

CITY OF CHICOPEE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting
April 17, 2019

Pursuant to Mass. General Law Ch. 131, Section 40 and the Chicopee Wetland Ordinance Ch. 272, the Chicopee Conservation Commission held a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 17, 2019** at 6:15 PM, City Council Chambers, 4th Floor, City Hall.

James Reidy opened the meeting at 6:18 PM and announced that the meeting was being recorded and asked if anyone was recording the meeting to please state their name and address for the meeting record.

Conservation Commission attendance:

Member	Present	Absent	Excused
James Reidy, Chair	X		
Jessica Dzwonkoski			X
Celeste Donovan			X
Charles Payne	X		
Nicole Dewberry	X		
Sharon Balcom	X		

Planning/Conservation Staff attendance:

Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Lee Pouliot, Director			X
James Dawson, Development Manager	X		
Patrick McKenna, Assistant Planner			X

Item 1: RDA for cold-planing, adjusting manhole and catch basin frames repairing driveway aprons as needed and resurfacing curb to curb. Location: Pendleton Ave. between Simard Dr. and Prospect St. Applicant: City of Chicopee DPW, 115 Baskin Dr., Chicopee, MA 01020

Notes: Robert Wrzesinski of the City’s Engineering Department explained the project to the Commission. Mr. Wrzesinski stated the project consisted of resurfacing Pendleton Avenue from Simard Drive to Prospect Street and it did not involve any expansion of the existing road footprint. He also noted that there was going to be no disturbance of the bridge structure and that silt sacks would be installed on all the catch basins in the area of the project. The project also includes repairing of any disturbed driveway aprons and adjustments to manhole and catch basin frames. Staff noted that the project was within the Riverfront Area of the Willimansett Brook but it was a maintenance project and would not alter the area of the Riverfront as it was only resurfacing from curb to curb and not expanding in any way.

Motion to approve the request with a Negative 2 and Negative 6 Determination was made by Charles Payne and seconded by Sharon Balcom. Vote was 4-0 to issue a Negative 2 and Negative 6 Determination.

Member	Approve	Deny	Continue	Abstain
James Reidy, Chair	X			
Charles Payne	X			
Nicole Dewberry	X			
Sharon Balcom	X			

Item 2: RDA for remedial action to remove munitions and explosives of concern and munitions constituents. Location: Robbins Rd. and Robbins Cir. (Assessor Map 110, Parcel 37 and Map 111, Parcel 8) Full text of work description is available in the Office of Planning & Development and Conservation, City Hall Annex, 274 Front St., Fourth Floor. Applicant: Weston Solutions, Inc. c/o Christopher Kane, 43 North Main St. Concord, NH 03301

Notes: Chris Kane and Keith Driscoll of Weston Solutions presented the project to the Commission. Mr. Kane explained that a smaller scale similar project occurred in 2016 that involved the removal of munitions mostly by hand with minimal heavy equipment. The Commission imposed conditions on the Determination including: 1. Restoration with a native wetland seed mix; 2. Inspection of restored areas after one growing season; 3. Notify the Conservation Commission if any trees 4” or larger in diameter need to be removed or if an excavator is required.

Motion to approve the request with a Negative 2 and a Negative 3 Determination was made by Sharon Balcom and seconded by Nicole Dewberry. Vote was 4-0 to issue a Negative 2 and Negative 3 Determination with conditions.

Member	Approve	Deny	Continue	Abstain
James Reidy, Chair	X			
Charles Payne	X			
Nicole Dewberry	X			
Sharon Balcom	X			

Item 3: Ratify Enforcement Orders – Lee has already signed and they were mailed on April 8, 2019. 330 Montgomery Street has responded and installed hay bales and silt fence as directed.

Notes: Staff explained the Enforcement Orders had been sent out to the offenders and provided the Commission with photos of the violation areas. The Commission only had to ratify the Orders.

Item 4: Minutes from March 20, 2019

Motion to approve with one noted amendment (typo) was made by Nicole Dewberry and seconded by Charles Payne. Vote was 4-0 to approve the minutes from March 20, 2019 with one amendment.

Member	Approve	Deny	Continue	Abstain
James Reidy, Chair	X			
Charles Payne	X			
Nicole Dewberry	X			
Sharon Balcom	X			

Item 5: Sign Bills

Notes: Staff noted there was one bill to sign.

Item 6: Upcoming Project updates/Discussion

Notes:

- Staff reported that Cynthia Boettner of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was retiring at the end of April. In 2018 Cynthia asked if the Chicopee Conservation Commission would continue the process of renewing the RDA for the hand removal of the invasive water chestnut from the Chicopee River and Wade Pond. The Commission agreed at that time to continue the process. The Commission signed the RDA as the Applicant. The RDA will be placed on the May 1, 2019 meeting agenda.
- Staff presented a courtesy notification from Pan Am Railways regarding herbicide applications as part of their regular maintenance program.
- Commission Members assigned themselves a homework assignment to aggregate a list of presenters/workshop providers to come in to provide refreshers on regulations etc.

Item 7: Adjournment – Next scheduled meeting is May 1, 2019 (Classroom 30 RiverMills Senior Center)

Motion to adjourn was made by Sharon Balcom and seconded by Charles Payne. Vote was 4-0 to adjourn.

Member	Approve	Deny	Continue	Abstain
James Reidy, Chair	X			
Charles Payne	X			
Nicole Dewberry	X			
Sharon Balcom	X			

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.