**Conservation Commission Meeting**

**May 14, 2012**

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**Meeting Opened**: 07:00 pm

**Members Present**: Sue Foote, Ivan Eaton, Sr., Dick Dodge, Helen Lalime and Judie Walker.

Approval of the minutes from April 23, 2012 meeting.

*Motion: Helen Lalime*

*Sue Foote seconded*

*Passed unanimously*

**Dredge and fill applications/permits**:

* A notice of acceptance for permit application that was received on April 27, 2012 from the Department of Environmental Services File No. # 2012-01059. Subject Property: Hampton-Seabrook Harbor. This application is for the Hampton/Seabrook Harbor dredge maintenance and federal navigation improvements AMEI Project No. 1989R.

**Mail:**

* Ganz Law Office sent the Town Manager, Barry Brenner, a Conservation Easement signed by Arleigh Greene which also needs to be signed by the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen. The Conservation Easement is off of Stard Road.

*Motion: Ivan Eaton, Sr.*

*Sue Foote, seconded*

*Passed unanimously*

* Appledore Marine Engineering, Inc sent the Town Clerk, Bonnie Lou Fowler the letter and check #00577 for the standard dredge and fill application fee in the amount of $10,000 for the maintenance dredging and federal navigation improvements project by Pease Development Authority.

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* John Starkey, Department of Public Works Manager, sent Barry Brenner, Town Manager and copied the Conservation Commission a letter regarding Cains Pond Dam and Mary’s Pond Dam. John asked Duncan Mellor to attend the meeting with the State of New Hampshire Dam Bureau. Duncan Mellor, PE sent John Starkey a letter with the findings of the Dam issues:
  + The NH DES Dam Bureau issues a letter of deficiency on the Cains Pond Dam to the Town and NH DOT on October 2008.
  + In 2009, a DES Wetlands permit was obtained for Cains Pond restoration project, which includes dredging, public access improvements and weir removal plans/rocks riffle installation at Cains Pond and Mary’s Pond in 2009 and 2010.
  + In October 2010 the Dam Bureau performed their routine dam inspections at Mary’s Pond and Cains Pond. James Weber, PE indicated that Mary’s Pond with the weir removed would likely be classified as no longer a dam, however he noted that due to the height of the Route 1 roadway embankment (over 6 feet), that the Cains Pond dam would need to be addressed. He also noted at that time, that a DES/DOT Commissioner level meeting had determined that the NHDOT would no longer be listed as co-owner of the Cains Pond/Route 1 embankment dam.
* The Conservation Commission would like to make a motion to allow the Department of Public Works and the Town Manager to withdraw funds from the Conservation Commission fund for the purpose of assisting and payment for:
  + Update the flow analysis (estimated) $1,200
  + Prepare both dam permit applications $2,500
  + Dam Bureau Permit filing fees ($3,000) for each dam. $6,000
  + Meetings budget $1,000
  + Mary’s Pond Rock Riffle modifications (by DPW) 0
  + Post construction documentation to Dam Bureau $ 500

$11,200

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* Also the Conservation Commission is to make a motion to reclassify the Cains Pond Dam by the Dam Bureau from “high hazard” to “low hazard” will reduce current annual DES inspection fee paid by the town by $1,100 (High Haz Fee $1,500/yr; Low Haz. Fee $400/yr).

*Motion: Sue Foote*

*Second: Ivan Eaton Sr.*

*Unanimous*

**Other:**

There was discussion about Beckman’s Island the land was to be deeded to the Town for the benefit of Conservation and natural resource. Helen Lalime will speak with Harrison Beckman about this.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 pm

Next Meeting: June 11, 2012

Respectfully submitted: Judie Walker, Clerk