

TOWN OF ESSEX  
Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

**Executive Board**  
*Daniel Lapman, Chairman*  
*Charles Corson, Vice Chairman*

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29 West Avenue • Essex, Connecticut 06426  
Telephone (860) 767-4340 • FAX (860) 767-8509

**Regular Members**  
*Nancy Arnold*  
*Fred Szufnarowski*  
*John Ackerman, Planning*  
*Jeffrey Lovelace, Conservation*  
*Jim Hill, Zoning Liaison*

**Alternate Members**  
*Steve Knauth*  
*Jim Leo*

**Unapproved**

**Minutes - Special Meeting**  
**Thursday, August 21, 2014**

**Call to Order and Seating of Members**

The Essex IWWC conducted a Special Meeting on August 21, 2014 in Conference Room B, of the Essex Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Attending Members:

Daniel Lapman  
Chuck Corson  
Nancy Arnold  
John Ackerman  
Jim Leo  
Jim Hill

Absent Members:

Jeffrey Lovelace  
Fred Szufnarowski

Staff:

Joe Budrow, Wetlands Enforcement Agent  
Stella Beaudoin, Recording Clerk

Mr. Lapman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**MOTION** made by D. Lapman to seat Jim Leo for Fred Szufnarowski; **SECONDED** by N. Arnold; **Voting In Favor:** D. Lapman, C. Corson, N. Arnold, J. Leo, J. Hill, J. Ackerman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 6/0/0.

Mr. Lapman thanked the members for their attendance at this evening's special meeting.

- **Application 14-5** – Essex Land Trust, The Mill Race, Main Street, Ivoryton. This is an application to perform vegetative maintenance work along the north bank of Fall River within the Mill Race Preserve.

The Essex Land Trust is seeking a Permit to perform work on the maintenance of shrubs and trees on the north bank of the Falls River. The trees to be saved will be marked before the work begins. Equipment utilized will be chain saw, chipper, backhoe and small trucks to remove light debris.

Tom Rutherford, Essex Land Trust presented. The subject property borders Main Street in Ivoryton and Mr. Rutherford pointed out on a map the location of the original dam which he stated was dammed-up until the flood of 1982. Mr. Rutherford stated that the Essex Land Trust would like to continue to clear the area on the north side of the river.

In January 2014, the Essex Police Department donated funds to clean up the area and remove the invasive species along the north bank of Falls River within the Mill Race Preserve. The Essex Police Department offered to hire a contractor to perform the clean-up.

Mr. Rutherford stated that the objective was to make the land more accessible to the public, minimize damage to the stream for passage and to remove the invasive vegetation and he noted that the flow of water had been diverted due to felled trees within the riverway. Mr. Rutherford stated that from this point on the Essex Land Trust will fund the remainder of the work.

Chuck Corson stated that he visited the area that was clear-cut and there was one, fair-size tree that was cut off at ground level. Mr. Corson stated that a tree of that size has a root system that aids in the prevention of erosion and holds the bank when it floods. Mr. Corson suggested that as this endeavor moves forward, Mr. Budrow will monitor the site throughout the course of the project.

Mr. Rutherford stated that the Maples trees will be saved however the plan is to eliminate the Black Locust trees which are classified as invasive species.

**MOTION** made by Nancy Arnold to approve a Permit for **Application 14-5** – Essex Land Trust, The Mill Race, Main Street, Ivoryton. This is an application to perform vegetative maintenance work along the north bank of Fall River within the Mill Race Preserve. The Essex Land Trust is seeking a Permit to perform work on the maintenance of shrubs and trees on the north bank of the Falls River. Based on the documents presented, the site walk and on the testimony given at this meeting, and the accompanying documents, the Commission finds that the proposed activity is a regulated activity not involving any significant or major effect upon the inlands wetlands or watercourse which occur on the property as defined in Section 2.2 of the regulations and that no reasonable or prudent alternative exists to the proposed plans. The Commission members feel that the proposed activities are well suited to the area.

The Commission makes a Summary Ruling and grants a permit and permission for the applicant to proceed with proposed activity as stated on said application and as shown on plans accompanying the application, subject to the following conditions:

- a. In accordance with the Commission's Regulations, the activity pursuant to said permit shall be initiated within 5 years of the date of publication and shall be completed within one year of the date of initiation and will occur between March 15<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> of the year of initiation.
- b. Should the applicant determine that the permitted activity will not be completed between March 14<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> of the year of initiation, the applicant agrees to work with the zoning enforcement officer and present a plan for the stabilization of the site during the non-permitted months.
- c. The applicant agrees to follow the advice and direction of the Town of Essex Enforcement Officer with regard to any field changes he deems necessary or may require for the protection of the inland wetlands and water course during the process.
- d. The Commission, through its Enforcement Officer, shall be notified in writing upon the initiation of the authorized activity and again upon completion of these activities.
- e. Upon completion of the work there will be no bare soil on site that would allow the river to erode. Any invasive species will be removed by the root system. Joseph Budrow, the Wetlands Enforcement Agent will oversee the project.

**SECONDED** by C. Corson; **Voting In Favor:** D. Lapman, C. Corson, N. Arnold, J. Leo, J. Hill, J. Ackerman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 6/0/0.

#### Adjournment

**MOTION** made by D. Lapman to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled IWWC meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at the Essex Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room A, 29 West Avenue at 7:30 p.m.; **SECONDED** by N. Arnold; **Voting In Favor:** D. Lapman, C. Corson, N. Arnold, J. Leo, J. Hill, J. Ackerman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 6/0/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Stella C. Beaudoin  
Recording Secretary