Stephanie Radner, Chair Nathan Gauthier, Vice Chair Nick Garlick, Associate Leigh Hafrey, Associate Eliot Foulds, Associate Bob Holmes, Associate Erik DeAvila, Associate Tim Puopolo, Alternate Elissa Brown, Agent Patrick Hogan, Asst. Agent



TOWN OF DEDHAM

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Minutes of March 17, 2022

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and given the current prohibitions on gatherings imposed by Governor Baker's March 23, 2020 "Order Assuring Continued Operation of Essential Services in the Commonwealth, Closing Workplaces, and Prohibiting Gatherings of More than 10 People," this public hearing was conducted virtually, as allowed by Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law," G.L. c. 30A, §20.

The following Commissioners were present:

Stephanie Radner, Chair Nathan Gauthier, Vice Chair Erik DeAvila Leigh Hafrey Tim Puopolo, Alternate

The following staff were also present:

Elissa Brown, Agent Patrick Hogan, Assistant Agent

The following Commissioners were absent:

Eliot Foulds, Clerk Nick Garlick Bob Holmes

The following Applicants and/or Representatives were present:

Mark Hebert, Applicant – 725 Providence Highway Bill Lucas, Representative – 725 Providence Highway Blake Lukis, Applicant – 538 & 547 Bridge Street and 5 Reservation Road Megan Woytik, Representative – 538 & 547 Bridge Street and 5 Reservation Road Sam Taugher, Representative – 538 & 547 Bridge Street and 5 Reservation Road Jennifer Buttaro, Applicant – Colburn Street Dorothy Lawrence, Representative – Colburn Street

Commissioner Radner called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm in accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, the Dedham Wetlands Bylaw, and the Dedham Stormwater Management Bylaw.

1. New Applications

1.1. 538 & 547 Bridge Street and 5 Reservation Road – RDA 2022-01 – Well Redevelopment Activities

Applicant: Dedham-Westwood Water District Representative: Amanda Houle, Tighe & Bond

Megan Woytik, representative for the project, stated this project seeks to treat and rehabilitate he wells at these locations. She stated the Bridge Street locations are within 100' of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands and the 200' Riverfront Area to the Charles River. She stated the chemical being proposed has been approved by MassDEP and dissipates after use. It will be applied to the water in the well and then the mixture will be transferred to a settling basin.

Commissioner Radner noted a significant population of Mile-A-Minute exists near the Reservation Road location and stated that a cleaning procedure should be in place to prevent its spread, particularly if trucks and equipment will be used. Mr. Taugher stated precautions to prevent such issues are often included in spec packages and the language could be provided to the Commission. Blake Lukis of Dedham-Westwood Water District noted that this process does not require taking all wells in a given area offline at the same time, so the project sites will have water available for washing activities in the Bridge Street area. He also noted that this proposed activity is identical to the activity approved in 2018.

Commissioner DeAvila asked if ground mats could be used to limit ground disturbance by equipment. Mr. Taugher stated that they could be included in the spec. Agent Brown clarified that the wells are on regularly traveled accessways and likely would not require mats.

Agent Brown suggested a site visit at the Reservation Road site may be helpful to understand the Mile-A-Minute issue at the site. Commissioner Radner and Mr. Taugher agreed. After discussion, a site visit was planned for 3:30PM on 3/22. Attendees are to meet at 1 University Avenue.

Commissioner Gauthier asked if a dewatering tank would be needed for this project. Mr. Taugher confirmed that the water will be moved from the well to a stilling basin where solids settle out. The contractor will then monitor and adjust the pH and chlorine levels in the basin prior to release. Commissioner Gauthier asked what would happen if the quantity of water in the well exceed the capacity of the stilling basins. Mr. Taugher stated that the team will be able to approximate how much water will be discharged from the well and will include a buffer factor when sizing the stilling basins to account for any unforeseen excess. Mr. Lukis added that operations could be ceased if the discharge approached the capacity of the stilling basins.

Commissioner Radner opened the floor to the public for questions and comments. She received no responses.

Commissioner Radner **motioned to continue this time to the meeting on 4/7**. Commissioner Hafrey seconded. Commissioner Radner led a roll call vote. All attending commissioners voted "aye." The motion carried 4-0.

1.2. Colburn Street (Bussey to Emmett) – RDA 2022-02 – New Gas Main

Brook and silt sacks will be installed on all catch basins.

Applicant: Eversource Energy <u>Representative</u>: Sarah French, VHB Dorothy Lawrence, representative for the project, stated this project is proposing to install approximately 662 linear feet of natural gas main and 180 linear feet of 2" gas distribution line in trenches approximately 2'-3' wide and 3'-4' deep. She stated erosion controls will be place between the work area and Mother

Commissioner Radner asked if the entire road would be repaved, or just the trenched area. Ms. Lawrence stated only the trenched area will be repaved. Jennifer Buttaro, applicant for the project. Stated the Town

Department of Public Works has requested the gas line be installed as soon as possible in advance of DOT work to resurface the entire road.

Commissioner Radner noted the application mentioned a culvert crossing as part of the work. Ms. Lawrence stated that was an error and confirmed this project does not include culvert or stream crossings.

Commissioner Radner asked if the project team had a plan for dewatering the trenches if needed. Ms. Lawrence stated they don't anticipate an issue with groundwater, but they typically use filter bags or settling basins as needed. She also added that all catch basins will have silt sacks as secondary protection. Ms. Buttaro added that the project team could use a vac truck or frac tank if high ground water is encountered.

Agent Brown asked how long excavations remain open. Ms. Buttaro stated all excavated areas are backfilled prior to the end of each day.

Commissioner DeAvila noted that he is aware of flooding issues in a basement on the corner of Emmett Avenue and suggested the project team be prepared for potential dewatering issues on that end of the project. Ms. Buttaro agreed.

Commissioner Radner opened the floor to the public for questions and comments. She received no responses.

Agent Brown stated that a Negative Determination of Applicability for this project had been drafted and shared.

Commissioner Radner **motioned to close the hearing for this item and issue the Negative Determination of Applicability as drafted.** Commissioner DeAvila seconded. Commissioner Radner led a roll call vote. All attending commissioners voted "aye." The motion carried 4-0.

1.3. 725 Providence Highway – DEP #141-0595/MSMP 2022-03 – New Restaurant and Amenity Improvements

<u>Applicant:</u> Mark Hebert, Federal Realty Investment Trust <u>Representative</u>: Zachary Richards, Bohler

This item was taken out-of-order as agenda item 1.1.

Agent Brown stated she had received word that a number of abutters had arrived at Town Hall for the meeting and thus were unable to participate in this virtual hearing. The abutter notifications received by these residents incorrectly stated that the meeting would be in person. Due to the lack of accurate abutter notification, Agent Brown determined the application was incomplete and suggested this item not be opened. Commissioner Radner agreed and determined this item will instead be heard at the following meeting after appropriate abutter notifications have been provided.

2. Settlement Agreement and Final Order of Conditions – 13 Powers Street/38 Icehouse Road Agent Brown stated that the applicant has made changes to the most recent plans in response to the Commission's comments. She stated a draft settlement agreement has been prepared and the Commission has been asked to determine whether they approve of the agreement.

Commissioner Radner asked if any demarcation had been added to the plan at the top of the slope, such as a fence or trees. Agent Brown confirmed.

Commissioner Gauthier stated he believes the current design is an improvement over the previous plan.

Commissioner Radner opened the floor to the public for comments. She received no responses.

Commissioner Radner **motioned to approve the settlement agreement as drafted and authorize Agent Brown to sign the agreement on the Commission's behalf.** Commissioner Gauthier seconded. Commissioner Radner led a roll call vote. All attending commissioners voted "aye." The motion carried 4-0.

3. Comments on Keolis 2022 Yearly Operational Plan for MBTA Railway Vegetation Management Commissioner Radner asked if any commissioners or members of the public would like to comment on the vegetation management plan. She received no responses.

4. Minutes – 3/3/22

Commissioner Radner **motioned to approve the minutes as drafted**. Commissioner Hafrey seconded. Commissioner Radner led a roll call vote. All attending commissioners voted "aye." The motion carried 4-0.

5. Agent's Report

- Agent Brown reported that an administrative approval has been issued for removal of debris from a fallen tree on Village Avenue. Only the portion of the tree obstructing manicured areas of the property has been approved for removal. All parts of the tree in the wetland will remain.
- Agent Brown stated she had received a request from the project at 80 Bridge Street to replace a Cape Cod berm with granite curbing. This request will be approved as soon as the permittee replaces deteriorated erosion and sediment controls in the area of the berm.
- Agent Brown stated the project managers of the playground work at Riverdale School will incorporate the requirement to apply for a Major Stormwater Management Permit into the bid spec for the project.

Commissioner DeAvila **motioned to adjourn**. Commissioner Radner seconded. All attending commissioners voted "aye." The motion carried 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM.