

**TOWN OF NORFOLK – INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
NORFOLK TOWN HALL – 2ND FLOOR – 19 MAPLE AVENUE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2026 - 7:00PM**



Members Present:	Hartley Mead, Chairman; Jill Chase, Vice-Chairman; Myron Kwast, Bill Millard; Phil Lovett and Joel Nelson, Alternates.
Members Absent:	Ted Otto
Staff Present:	Stacey Sefcik, IWEO

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL.

Chairman Hartley Mead called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. All regular members present were seated. Phil Lovett was seated for Ted Otto who was absent.

2. AGENDA REVIEW.

No changes were made to the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

A. May 4, 2026 Regular Meeting.

MOTION Mr. Millard, second Ms. Chase, to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2026 meeting; unanimously approved.

4. PUBLIC HEARING.

A. Text Amendment to Article XIX – Fees of the Town of Norfolk Inland Wetlands Regulations.

Ms. Sefcik read into the record the Notice of Public Hearing that ran in the *Republican-American* newspaper on May 19th and May 26th. She indicated that the text of the proposed amendment had been available for public review in the Town Clerk's Office. A copy of the draft amendment was also forwarded to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, but as of the time of the meeting no confirmation nor comments were received back from DEEP.

Ms. Sefcik and the Commission members discussed the current state of confusion with regard to fees – the town ordinance has one list but the posted Inland Wetlands regulations contain slightly different fees. Additionally, the Commission wanted to implement an after-the-fact fee, which is not mentioned in either fee schedule. The net effect of the changes would be that work in the wetlands would be charged a higher fee than work that is in the upland review area. Larger impact projects would be charged a higher fee than smaller projects, which aligns with the larger effort to review these projects. Ms. Sefcik then explained the language pertaining to mitigation credits for work to restore wetlands areas.

Mr. Kwast stated that he believed the changes to the fee schedule were a huge step forward and a much more rational system. He noted that the previous schedules were confusing and this schedule was much easier to understand.

The floor was opened to public comment but no one present expressed a desire to speak. Hearing no further commentary, Mr. Mead closed the public hearing at 7:15PM.

5. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

No one present expressed a desire to speak.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Text Amendment to Article XIX – Fees of the Town of Norfolk Inland Wetlands Regulations.

Members discussed the possible effective date, and Ms. Sefcik explained that approval at Town Meeting was also required as the draft would replace the current fee ordinance.

MOTION Mr. Kwast, second Mr. Mead to adopt the text amendment to *Article XIX – Fees* of the Town of Norfolk Inland Wetlands Regulations to be effective as soon as the draft is also approved at Town Meeting; unanimously approved.

7. **NEW BUSINESS.**

A. **Barry Webber, 60 Lovers Lane – Request for Declaratory Ruling – Removal of Invasives.**

Ms. Sefcik explained that she had sent an inquiry letter to Mr. Webber regarding some work done adjacent to the onsite wetlands. Mr. Webber promptly contacted her and explained that the work was related to removal of invasive buckthorn. She explained that removal of invasives could potentially receive a declaratory ruling if the Commission felt it appropriate.

Mr. Webber stated that his contractor had removed buckthorn in one area but that there were a couple other areas still to be done. Where it had been removed, phlox and other native plants had already started filling in. A commissioner asked if he had treated the stumps to prevent regrowth; Mr. Webber stated that he had not but that they would likely continue removal in the fall.

MOTION Ms. Chase, second Mr. Kwast, to find that the activities described in the matter of **Barry Webber, 60 Lovers Lane – Request for Declaratory Ruling – Removal of Invasives** represent a permitted use as of right per Section 160.11.A of the Town of Norfolk Inland Wetlands Regulations; unanimously approved.

B. **Town of Norfolk Emergency Repair of Culvert on Mountain Road over Tobey Pond Brook.**

Ms. Sefcik explained that approximately two weeks ago, there was a sinkhole in the road over the culvert and as a result Public Works blocked over this side of the road. The construction crew already working on the bridge replacement on over Spaulding Pond Brook took a look at this culvert and made some suggestions as to how it could be repaired reasonably quickly. However, this area was also the subject of a previous complaint to the DEEP Fisheries Department, so the First Selectman contacted them about the situation. Initially DEEP said that the basic repair was possible; however, they later contacted the First Selectman to let him know that a more in depth repair and engineering would be required. Because of this, there is no activity currently planned requiring Commission review.

8. **WEO REPORT.**

Ms. Sefcik briefly reviewed her enforcement report with the Commission.

9. **COMMUNICATIONS & BILLS.**

Ms. Sefcik advised the Commission that she was going to be out for a week for medical reasons, and the Commission discussed back up plans in the event something occurred while she was out.

10. **ADJOURNMENT.**

MOTION Mr. Millard, second Ms. Chase, to adjourn the meeting at 7:42PM; unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacey M. Sefcik
Land Use Administrator