

Hollis Conservation Commission

Minutes of Public Meeting

April 6, 2022

Approved April 20, 2022

Regular Members: Tom Dufresne, Jonathan Bruneau, Mark Post, Thomas Davies, Paul Edmunds,
Joe Connelly;
Alternate Members: Laura Bianco, Bernadette McQuilkin
BOS Liaison: Paul Armstrong
Staff: Connie Cain
Potential New Member: Peter Band

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

PLANNING BOARD UPDATES

There are no Planning Board updates currently.

SELECTBOARD UPDATES – Paul Armstrong

There are no Selectboard updates currently.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Thom Davies

March accrued an additional \$110,825 in Land Use Change Tax. \$29,750 was abated. \$379,591 was expended on the Burton Property. \$865,343 was expended on the Law Property. The total remaining balance is \$1,047,247.38 including the \$10,000 for stewardship money.

NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS

OFFICER ELECTIONS

T. Davies motioned to reappoint T. Dufresne as Chair; seconded by J. Connelly. All in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0-0.

T. Dufresne motioned to reappoint the current officers to their respective offices, J. Bruneau as Vice-Chair, M. Post as Secretary, and T. Davies as Treasurer; seconded by J. Connelly. All in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0-0.

ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP, April 30, 2022

T. Davies and T. Dufresne discussed the need for trash bags, vests, gloves, and positioning the main tent at the transfer station so as they could properly hand out the supplies. Brewer Landscaping volunteered to clean South Merrimack Road. T. Dufresne purchased 250 Gladiolus Bulbs, with the total bill coming to \$175.

CHRIS KANE PAYMENT

T. Dufresne motioned to expend \$1600.00 to pay Chris Kane for the annual monitoring reports for the Rideout, Glover, Gardner and HBHS properties; seconded by P. Edmunds. All in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0-0.

BURTON PROPERTY – MBLU 017-013-001

Pioneer Tree Service has been leasing a 2-acre portion of the Burton land in a handshake agreement for \$400 a month. T. Dufresne suggested that they take it to the Board of Selectmen and have Chris Drescher draw up the necessary legal documents to continue leasing the land at the same price to the Pioneer Tree Service.

53 TREE REPLACEMENT

54 T. Dufresne shared that there were approximately 6 trees in the town common that need to be removed
55 because they were dying and that Kyle McCabe, a reputable Arborist from Northern Agriculture LLC, would be
56 taking care of the job. The estimated cost being of \$55,000.

57
58 There will be a public hearing on this. The trees will be replaced with other healthy trees. P. Armstrong
59 explained that they had several different people come out to assess the trees in this area, including the
60 Lawrence Barn. There were several site walks as well as many tests including soil and mulch testing. A resident
61 of Hollis has volunteered to donate several more mature trees to the project for replacement trees.

62 Discussion took place that the reason that the HCC is footing the bill, is because it has to do with preserving
63 the rural character of the town.

64
65 B. McQuilkin mentioned that there would be an option to educate the community to see what the HCC has done
66 by placing signage of the trees that will be replaced that would have a QR code that would direct the user to a
67 website that shows the various rural sites in town. This would show the residents that the HCC is working to
68 preserve the rural character of Hollis. This would be good for public relations and managing expectations of
69 the residents, instead of creating animosity toward the HCC.

70
71 T. Dufresne will approach the Selectboard with approval for the project from the HCC but will make it clear
72 the funds have not yet been allotted for this project due the board needing to see more specific details on the
73 estimations for the project.

74
75 LORENZOS LANE LETTER

76 T. Dufresne decided to not send in the letter regarding Lorenzos Lane regarding a dredge and fill due to the
77 construction that has been taking place on that land, which according to the officer working with the Fish and
78 Game Commission who wrote those reports, that land would no longer be considered a prime habitat for
79 wildlife. T. Dufresne also mentioned that the window to send that letter was closed before he was able to draft
80 up the letter and send it because the Town Clerk had signed it 14 days earlier.

81
82 C. Cain noted for future reference the Town Clerk will immediately email C. Cain with a Dredge and Fill report
83 and the date that it was signed so that the various commissions can appropriately respond. Discussion took
84 place on the need to call a special meeting when there appeared to be a glaring issue with a dredge and fill if
85 there was not a meeting previously scheduled to discuss it.

86
87 STEFANOWICZ PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

88 Discussion took place on the possibility of allowing Brookdale to manage the forest on the western part of the
89 Stefanowicz property. M. Post mentioned that by allowing Brookdale to manage the forested section, this could
90 potentially open doors to allow for grant applications to the Town, while also better maintaining the invasive
91 species on the land that needs to be taken care of properly across the whole property.

92
93 Additional discussion took place on the legal aspects of the lease and whether there would be a need for an
94 increase in the rent if Brookdale were to take over the forest management of the western part. The HCC
95 discussed the need for parking and public access to the property. M. Post observed that the current lease
96 obligates Brookdale to provide public/Town access to the western part no matter who implements the forest
97 management plan.

98
99 J. Bruneau mentioned that there needed to be parking and signage for the land.

100
101 T. Davies questioned whether Brookdale would experience a change in their ability to protect their farmlands
102 from deer. T. Dufresne responded that there would be no change in this if Brookdale were to take over
103 management.

105 The board discussed that J. Bruneau would oversee sketching up some plans for a public parking lot on the
106 eastern portion of the Stefanowicz property
107

108 *T. Dufresne motioned to expend up to \$1000 for creating a Memorandum of Understanding for*
109 *transferring the oversight of the forest management plan for the western part of the property from the HCC*
110 *to the Agricultural Commission; seconded by T. Davies. All in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried*
111 *by a vote of 6-0-0.*
112

113 **MINUTES**

114 *T. Dufresne motioned to accept the public minutes of March 16, 2022 as written; seconded by T. Davies. All*
115 *in favor, none opposed or abstained; motion carried 6-0-0.*
116

117 **NON-PUBLIC SESSION**

118 *T. Dufresne motioned to enter into Non-Public session to discuss potential land acquisitions under RSA*
119 *91-A:3, II (d); seconded by T. Davies. T. Dufresne polled the members; voting in favor were T. Dufresne, T.*
120 *Davies, M. Post, J. Bruneau, P. Edmunds and J. Connelly; none opposed or abstained, and the motion carried*
121 *6-0-0. The HCC entered into Non-Public Session at 8:27 pm.*
122

123 **RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

124 *T. Davies motioned to conclude the Non-Public session and to keep the minutes sealed until voted by the*
125 *HCC to release, seconded by J. Bruneau. T. Dufresne polled the members; voting in favor were T. Dufresne,*
126 *T. Davies, M. Post, J. Bruneau, P. Edmunds and J. Connelly; none opposed or abstained, and the motion*
127 *carried 6-0-0. The HCC concluded Non-Public Session at 9:06 pm.*
128

129 **ADJOURNMENT**

130 *T. Dufresne motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by M. Post. Voting in favor were T. Dufresne, T.*
131 *Davies, M. Post, J. Bruneau, P. Edmunds and J. Connelly; none opposed or abstained. The motion to adjourn*
132 *passed by a vote of 6-0-0, and the meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.*
133

134 Respectfully Submitted,
135 Amiee Le Doux
136 Staff