

## TOWN OF OTIS

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION

#### 11/18/2025 MEETING MINUTES

Location: Otis Town Hall, One North Main Road, Otis & Via Zoom

Conservation Commission Members present: Dave Sarnacki, Bruce Wall, Jeff Laramy, Domenic Battista, Chris Chaffee, Admin Assistant - Candy Chaffee

Conservation Commission Members absent:

Opening items/Introduction of Commission members and staff. Dave opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and noted that the meeting is being recorded. Dave introduced the members of the commission, and asked everyone to turn off/down their cell phones for the duration of the meeting. The deadline for applications for the December 16th, 2025 @ 6:00 PM meeting is on Wednesday, December 3rd, 2025 by 3:00PM. The next office hours, for the December 16th, 2025 meeting, is on Wednesday December 3rd, 2025 by 3:00PM.

Minutes: Dave made a motion to approve minutes from the October 20th, 2025 meeting; JL 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the October 20th, 2025 meeting.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**Public Hearing – RDA** – Submitted by Town of Otis, Stebbins Rd., regarding the removal of culverts in the woods from a dam that gave way, all within the BZ of wetlands. With all the being said, Dave made a motion of a -2 determination with standard conditions JL 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -2 determination with standard conditions.

**Public Hearing – RDA Public Hearing – RDA** – Submitted by Cheryl Gerber, 192 Kibbe Rd., Map 17C Lot 53, regarding the removal of a dead tree, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. With all the being said, Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with the additional conditions that the tree is taken down by a crane no machinery will be in the resource area and tree must be cut flush or grind. JL 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination with standard conditions with additional conditions.

**Public Hearing – RDA** – Submitted by Chaffee Construction on behalf of Patrick Seckler, 403 Stanley Rd., Map 16A Lot 8, regarding the lifting of house and deck from existing piers & replacement of piers, all within the BZ of Big Pond. The commission had a couple questions;

1: where the dirt would be going and 2: what will be installed for waddles. Don from Chaffee Construction said the dirt will be covered daily and 12" waddles will be installed around all the property during construction. With all the being said, Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with addition that 12" waddles will be used and the dirt piles will be covered on a daily basis. DB 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination with additional conditions.

**Public Hearing – RDA** – Submitted by Diane Langevin, 587 Pine Rd., Map 17D Lot 16, regarding the removal of 3 decaying trees, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. With all the being said, Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions. BW 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination with standard conditions.

**Public Hearing – RDA** – Submitted by Fred Sears, 73 D'Wolfe Dr., Map 7B lot 5, regarding the upgrade of existing septic system, all within the BZ of Watson Pond. Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions. JL 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination with standard conditions.

**Public Hearing – RDA** – Submitted by NSTAR Electric Co., Reservoir Rd., Westshore Rd., & East Otis Rd., regarding the replacement of existing electrical structures & installation of new midspan poles, all within Inland Bank, BVW, BLSF, Riverfront area & the 100 Ft BZ to Bank & BVW. Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions. BW 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination with standard conditions.

**Public Hearing – NOI** – Submitted by Robert Feltre 9 Old Stagecoach Rd., Map 17D Lot 12, regarding the replacement of current cement landing with stone steps, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions. There was questions presented to us from DEP in regards to sending out the abutter's notification. Because no one was present at the meeting the board made a motion to continue the applicaton to the next meeting.

**Follow up on a call - Corey Liptak - 116 Leonard Rd., Map 11E Lot 49.** I received a call last week by someone who lives in the area. She said there is no silt fence up and she thinks more trees have been taken down than what was originally requested. The commission went out and made a site visit and there were no issues present at the location. Everything was being done properly. No trees have been taken down and silt fence was up.

**Follow up on last month's meeting - Robert & Mary Fischer. 309/355 Stanley Rd., Map 16A Lots 1 & 2.** Follow up from last month's meeting in regards to a boat ramp that was put in on

property. The commission went out and made a site visit and there were no issues present. The boat ramp that was brought to our attention has always been there.

**ANY OTHER TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR**

Discuss paperwork from GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc. in regards to Otis Reservoir Draw Down. After discussion in regards to the letter the commission asked that an email be sent out to the state and remind them of the draw down level and to ask what the endangered species was.

Discussed the report that we received from the DEP in regards to 0 Stebbins Road.

Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:51