

# HOLLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Public Meeting

September 2, 2020

Approved September 16, 2020

Regular Members: Tom Dufresne, Thomas Davies, LeeAnn Wolff, Jonathan Bruneau, Paul Edmunds;  
Alternate Members: Joe Connelly, Laura Bianco, James Plummer.  
BOS Ex-Officio: Peter Band  
Staff: Connie Cain

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

## BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

### *Board of Selectmen – Peter Band*

P. Band reported that both the Stefanowicz Lease bids review and the house lot sale are moving forward.

### *Planning Board – Tom Dufresne*

T. Dufresne reported that the Olson subdivision at the North Pepperell and Worcester Roads intersection was approved for 5 house lots at the September 1, 2020 meeting.

The Wallace's Grove plan was approved to move forward to submit the final subdivision plan. T. Dufresne and Staff have not yet seen the plans, but anticipate with this approval, the plan will be available for review soon.

### *Joint Agricultural & Conservation Commissions Workgroup – Jonathan Bruneau*

Stefanowicz Lease bids are still under review, and the group is working towards the final recommendation.

### *Treasurer's Report – Thom Davies*

As of July 31, 2020, the available HCC account balance was \$865,511.55, per the financial reports available online. Accounting for the \$10,000 in steward reserve, this leaves an available balance of \$855,511.55. Of the available balance, \$170,900 came from Land Use Change Tax (LUCT) Funds deposited into the HCC account earlier in the year. C. Cain stated that she is continuing to issue LUCT bills, and anticipates another \$60,000 to be approved at the next Selectboard meeting.

## NEW/CONTINUING BUSINESS

### *Coughlin Lot Mowing*

T. Dufresne has received a bill from William H Hall Jr. for the mowing of the Coughlin lot on Merrill Lane, MBLU 013-032-001, as required by deed. Mr. Hall annually mows the field per agreement, and this year the bill is for \$170.00.

*P. Edmunds motioned to approve paying the bill received from William H. Hall Jr., in the amount of \$170.00; seconded by L. Wolff. All members in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the motion carried by a vote of 8-0-0.*

P. Edmunds noted that during a recent conversation with a USDA representative for the area, he had been told that Mr. Hall has the best hay in the NH-VT region this year; quite an accomplishment. J. Plummer asked how and when the Town has worked with Federal representatives for various agencies; a brief discussion ensued.

### *Ludwig Siergiewicz Farm Timber Harvest & Site Walk*

T. Dufresne recently spoke to Craig Birch about conducting a site walk on the property. With the ongoing timber harvest, C. Birch felt it would be completed within the next 3 weeks, and he would prefer that the site walk take place after he is finished. T. Dufresne will postpone the site walk until that time.

Payments received from C. Birch in July and August for this second phase of the timber harvest have garnered about \$4500 for the Town's General Fund, which is used to offset property taxes.

In addition to the timber harvest, C. Birch reported that Town residents have been creating ATV/bike trails from their own property, across Town Forest and Conservation property, in order to connect to existing Town trails. Property owners need to receive permission from the Town before creating any such trails. This will need to be addressed as permanent damage may occur to forests and wildlife habitats that both the Forest Committee and the Conservation Commission have worked so hard to preserve. T. Davies noted this is also an issue on Beaver Brook Association properties.

61 *Hillsborough County Conservation District (HCCD) Annual Bulb Sale*  
62 T. Dufresne stated that he has received the annual HCCD bulb sale email and order form; this will be forwarded to  
63 members. Discussion ensued about previous years bulbs being distributed to Roadside Clean-up volunteers at Old Home  
64 Days; both events have been cancelled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.  
65

66 Upon further discussion, J. Connelly and T. Davies proposed ordering several hundred bulbs and to make these available  
67 to the Hollis schools as part of their outdoor curriculum this fall, to assist them with social distance requirements. J.  
68 Connelly will contact the Hollis schools to see if they are interested and report back at the September 16, 2020 meeting.  
69 The deadline to order bulbs is September 18, 2020.  
70

71 *Other Ongoing Items*

72 P. Edmunds stated that any non-public items have not moved forward, pending further communication from Town  
73 Counsel. A brief discussion on the matter occurred, and P. Band will advise the Selectboard of concerns raised.  
74

75 **MINUTES**

76 *T. Dufresne made the motion to accept the public minutes of the August 19, 2020 meeting as written; seconded by J.*  
77 *Connelly. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0-*  
78 *0.*  
79

80 *T. Dufresne made the motion to accept the non-public minutes of the July 15, 2020 meeting as written and to keep*  
81 *them sealed until voted to release; seconded by J. Connelly. All members voted in favor, none opposed or abstained,*  
82 *and the minutes were approved and kept sealed by a vote of 8-0-0.*  
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84 **ADJOURNMENT**

85 *T. Dufresne motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by J. Bruneau. All members in favor, none opposed, and the*  
86 *motion carried by a vote of 8-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.*  
87

88 Respectfully submitted,  
89 Connie Cain  
90 Staff