

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WAREHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Date of Meeting: April 29, 2021
(Via Zoom Remote)

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sandy Slavin, Chair
Elissa Heard
Carol Malonson
Kwame Bartie
Michael Mercier
Ron Besse
Denise Schulz, Associate Member
David Pichette, Agent

Member Absent: Mary Taggart

Also Present: Ken Buckland, Town Planner
Derek Sullivan, Town Administrator
Peter Teitelbaum, Selectman
David Menard, Municipal Maintenance Director

III. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

IV. DISCUSSION RE: SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES RELATIVE TO PROPOSED WETLAND BYLAW CHANGES

A. Article 11 – Change for Town’s Status re: Exemptions

Ms. Slavin read the proposed Bylaw change into the record.

Mr. Sullivan spoke re: past municipal projects that required ConCom approval & cost the Town money in engineering costs. Mr. Pichette explained these projects were new structures/features, therefore, they are not exempt projects under either the State or Town Bylaws. What is exempt from State & Town Bylaws are typical maintenance items. New structures are not exempt.

Mr. Sullivan expressed concern re: costs to Town for engineering & projects stopped that shouldn’t have. Mr. Pichette stated he initially looks at what is allowed under State law re: municipal projects. Mr. Sullivan displayed pictures of projects done that required submittals to ConCom. He feels exceptions are being made w/ Conservation land. Mr. Pichette stated the work being proposed/done is what triggers a filing or not.

Mr. Buckland noted the intent of the Bylaw change & that State exemptions would be available for Town projects. Mr. Pichette discussed why language in the existing Bylaw was put in. He listed the State

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Buckland noted the State exemptions that are not available in the local Bylaw. The specific State laws were displayed & reviewed.

B. Article 10 – Change to 50 ft. No Activity Zone Requirement

The Bylaw change was displayed & reviewed. Mr. Buckland explained the intent of the proposed article that proposes the setback would not be an absolute in the WVI district & reviewed on a case by case basis.

Discussion ensued re: the redevelopment plan for the Tremont Nail site & how this proposed article would impact various projects, such as on Merchant's Way & Tremont Nail.

Lengthy discussion ensued re: the current Bylaw, language & how the ConCom can waive the 50 ft. no activity requirement on certain projects in certain commercial areas.

Present before the ConCom: Danny Warren

Mr. Warren stated if the 50 ft. no activity zone requirement stays, it will kill his project on Main St.

Present before the ConCom: Angela Dunham

Ms. Dunham expressed support for the Tremont Nail project & Mr. Warren's project, subject to ConCom approval.

Brief discussion ensued re: Mr. Warren's project & ConCom members meeting w/ Mr. Warren on site for discussion of conceptual plans.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Besse moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mercier seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (6-0-0)

Date signed: 8/10/2021 5-0-0

Attest: SSS

Sandy Slavin, Chair

WAREHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Date copy sent to Wareham Town Clerk: 8/19/21