

TOWN OF SAVOY

CONSERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Place: Savoy Town Hall

720 Main Rd, Savoy MA

Date: Tuesday November 19, 2024

Time: 6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 6:35pm by Dan Harris, April LeSage seconds.

Present: Dan Harris, April LeSage, Cosmo LaViola

Other in attendance: Mark Stinson

SCHEDULED TOPICS:

- **Review Mail-** Motion made to table by Dan Harris to table review of mail until next meeting, seconded by April LeSage
- **Approve minutes-**
- **Discussion of current or ongoing conservation applications and issues**
 - o DCR Forestry Project: New State
 - Motion made to table by Dan Harris to table until next meeting, seconded by April LeSage
 - o Chapel Road Culvert
- Cosmo is looking into grants and funding for culvert replacement from the Nature Conservancy. Funding is a possibility, but is not sure there is funding available for this particular project because of timing. Cosmo will contact someone about the MVP plan about the culvert replacement.
- Peter Grandy from Weston and Sampson signed into the meeting via teams to discuss the bridge culvert project.
- Dan outlined concerns from the commission that neither storm crossing proposal meets storm standards.
- Peter mentioned plans for both culverts were made 8 years ago with some revisions made recently.
- The plans were made with cost/budget in mind, to keep costs for project low.
- Another issue the commission brought up with the Chickley River culvert is the perch opening. Adding a lining will not fix the perch outlet, Cosmo discussed the possibility of it getting worse.
- April asked about the cost of each project. Peter discussed that there is funding of a million dollars from Mass Works to replace culverts. Tilton Road culvert will cost approximately \$600,000, and the Chickley River culvert will cost approximately \$250,000

to add the liner. Additional money is budgeted for other costs like overhead utility and land acquisition.

- April asked if only one culvert could be replaced so money from the Chickely River culvert could be allocated to the Tilton Road culvert so it could be replaced to stream crossing standards. Peter said Chickley River culvert is going to be lined because the culvert is still in better shape and doesn't need to be completely replaced. It is a possibility that only one culvert be replaced to stream crossing standards, and could be replaced at a later date.
- Cosmo questioned the price of the open box culvert instead of the closed box culvert and the possibility of using an 8 foot + culvert instead of the 6 foot. Peter explained it would cost about 25% higher than what the current plan is to replace with an open culvert. He also explained the process and cost for the 8 foot culvert would be approximately 100k more.
- Cosmo asked about the cost of alternative #3 on NOI, Peter said it would be at least \$600,000-700,000 for that plan.
- Commission asked what the difference is between alternative #2 and #3, Peter said alternative #2 wouldn't be cost effective, the depth would need to increase because of scour.
- Weston and Sampson will contact DEP and respond to comments, then email them to the commission.
- Commission discussed project and has the following additional questions/issues:
 - o Are there plans to mitigate the perched outlet in culvert B?
 - o Clarification of bankfull width for culvert A.
 - o Is there a possibility to replace only culvert A to stream crossing standards, and wait to replace culvert B?
 - o What is the deadline to use Mass Works money?
 - o Provide details about the land acquisition.
- April LeSage made a motion to continue the hearing to our next meeting December 16 @ 6:30pm, Cosmo seconded, all in favor
 - o Center Road excavation and cutting
 - Dan Harris called the land owner about excavating and cutting on Center Road and found out that the property has been transferred to another landowner. Dan will reach out to the new owner, Mr. Crossland, and send him educational information about the wetlands protection act and request a retroactive RDA filing.
 - o Harrington Road Culvert
 - There is a beaver that blocked the culvert near Harrington Road, the highway superintendent asked to remove it. Dan Harris made a motion to issue a WPA emergency certification form, April LeSage seconded, all in favor. A WPA emergency form was issued to Todd Krutiak with a start date of 11/20/2024, expiring in 30 days.

- o 585 Main Road riverfront area update
 - No update was given from the landowner, the conservation commission agreed to submit an enforcement order for compliance for previously discussed issues.
- o DPW Bundled NOI/OOC- Create a list: April LeSage made a motion to table until next meeting, Cosmo seconded, all in favor
- o Town Park delineation and mowing schedule meeting: April LeSage made a motion to table until next meeting, Cosmo seconded, all in favor

Old Business

- o Document organization-Dan will contact the town administrator for more information
- **New Business**
 - o Expand parking area on east side of building for town hall
 - o Establish trail system in town park area
- **Selection of next Meeting Date(s)**
- December 16, 2024 6:30pm

CORRESPONDENCE:

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

ADJOURN MEETING:

- Dan Harris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:59, April seconded, all in favor.