



Town of Danvers Conservation Commission

TOWN HALL, 1 SYLVAN STREET ♦ DANVERS, MASSACHUSETTS 01923
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Commission Members:

Michael Splaine, Chair
Peter Wilson, Vice-Chair
Vanessa Curran
Chelsea King
Richard Souza

The Danvers Conservation Commission held a public meeting on Thursday, July 11, 2019 in the Toomey Room at Town Hall, 1 Sylvan Street, Danvers, MA 01923

Mr. Splaine opened the Conservation Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a reading of the “Commission Statement.”

I. ROLL CALL

Mike Splaine, Chair
Peter Wilson, Vice Chair
Vanessa Curran
Chelsea King
Richard Souza
David Fields, Staff

II. REGULAR AGENDA

A. RDA [310 CMR 10.05 (4)] – Public Hearing 51 Massachusetts Avenue, 2019-01

Applicants: Laura & Darrin King

The applicants are proposing to install an 18’x32’ inground radiant pool, pool skirt and electric service to the home. There was an above ground pool on the site that has since been removed. The proposed pool will be installed further away from the brook than the previous one. It was noted that there was a typo for the size of the pool on the submitted plans. It should state 18’x32’. The pool will be located outside of the 25/35, no build/no disturb but within the 100-foot buffer zone.

Erosion control will be 12” mulch socks around the construction area. And the project should take less than a week. The stockpile will remain on site on the south side and hauled off once project is complete. The Commission requested that the stockpile remain covered. The install should take less than a week.

The pool consists of poured concrete on the bottom with insulated panel walls and a liner. It is like an above ground pool set in the ground. These types of pools are considered energy efficient and environmentally friendly. The apron around the pool is concrete and the patio will be pavers.

MOTION: Mr. Souza makes a motion to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability for 51 Massachusetts Avenue, 2019-01 with special conditions to cover stock-piled fill and spoils while they remain onsite. Note that the plan should state pool size as 18’x32’, where the plan provided states 18’x36’; seconded; all in favor

B. Notice of Intent [310 CMR 10.05 (4)] – Public Hearing Massachusetts Avenue (Frost Fish Brook), DEP File No. 14-1329

Applicant: Town of Danvers

Stephen King, Town Engineer, was present with Kevin Garvey, Project Manager, and Magdalena Lofstedt, Wetlands Scientist, of CDM Smith. Improvements were made to Frost Fish Brook due to bank erosion, sediment deposits and restricted flows because the previous developer of Woodvale subdivision had created artificial turns in the bank. The erosion had impacted the porches and decks of abutting homeowners.

The banks required either an earth retention system or armor stone, further grading and removal of dead brush and debris near the abutters yards. The brook must remain in its current condition, but the banks will need to be stabilized.

Mr. King told the Commission that the funding will be from a previous warrant article and another \$1.35 million was approved in this past year warrant article.

Phase I was completed in 2016 from Mass Ave, Coolidge to Brookvale. DEP reviewed the first phase and requested some slight changes in improvements. The Town should be receiving documentation from DEP soon for the previous phase.

Phase II's process is the same as Phase I with a few added hybrid type techniques based on the site walk with DEP. A superseding order was issued from DEP for the first phase. The Town scheduled a site walk with DEP in advance of filing a Notice of Intent that would include any changes or improvements suggested by DEP. The most significant change was that 90% of the brook was landscaped with armor stone, not approved by DEP. The change would be a 1:1 slope was armored from erosion; other spots were simple toe stones and soft techniques.

Mr. Garvey stated that Phase I had a lot of full bank rock stabilization. There was a new detail with strong toe stone to stop erosion at the bottom, coir logs with plantings above. Where the brook widens, there will be planted shelf, with toe stone, and plantings behind it to keep the soil in place. The brook should be kept 12 to 15 feet, otherwise the flow slows down and sediment falls out. The brook is mainly open but there are several culverts due to the change in the direction of the brook. A good stream depth will be created too for any fisheries and wildlife.

There will be some minor dredging in heavily collected pockets that will be hauled off site. No contaminants were discovered. The access to conduct the work will be obtained in culvert areas and a few easements. There are also plans to remove any trees that are not secure in the ground. All dead brush will be removed too.

This is not the final phase. The Town is hoping to work up to Wenham Street if the funding continues.

The process of stabilization is excavating the bank, install textile fabric, and add three quarter stones to stabilize the fabric and implement toe stones to the bottom of the bank for foundation. Excavation machinery will be used. Access may require access through some of the homeowner's yards. The Town will contact homeowners' in advance and their yards will be restored.

Mr. King stated that the Town hopes to bid in August, start in late Fall/early winter and continue through spring until nesting season.

All the plantings were approved by DEP and determined according to the specific area.

MOTION: Mrs. Curran makes a motion to issue an Order of Conditions for Massachusetts Avenue (Frost Fish Brook), DEP File No. 14-1329, Mr. Wilson seconded; all in favor

C. Discussion of Peer Review Regulations

At the June 27, 2019 public hearing, Mr. Henry distributed the Peer Review Regulations for the Commission to review for discussion at the next meeting. The peer review regulations would mandate the services of a third party and paid for by the applicant to settle a disagreement between the Commission and applicant. This is strictly for the permitting stage. The Commission will review this document further, Mr. Fields will prepare motion language; and discussion will be continued to July 25th.

III. Minutes

- a. May 23, 2019
- b. June 13, 2019

c. June 27, 2019

MOTION:

Mr. Souza makes a motion to approve the May 23, 2019 minutes with the change of existing word to methodology for 15 Mead Street; Mrs. Curran seconded; all in favor

Mr. Wilson makes a motion to approve the June 13, 2019 minutes; Ms. King seconded; all in favor

Ms. King makes a motion to approve the June 27, 2019 minutes; Mr. Souza seconded; all in favor

IV. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Curran asked if an appeal had been filed for 99 Andover Street, Group IRA. Mr. Fields stated that there has not been a formal filing. He has received a few appeal letters directly from abutters. Ms. Linehan did receive a call from a law clerk asking how to file an appeal, but the caller would not provide an address.

Mr. Splaine raised the question of rotating the Commission's Chair. He would like to give others the opportunity to sit at Chair and Vice Chair. Then next in line would be Peter Wilson, who chose to think about the position. It will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Wilson makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm; Ms. King seconded; all in favor