



CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES – October 14, 2021

Present: Crystal Kelly-Chair, Bob Mosher, and Bob Hidell-Commissioners, Loni Fournier-GIS Director and Emily Sullivan-Conservation Officer. Members from the Harbor Development Committee were also present, including: Marco Boer-Chair and William Reardon-Vice Chair.

Absent: Tom Roby-Commissioner

The remote meeting was held via Zoom with Dial in #929-205-6099, Meeting ID # 823-9605-4971

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

Chair Kelly stated that the purpose of this meeting was to review proposed revisions to the Hingham Wetland Regulations Section 20 Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and Section 24 Additional Protection of Special Flood Hazard Zones.

E.Sullivan reviewed the proposed revisions, including:

- removing a sentence about the A-zone from the preamble
- updating the definitions of VE-zone and AE-zone with FEMA phrasing
- combining sub-sections 5 and 6 (VE- and/or AE-zones)
- expanding the performance standards for coastal engineering structures in the newly combined sub-section 5
- expanding sub-section 6 to include provisions regarding climate change resiliency improvements and the protection of critical public infrastructure
- removing sub-section 10 regarding a buffer to the floodplain
- adding a statement to Section 24.0.i that references projects approved under Section 20.1

Commissioner Hidell stated that the regulations are a living document, and that for now these revisions are sufficient. Commissioner Hidell stated that the Commission may have to revise the regulations again in the future.

Chair Kelly stated that the proposed revisions incorporated the Commission's previous discussion on Section 20 and that the proposed revisions seem implementable. Chair Kelly stated that she was ready to vote on the proposed regulations.

The Commission opened the discussion to public comment.

Bill Reardon, Vice Chair of the Harbor Development Committee, stated that the revisions are clear and that they seem consistent with the responsibilities of the Commission.

Motion: Comm'r Hidell moved to replace Section 20.1 and Section 24.0.i of the Town of Hingham Wetland Regulations in their entirety with a new Section 20.1 and a new Section 24.0.i in the draft presented and to file a copy of said amended regulations with the Town Clerk.

Second: Comm'r Mosher

Roll Call: Comm'r Hidell: aye and Comm'r Mosher: aye and Chair Kelly: aye

Motion: Comm'r Hidell moved to rescind and repeal in its entirety the Town of Hingham Conservation Commission's Coastal Engineering Structures Policy previously adopted on November 18, 2019.

Second: Comm'r Mosher

Roll Call: Comm'r Hidell: aye and Comm'r Mosher: aye and Chair Kelly: aye

B.Reardon announced that the Harbor Development Committee was meeting on Tuesday, 10/19/2021 to discuss resiliency in Hingham Harbor beyond 2030. Representatives from Woods Hole Group would present at the meeting.

Motion: Comm'r Mosher moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 pm.

Second: Chair Kelly

Roll Call: Comm'r Mosher: aye and Comm'r Roby: aye and Chair Kelly: aye

Submitted, _____
Emily Sullivan, Conservation Officer

Approved on November 1, 2021

This meeting was recorded. To obtain a copy of the recording please contact the Conservation office.