



**TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD
Inland Wetlands Board
WEB BASED MEETING VIA ZOOM**

APPROVED/REVISED MINUTES

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not a verbatim transcription.

April 25, 2024

Members present: Susan Baker, chair; Carson Fincham, Tim Bishop, vice chair; Ben Nissim, David Smith

Members absent: Alan Pilch, Secretary; Chris Phelps

Also present: Caleb Johnson, Aarti Paranjape, Recording Secretary, Mike Formica, AECOM

I: Call to order:

Ms. Baker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II: Discussion(s):

1. Wastewater Treatment Facility – AECOM

Mr. Formica updated the Board with the revisions at the Waste water facility. He informed that there are some drainage issues on the road. In winter the water runoff causes icing. The long-term concern is erosion at the edge of the road. Currently a temporary pipe with perforations to allow the drainage is working fine. The proposal is to make it permanent. The pipe will remain, it will be flush to the ground and will be covered with a cap. The stormwater water system proposed at the site has been relocated as the proposed site has constraints of bringing heavy machinery due to head wires.

Mr. Formica added, there is no change in the brook stabilization, however the pipe closer to it will be installed when they start the work of stream stabilization by plantings.

Members agreed that the work proposed can be handled as administrative approval by office.

2. Fee Schedule

Members discussed the revision for the fee schedule.

Ms. Baker said that Mr. Nissim created a thorough list of fees schedule of neighboring town to compare fees and as starting point. She added that fees of cities and towns on the coastal region would not be comparable to Ridgefield dynamics.

Discussion ensued on whether Board who be interested in adding more fees categories or just change the dollar amount on the existing fees categories. Members agreed at this time increasing the dollar amount will work. Discussion included the fee increasing in percentages.

Mr. Nissim will create a list with proposed dollar amounts for further discussion. Staff will check with counsel if any public hearing will be required before amending the fee schedule.

III: Application(s) for receipt:

1. **IW-24-17; 1 Twopence Rd;** Summary Ruling application for constructing an Accessory Dwelling structure within the upland review area of wetlands and watercourses. Owner/Applicant: Louis Bottali. *For receipt and scheduling a sitewalk and discussion.*
<https://ridgefieldct.portal.opengov.com/records/96534>

Mr. Nissim motioned to receive above application with the discussion, and sitewalk dates. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Sitewalk scheduled on May 05 and discussion on May 09, 2024.

III: List of Ongoing Enforcement by Agent:

1. 1 Tally Ho Rd

Mr. Johnson updated the board with the possible violation where the homeowner cleaned up the debris and stones in the stream area. Notice of violation was issued and homeowner stopped work. He suggested to homeowner to do buffer plantings at the banks of the stream which will demarcate the lawn, which currently runs at the edge of stream. The board was in agreement that the plantings along the stream would address the violation.

Homeowner will contact the office if any work is proposed in the stream improvement.

2. 95 Branchville Road.

Mr. Johnson updated the Board that he informed the homeowner to remove the brush pile dumped on the adjoining property owned by Town. He suggested to homeowner to not expose the ground and that leave a thin layer as a cover.

3. 51 North Street.

The homeowner was informed to install a silt fence where the lawn was disturbed and to reseed and hay the area to stabilize it.

IV: Other Business:

None.

V: Approval of Minutes:

- **Inland Wetlands Meeting:** April 18, 2024

Mr. Bishop motioned and Mr. Smith seconded to approve the minutes. Mr. Nissim abstained. Motion carried 4-0-1.

VI: Adjourn

Hearing no further business, Ms. Baker adjourned the meeting at 8:34 PM

Submitted by

Aarti Paranjape
Recording Secretary