. The motion passed, 6-  
115 0-1, with J Demas abstaining.

116 **Adjournment:** M Byerly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. M Speltz seconded the  
117 motion. The motion passed, 7-0-0.

118 Respectfully Submitted,  
119 Beth Morrison  
120 Recording Secretary