

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Boscawen Municipal Complex
May 3, 2021
Minutes

Present: Thomas Gilmore, Chair, Lyman Cousens, Mark Kaplan, and Henry Carrier.

Absent: Norman LaPierre, Jeffrey Abbe, Matthew Burdick

Guest: Charlie Niebling, Town Forester, Barbara Randall, Betsy Millard, Lorrie Carey, Bruce Crawford.

Staff Present: Kellee Jo Easler, Planning & Community Development Director and Rose Fife, Recording Secretary.

Due to the Covid-19/Corona Virus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency 17 Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, the Board was authorized to meet electronically.

Regular Business:

- Open by Chair at 7:00 pm
- Roll call by Chair.

New Business:

•Public Hearing – notice is hereby given in accordance with NH RSA 36-A:5, II and 675:7 that the Conservation Commission on May 3, 2021 at 6:30 PM will meet virtually by Go To Meeting to have a Public Hearing to disburse conservation funds for purchase of property in the Town of Boscawen located at Map 45 Lots 74 & 78.

Additional voting member: Henry Carrier.

The purpose of the public meeting is to take action with regard of disbursement of funds to purchase property at Map 45 Lots 74 and 78. Gilmore turned the meeting over to Kellee Easler for details.

Easler: This meeting is to acquire permission for the disbursement of funds to purchase two properties on Walker Pond, which is off of Chadwick Hill Road. These properties have a large amount of water frontage. The town currently has ongoing work they are doing with the Penacook Boscawen Water Precinct. They have a Purchase and Sales drafted. They will take public input this evening. The Conservation Commission will then vote on the purchase of the property. At the May 22, 2021 Select Board meeting, it was approved to have the Commission move forward with the purchase of these properties.

Map 45 lot 78 is 41 acres and Map 45 lot 74 is 25 acres. The sale of the property is \$40,000 for lot 74 and \$50,000 for lot 78.

Gilmore wanted it noted for the record that the following people were in attendance: Barbara Randall, Betsy Millard, Charlie Niebling, and Lorrie Carey. Bruce Crawford is also here from the Penacook Boscawen Water Precinct.

Charlie Niebling 10 Queen Street spoke. He's a resident of the precinct and also moderator of the Penacook Boscawen Water Precinct. Normally he'd be neutral, but as a citizen of the town, he wanted it on the record that he is in favor of the purchase of these properties for permanent conservation. The use of the Conservation funds are appropriate in this case. It sends a clear message that the intent is for these properties to remain undeveloped. He's been on the pond many times, all seasons, on skates, skis, snowshoes and canoes. It's a tremendously valuable resource. The town is fortunate to have within their bounds a pond that is essentially undeveloped in southern New Hampshire. It's extremely valuable for that reason. He feels the price is reasonable and appropriate. He's strongly in favor of this.

Easler advised Gilmore that the Purchase and Sales approval is needed in order for them to go forward with the purchase as the Water Precinct needs to put this item on their Warrant for their Annual Meeting, which she believes is scheduled for some time in May. They need to have everything signed off before that meeting.

Lorrie Carey who resides at 151 King Street and is a precinct member, a resident, a former water commissioner and former Conservation Commissioner. She supports the preservation of Walker Pond. It is important to the quality of life to Boscawen residents as a recreation area.

Kaplan wanted to confirm that the whole purpose of this purchase is to preserve the resources, for both wild life and recreation.

Gilmore strongly supports this. He feels this is a great achievement for the Conservation Commission.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Kaplan and seconded by Cousens. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Gilmore, Cousens, Carrier, and Kaplan. Motion carries.

A motion to proceed with the purchase and give the Chairman authority/permission to do what is necessary to accomplish this purchase with the signing of the Purchase and Sales Agreement and any other necessary items was made by Cousens and seconded by Kaplan. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Gilmore, Cousens, Kaplan, and Carrier. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Next Meeting:

- May 18, 2021

*Respectfully submitted,
Rose Fife, Recording Secretary*