

**LANCASTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING
September 15, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Allan Ryder, John Accardi, Don Frenette and Rob Christie.

ABSENT: Leo Enos, Kim Votta and Alan Carr

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman John Accardi.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SELECTBOARD REPORT

Laptop and Filing Cabinet

Selectman Enos was not present. R Christie reported that Mr Enos had mentioned the laptop and filing cabinet at the select board meeting. Town Manager Samson will find a reasonably priced laptop for the Conservation Commission to use. A file cabinet has been provided and will be kept in the second floor meeting room.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Southworth Easement Walk (building permit discussion)

R Christie stated that the Southworth easement walk report has not gone to the select board yet as he is waiting for a building permit for the small timber frame structure being built on the property. Mr. Christie said he has spoken with B. Oleson and no building permit had been filed for the structure. Mr. Christie also spoke to B Southworth to advise him that he needed to get a building permit from the town to be covered under the easement. B Southworth told Mr. Christie that he has left money at the town office for the permit. All correspondence with property owner will be included in report. Conservation Commission will keep a copy of the report. A copy of the report will be sent to the State.

OSI Grant news

R Christie said that a final report with recommendations has not been submitted and the town has not been billed yet. He said he is waiting to hear from Julie Evans.

Fund Balances and set-up: Warrant Articles?

Discussion followed regarding the absence of a Conservation Fund account and a Town Forest Fund account in the town financials. Neither is listed in the Town's Annual Report. Would like to have authorization to establish these two funds with Conservation Commission Chairman and Treasurer as caretakers of the funds. A question is if warrant articles are needed to set up the funds. R Christie advised that the last town forest cut (2005, 2006, and 2007) proceeds seem to have gone into the general fund when they should be in a Town Forest Fund to be used for the town forest.

OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting Focus: NRI: Progress update; Solicit public comments and input from Planning, Zoning, Master Plan?

R Christie reported that he had walked the following with Elise Lawson: island on Israel River, ice retention dam, parts of the town forest and the confluence of Israel and Connecticut River bank erosion mitigation. Other field work done by Elise is the wildlife protection area, wetlands area by the State offices and the portion of x-country trails at WMRHS that are in Lancaster. Field work has been completed. Ms Lawson will work on the report and will do a public presentation.

Regarding the Portland Pipeline erosion mitigation on Israel and Connecticut Rivers, R Christie noted that the Conservation Commission and the Town could have an opportunity to receive funding for mitigation projects in the town. There is \$140,000 for projects that if not used by the Town will go to the State.

Review current and/or pending applications, projects, and NHDES matters

None

Treasurer's Report

R Christie stated that there have not been any expenditures in the last month. He said the scholarship money has not been used and he would like to see it used before the end of the year. A Ryder said he may know of someone who would be eligible for it. There was discussion about setting up a scholarship fund.

Town Forest: Survey Map preparation: Horizon/Andy Nadeau

R Christie advised that he is waiting to hear from Andy Nadeau.

Calendar and Planning Cycle: Easement monitoring – Smith and Town Water Plant

Smith, Town Water Plant and Christie easements are properties left to do. Will do Smith and water plant Oct 1 at 4:30 pm. Christie easement on Sept 24 at 5:00 pm.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by A Ryder and seconded by J Accardi to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2020 meeting.

Motion carried.

Moved by A Ryder and seconded by R Christie to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried - meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

Jean Oleson

Approved:

Clerk

John Accardi, Chairman