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LAND USE DEPARTMENT

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center
1 School Street
Bethel, Connecticut 06801

Inland Wetlands Commission
Special Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center Meeting Room “D” and Hosted by
“ZOOM”

Commission Members Present: P. Perrefort, *Chair*; G. Johnston, *Vice-Chair*; L. Ferguson
(attended via “ZOOM”); and D. Monroe, *Alternate*

Staff Members Present: D. McCollum, *Inland Wetlands Agent*; and M. Churchill,
Recording Secretary

Commission Members Absent: K. Seaman, *Secretary*; N. Jordan; P. Sell, *Alternate*.

Meeting to Order: P. Perrefort called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and the
Commissioners and Staff introduced themselves.

New Business: NONE

Old Business:

**IWV-2023-01 #7 Rockwell Road – Unpermitted excavation and/or fill activity along and within an
established watercourse (Limekiln Brook) (Order to Correct issued 09/06/2023)**

Agent McCollum updated the Commission on the sequence of events leading up to the
Special Meeting:

- Agent McCollum received a complaint on 8/1/2023 from adjacent property owner, Brian Blanchette, at 4 Old Hawleyville Road regarding unpermitted activities located within a 100' Regulated Upland Review Area and a watercourse at 7 Rockwell Road.
- Agent McCollum conducted a site visit of 7 Rockwell Road from an adjoining property on 8/7/2023.
- A Notice of Violation letter dated 8/9/2023 was issued via Certified and Regular Mail to Mark Bjorken, owner of 7 Rockwell Road, which stated Mr. Bjorken's Violations of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations. Mr. Bjorken was requested to meet Agent McCollum within 10 (ten) days of receipt of said letter to discuss the unpermitted activities.
- On 8/22/2023, Agent McCollum met with Mr. Mark Bjorken. Mr. Bjorken verbally agreed to submitting an Application to the Inland Wetlands Commission to resolve his unpermitted activities, or indicate his progress towards the same within 14 (fourteen) calendar days (on or before 9/5/2023).
- On 8/23/2023, Mr. Blanchette telephoned Agent McCollum to advise Mr. Bjorken was continuing the unpermitted work on his property.

- An Order to Correct letter dated 9/6/2023 was issued via Certified and Regular Mail to Mark Bjorken, requesting Mr. Bjorken to attend the 9/11/2023 Special Meeting of the Inland Wetlands Commission to conduct a “show-cause” hearing.

Agent McCollum reviewed the letters issued to Mr. Bjorken with the Commission. Discussion ensued. P. Perrefort seated D. Monroe, alternate commissioner, for N. Jordan for any and all votes.

P. Perrefort made a motion, which was seconded by L. Ferguson, to revise the issued Order to Correct to include the following:

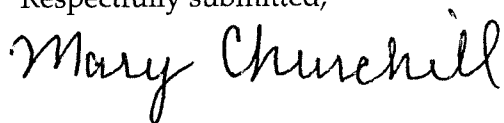
1. Immediate cessation of any and all work on the property pertaining to this issue unless determined by Agent McCollum to be necessary to protect public health and/or safety.
2. An update from Mr. Bjorken regarding the soil scientist chosen for his requested Application to the Inland Wetlands Commission during their next Regular Meeting on 9/25/2023.
3. An Application to be submitted to the Inland Wetlands Commission on or before 10/23/2023 to either remediate the property to its existing conditions when purchased by Mr. Bjorken or to permit the work thus far conducted and any additional associated improvements.
4. A statement regarding the prompt for legal action(s) that would be taken against Mr. Bjorken if any of the aforementioned conditions are not met.

Agent McCollum stated a Revised Order to Correct will be issued via Certified and Regular Mail on 9/12/2023.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the Special Meeting at 8:00 p.m. made by P.Perrefort, seconded by D. Monroe. Vote all in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Churchill
Recording Secretary