

WESTBROOK CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Corrected Minutes – March 15, 2011

Members present: Chairman Tom ODell, Marty Marx, Mike Oryl, Randy Bell, Don Harger and John Rie.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chairman Tom ODell.

Minutes – February 15, 2010

Upon a motion by John Rie, seconded by Don Harger, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the minutes of February 15, 2011, as amended.

Bills: Upon a motion by Mike Oryl, seconded by Don Harger, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the payment of the following bills:

\$105.01 to Kathleen Kelemen for Secretarial duties, \$12.40 and \$6.17 to Chairman ODell for reimbursement for the printing of Salt Island Overlook maps and a CD of photos for Kirtland Landing.

Correspondence:

1. Copy of 2/22/11 Zoning Commission Meeting Minutes.
2. Copy of 2/8/11 corrected IWWC Meeting Minutes.
3. Copy of 3/1/11 IWWC Meeting Minutes.
4. Copy of Monthly IWWC Enforcement Officer Report.
5. Copy of Public Notice from ACOE regarding minimal activities within waters of the U.S.
6. Copy of Long Island Sound Assembly Report.
7. Copy of the Habitat.
8. Copy of “CT State of the Birds 2011”.

Chairman’s Report:

- Chairman ODell stated that he received a request from the Director of Finance for anticipated budget expenditures through the end of the fiscal year. He submitted a reply that the Commission would expend the entire budget with the exception of Part Time Payroll.
- Chairman ODell stated that he will be attending the Board of Finance Budget Hearing on March 21 for the Commission.

Upon a motion by Randy Bell, seconded by Marty Marx, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to add “Kirtland Landing Restoration” under Open Space Programs and “DEP Long Island Sound application for marine liftwell modification” and “Assessment of River corridors for sources of NPS Pollutants” under New Business.

Open Space Program:

- **Salt Island Overlook – LISFF Grants – water quality (parking) and Funding restoration 2011 (Budget decision):**
Chairman ODell stated that we will not be writing any grants for Salt Island Overlook for this year. The reason being, we haven’t been able to get anywhere with the USPS because they are concerned about increased liability

with sharing an entrance/exit. It was not possible to address this issue before the 3/18/11 deadline for the grant. We will continue to cut and remove invasive vines around the edges of the property and remove downed trees. Chairman ODell stated that he would like to designate any money left in the budget (approximately \$1000.00) for this work to be done. He will get pricing first, which will include moving soil and seeding. He is still hoping to work with Oxford Academy regarding egresses. There has been a lot of water in the area of the proposed parking lot. We have no borings at this time, but is pretty sure it is ground water coming up. The ground water indicates that pervious surface for the parking area will not be feasible.

Kirtland Landing Restoration: Chairman ODell stated that the Town Planner is recommending the restoration of Kirtland Landing. The bank is eroding quickly, plus there is a problem with drainage from the road. The parking area and launch also need work. A retaining area will be needed and the bushes are very overgrown. The bushes should be removed and replaced with native shrubs. The Town Planner, working with Tom ODell will be applying for a planning grant to help with the cost.

- **Chapman Mill Pond – Lake Laconia Assoc. management proposal – review attached letter, Aquatic Plant Control – update and Management of dead hemlock – USFWL:** Chairman ODell stated that he has not heard anything from Attorney Wells regarding the letter that he sent to him regarding Lake Laconia. The contract has not been signed yet for aquatic control of the pond. He has received permission from CT DOT to stage USFWL refuge equipment behind the proposed Town Garage Building and is waiting for a “Cooperative Agreement” from the refuge to initiate their assistance in clearing dead Hemlock from the Chapman Mill Pond Open Space emergency road and other areas.
- **Open Space Plan: Green Infrastructure Plan:** Chairman ODell stated that a draft copy of the POCD is almost complete. At this time, it has gone out for review to the appropriate people. A copy of “Open Space Vision” map was distributed and discussed. Chairman ODell stated that he noticed quite a few things on the draft POCD document that need to be corrected. The plan needs to be completed by the end of June and approved by the Planning Commission.
- **Horse Hill Woods; parking feasibility:** Chairman ODell stated that he met with Public Works Director John Riggio. They discussed public works doing the work if the commission provides the materials. The parking area can be 30’ x 18’ just inside the bar and chain link. Gravel will be needed to level off the area. Also the sign that is located there will have to be moved. Prices for materials need to be gotten.

Plan of Conservation and Development

This matter was discussed previously in the meeting as indicated above.

Old Business:

- **DRAFT Stormwater Management Regulations – Hearing March 14, 2011:**
Chairman ODell stated that he did not attend the Hearing on the 14th, but he did get a little feed back and there was not a lot of opposition to the proposed changes.

New Business:

- **Open Space Funds; Meeting w/Finance Director 2/22/11:**
Chairman ODell stated that the meeting went very well. There are currently 2 open space accounts: 1) Small City Lake Laconia Account which has \$604,228 and 2) Open Space Fund that was created by ordinance which currently has \$54,053.00. This is the account that has been used for property appraisals. The history of each account was discussed. There is also a special fund that was created for collections from recycling that was done at the dump. There is \$298.00 in that fund. Upon a motion by John Rie, seconded by Mike Oryl, it was:
VOTED: Unanimously to transfer the \$298.00 in the special recycling fund to the Salt Island Overlook fund.
- **Policy of approval of bills:** Chairman ODell stated that Director of Finance Andrew Urban requested that the Commission revise the motion made last month regarding the payment of invoices. The Commission did not feel that this was necessary.
- **Zoning Referral – Z2011-02, 1587 Boston Post Road; Proposed Entertainment Center:**
Upon a motion by John Rie, seconded by Don Harger, it was:
VOTED: Unanimously to let the Zoning Commission know that the Commission feels the application does not apply to this Commission and therefore, the Conservation Commission has “No Comments” regarding this application.
- **Assessment of River Corridors for sources of NPS Pollutants:**
Chairman ODell stated that that Senator Eileen Daily is looking into “Assessment of non-point source solution, including sediment” for the Menunketesuck and Patchaug Rivers. He further stated that this could possibly work out for funding for dredging. John Rie stated that he is not sure this will help with the dredging situation. Chairman ODell stated that this is really more inland, like Kirtland Landing. He asked if this was something the Commission supported. Upon a motion by Marty Marx, seconded by John Rie, it was:
VOTED: Unanimously to support the Assessment of River Corridors for sources of NPS Pollutants for the Menunketesuck and Patchaug Rivers.
- **DEP Long Island Sound Application for Marine Lift-well Modifications:**
Chairman ODell stated that this application is for the area where Ritts Marine used a lift-well to move boats in and out of the water. The old one collapsed so they fixed it, but never got a permit for it. The work was done approximately 5 years ago. When the new owner bought the property his bank

told him that he had to apply for a permit. Upon a motion by John Rie, seconded by Don Harger, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve of the DEP Permit for a Lift-well and to make “No Comments” for the application.

Reports:

- a. **Planning Commission:** Nothing to report.
- b. **Zoning Commission:** Nothing to report.
- c. **Inland Wetlands:** Nothing to report.
- d. **Harbor Commission:** John Rie gave an update of the progress of the Harbor Commission regarding dredging. Pilot’s Point has stated that they will lose approximately \$7 Million and will have to lay off up to 15 employees if the dredging doesn’t get done. There is no updates on the harbor lines. 12-14 spots have been adopted so far for the Adopt-A-Spot program. Chairman ODell stated he will check to see if Kirtland Landing is on the list for available spots.

Upon a motion by John Rie, seconded by Don Harger, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to adjourn at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen H. Kelemen, Secretary

Note: Corrections indicated in bold, underlined and italicized print.