



# TOWN OF HALIFAX COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## Conservation Commission

499 Plymouth Street, Halifax, MA 02338

\*Telephone: (781)590-3872 \*Email: [peggy.selter@halifax-ma.org](mailto:peggy.selter@halifax-ma.org)

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11/2/2023, 3:05:30 PM

HALIFAX TOWN CLERK

## Agenda

### In Person Meeting, Tuesday, November 07, 2023 Beginning at 7:00pm in the Selectmen's Meeting Room

*\*\*The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law\*\**

#### Hearings:

- **7:00pm** – 48 Elm Street: **RDA** – *Hearing* - Tree Removal – Thomas Sedell will be present.
  - Tree is leaning over the pond; owner is worried that this could potentially fall on someone going by on the pond.
- **7:05pm**: 111 River Street – **ANRAD** – *Continued Hearing*: **Silva Engineering is requesting a continuation for 111 River Street to Conservation 11/21/23 meeting at 7:05pm.**
  - Approval of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVM).
    - Ecosystems Solutions Review Revisions.
- **7:10pm**: 550 Monponsett Street – **RDA** – *Hearing*:
  - To level and regrade an area behind the building, install a ceremony deck, and three (3) walkways within 100' of Monponsett Pond.

#### Discussions and Actions to be Taken:

- 383 Monponsett Street: Driveway Installation Complaint.
  - After-the-Fact RDA and fee received.
  - Board vote for Determination of Applicability.
- 129 Oak Street: Complaint by Mr. Rich Crespi: Water run-off.
  - Administrative Assistant spoke with Highway Surveyor Steve Hayward regarding the water run-off issue and updated him on the Boards request to start with possibly cleaning the tanks/drainage system for a solution to the flooding/water run-off. Surveyor Hayward stated he will reach-out to homeowner for permission to work on his property.



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- 111 Lake Street: Complaint Update: Homeowners within 50' of buffer zone, pushing piles and clearing into the stream.
  - First Letter sent 06/14/23. No response.
  - Second letter signed by Chair sent 07/25/23. No Response.
  - Administrative Assistant sent certified mail on 10/10/23.
- 250 Lingan Street: Morse Brothers Bog
  - 10/04/2023 Site-Visit: DEP received a complaint from an abutter of 250 Lingan Street/Morse Brothers Bog alleging that dirt/manure is being dumped/stored on the drinking water wells at the property and alleges that it is affecting their water.
    - Branden Costa, DEP, Conservation Chair Evans, Health Agent Valery and Brendan Moquin, Controller for Morse Brothers conducted a site visit on 10/04/2023.
      - On 10/30/2023 Gerard Martin, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Water Resources emailed DEP's findings of the 10/04/2023 Site-Visit, stating, based on the inspections conducted by MassDEP, no violations of the Drinking Water, Solid Waste or Wetlands Protection regulations were observed.
- Elm Street: Runoff/Drainage Issue Complaint:
  - A complaint was made by Mr. Alan Lucas regarding street rainwater runoff. He stated lives at the bottom of the hill and the entire area drains off the street and into his yard carrying with it a large amount of water, sand, and debris towards Robbins Pond. He stated he reached out to the highway dept.
- 340 Plymouth Street and 314 Plymouth Street: Drainage at Mr./Mrs. Alger's property.
  - Letter from Patrick Brennan, PGB Engineering stating the approved site-plan for Halifax Self Storage has a proposed swale that will capture water from the outfall and divert it to the existing drainage ditch that crosses through that property. This swale should alleviate some of the flooding problems that the Alger's experience.
- Conservation Commission Goals:
  - Educating the Public and explain to the community that the job of the Conservation Commission is to ensure that any potential development is as much in harmony with the natural environment as possible; and that our purpose is to protect the land, air, water, and biodiversity of the ecosystem.



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- **Conservation Commission Policies:** Discussion to consider policies for the following:  
Chair Evans & Member Martin-Plant requested a discussion on the following:
  - Whenever wetlands are disturbed, it is required to be replaced by a 2-1 replication.
  - Whenever new construction is within the 100' buffer zone, a post and rail fence is required to be placed at the 50' "no touch" buffer zone.
  - Require an NOI for any projects outside of routine maintenance within 50 feet of wetlands.
  - That new developments limit impermeable parking lots and driveways, and instead lean towards pervious surfaces, such as gravel, as much as reasonably possible.
    - To absorb water on-site rather than increase storm water runoff. Even when catch basins are installed the rainwater that washes over impervious surfaces collects pollutants which are then transported off-site. I'd like to see more water absorbed and filtered by the natural process of soil and sand on-site through pervious surfaces, vegetated buffers, and rain gardens.
    - To reduce thermal radiation of pavement. Too much pavement can lead to urban heat island effect and contribute to climate change, as well as environmental and health risks.
      - The 2:1 planting ratio that Chair Evans suggested will certainly help in these areas as well.

### **Admin. Report:**

- Reconstruction of the Conservation Commissions webpage.

### **Bills to be Approved and Signed:**

- Expense Account (#01-172):
  - Pitney Bowes - Postage Machine - \$100.00
  - WB Mason:
    - Invoice# 241954041 – 12 Component File Roll Holder - \$188.80
    - Invoice# 241933927 –1/3 Cut Blue Folders - \$38.99.
- Revolving Account: (#25-173-5380):
  - Express Newspaper: Invoice# A 12835CL
    - 48 Elm Street – Legal Ad Notice# 1457 - \$45.00.
    - 550 Monponsett Street – Legal Ad Notice# 14883 - \$45.00.

### **Signatures:**

- 163 Plymouth Street: 4x6 road cut to do gas maintenance. Requires Signature.



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### **Meeting Minutes to be Approved and Signed:**

- Approve & Sign:
  - October 17, 2023, Meeting Minutes. (*Approve & Sign*)
- Already Approved on 10/04/23. Require Signatures:
  - October 03, 2023, Meeting Minutes. (*Kathy & Kim Sign*)
  - September 27, 2023, Meeting Minutes. (*Kim Sign*)
  - September 19, 2023, Meeting Minutes. (*Kathy Sign*)
  - September 15, 2023, Meeting Minutes. (*Kathy Sign*)

### **Mail & Other Correspondence:**

- **Planning Board:**
  - Notice of Public Hearing.
    - Zoning By-law and Zoning Map Amendments: To create a new Senior Housing Overlay District and apply it to the Monponsett Street properties, Halifax, MA, identified as 265 Monponsett Street and 266 Monponsett Street.
  - 550 Monponsett Street: Proposal to reconfiguration of the entrance, landscaping, regrading of lawn area, and additional parking to compensate lost parking at the entrance.
- **Board of Selectmen:**
  - 0 Plymouth Street & 250 Monponsett Street: Earth Removal Permit application Request.
    - Board of Selectmen are requesting any comments, questions, or concerns on the Earth Removal Permit application request.
  - Michael Mercier: A thank you letter for the interview for the Conservation Agent position.

### **Other Business: \*\*Any other unscheduled business following posting of this Agenda.**

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Adjournment:

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**Next Meeting:** November 21, 2023