

**Town of Norfolk
Inland Wetlands Agency
Town Hall
Monday March 7, 2022
Regular Meeting 7:00 pm
Minutes**



1. Call to Order – 7:05 pm
2. Roll Call – Mead (Chair), Webb, Kessin, Lovett, Kwast, IWO Halloran. Mr. Lovett sat for Robinson and Mr. Kwast sat for Tucker.
3. Agenda Review – Item 6B delayed until next month.
4. Approval of Minutes – Approved unanimously with one change, “aesthetic” spelling error was corrected.
5. Public Comment – None
6. New Business –
 - A. Public Hearing 7:07 pm, #22-001 Town of Norfolk. Modify and repair existing drainage system on Maple Avenue. Work in the wetlands and in the upland review area. This includes work on two private properties.

Mr. Halloran began by informing Agency members that the property owners included in the application have authorized Matt Riiska, First Selectman, to act as their agent.

Roy Seelye, P.E., senior project manager at Cardinal Engineering Associates, then described the Town’s proposal to the Agency and the around 10 members of the public attending. The most significant water problem is that the downflow from Pettibone Lane floods Maple Avenue and nearby properties. Mr. Seelye described how additional and enlarged drain pipes and other improvements would solve the current flooding problems. He also described redesigned wing walls on either side of Pettibone lane that were much more aesthetically appealing than the Town’s previous proposal. In response to Agency questions Mr. Seelye emphasized that the amount of water flowing through the system would be unchanged, and its velocity little changed. Thus, the new and enlarged drain pipes and lengthened stone walls on the north side of Maple Avenue would be more than sufficient to handle expected flows.

Several members of the public had questions for Mr. Seelye, and all either said or appeared to be satisfied with his answers. John Thew asked if the septic system on his property would be affected? The answer was no. Elizabeth Bailey, owner of 31 Pettibone Lane, one of the properties affected by the proposed work, had a number of questions about how the new water conduits would look, said she was satisfied with the answers and thanked the Town and Agency for being willing to revise the previous plan. Don Currier asked if the proposed 30” pipe would be large enough? The answer was that the proposed two pipes will be a significant improvement over the existing one pipe and a ditch. Christopher Carr asked about water flows downstream from Maple Avenue toward his property next to the five-way intersection and was told no change was expected there and no work on that part of the drainage area was currently planned. Matt Riiska asked if the drain pipes currently running from 62 Maple Ave. would be incorporated into the

drainage system. The answer was that they would be. Lastly, Rachael Roth of 69 Maple Ave., the new owner of Manor House, asked what the new rip rap on her property will look like, and was told that Cardinal Engineering will send her photos.

No written correspondence was received.

After it was determined there were no further questions from either the public or the Agency, Mr. Webb moved to close the Public Hearing and Mr. Kwast seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously and the Public Hearing was closed at 7:47 pm.

Agency members then discussed the proposal once again and agreed that the wetlands impacts were “diminimus,” that all relevant regulations and criteria had been met, and that the standard conditions for wetlands projects should apply. Mr. Webb moved to approve the Town’s proposal based on plans dated February 2022, Mr. Kessin seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

- B. #21-021 Adair Mali work at 289 Grantville Rd. Maintenance work in a wetlands area. Continuance granted until next Agency meeting (April 4).

7. Old Business

There have been some citizen complaints about erosion at the Robinson Plaza construction site. Mr. Halloran will investigate.

8. WEO Report

Mr. Halloran reported that the proposed above-grade crossing of Spaulding Brook has been “eliminated from this project” by Aquarion Water Company. Exact future plans have yet to be determined.

A paid secretary for the Agency has yet to be considered by the Board of Finance.

9. Communications and Bills – None discussed

10. Adjournment – 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted – Myron L Kwast