



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187  
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**INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016, 7:00 PM  
TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Ken Braga, Vice Chairman Ron Brown, Art Aube, Steve Hoffman, Mary Beth O'Neill, and Hocine Baouche

**ABSENT:** Jean Burns

**STAFF**

**PRESENT:** John Colonese, Assistant Town Planner/Wetlands Enforcement Officer and Troy Ciesco, Recording Clerk

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Braga called the February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016, special meeting of the Ellington Inland Wetlands Agency to order at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Annex, 57 Main Street, Ellington, CT.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (ON NON AGENDA ITEMS): NONE**

**III. PUBLIC HEARINGS: (READING OF LEGAL NOTICE): NONE**

**IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. IW201601 – Francis Tomasek, owner/John Matthews, applicant, request for notification of a permitted use (timber harvest) on property located to the rear of Hayes Ave, approximately 400 feet south of the cul-de-sac, APN 004-002-0000.

John Matthews and Will Tomasek were present to represent the application. Mr. Matthews presented an updated plan of the proposed activity which showed the skid roads and yarding area off of Hayes Avenue in more detail. He explained the proposal is to harvest mature timber and to access through the properties adjacent Hayes Avenue. Mr. Matthews stated he has obtained permission from the landowners with some conditions.

Mr. Matthews noted the wetlands on the property appears to be seasonal, and that he was hoping to harvest in winter months when the weather and conditions will limit impact on the area. Chairman Braga asked if they would be crossing wetlands. Mr. Matthews stated they will, and harvest will likely move to July if the weather does not cool down again. He also noted no harvest will take place in the wetlands.

Commissioner Hoffman asked if Mr. Matthews will access the harvest area with a logging truck through the properties of Gates and Kupferschmid. Mr. Matthews answered in the affirmative and also showed the landing area on the map. Commissioner Hoffman asked if this access is for the construction of a residence. Mr. Matthews stated that it is just for the timber harvest. There was a brief discussion on the impact to the surrounding area, and Mr. Matthews noted they aim for as little disturbance as possible.

Robert Gates, 53½ Hayes Avenue, confirmed the discussion with Messrs. Matthews and Tomasek and noted his concerns had mainly been with runoff into the nearby stream and erosion. He stated his understanding is that trees around 13 – 14 inches in diameter will be harvested, which Mr. Matthews confirmed.

Commissioner Hoffman noted the possibility of accessing the harvest area on the opposite side through the Burke property. Dennis Kuperschmid, 53 Hayes Avenue, noted he was unaware of that possibility when speaking with the applicant. Mr. Tomasek explained that it would increase travel time to and from the harvest area significantly.

Commissioner Brown asked that the surrounding area be taken into consideration for this application. Mr. Matthews clarified the total wetland disturbance area will be approximately 1,000 square feet. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the applicant will contact the Ellington Planning Department if the access to the harvest area will change, and that the applicant will return to the Inland Wetlands Agency if the wetland disturbance area increases.

**MOVED (HOFFMAN) SECONDED (BAOUCHE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT IW201601 – Francis Tomasek, owner/John Matthews, applicant, request for notification of a permitted use (timber harvest) on property located to the rear of Hayes Ave, approximately 400 feet south of the cul-de-sac, APN 004-002-0000 based on the plan submitted February 16, 2016 and the following understandings:**

1. The applicant shall obtain permission from abutting property owners for access across their property as shown on the submitted plan.
2. If the applicant plans to access across a property other than those presented in the plan, the Wetlands Enforcement Officer shall be notified prior to commencement of the timber harvest for review.
3. The work shall be completed using best management practices and during a seasonal period that limits impact to the wetlands.

#### **V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

1. Approval of the January 11, 2016 regular meeting minutes.

**MOVED (BROWN) SECONDED (HOFFMAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 11, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.**

2. Election of Officers.

**MOVED (BROWN) AND SECONDED (AUBE) to nominate Commissioner Braga for Chairman of the Inland Wetlands Agency for 2016. Commissioner Braga accepted the nomination.**

Seeing no other nominations, nominations were closed.

MOVED (BROWN) SECONDED (AUBE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY to elect Commissioner Braga as Chairman of the Inland Wetlands Agency for 2016.

MOVED (BRAGA) AND SECONDED (O'NEILL) to nominate and Commissioner Brown for Vice Chairman of the Inland Wetlands Agency for 2016. Commissioner Brown accepted the nomination.

Seeing no other nominations, nominations were closed.

MOVED (BRAGA) SECONDED (O'NEILL) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY to elect Commissioner Brown as Vice Chairman of the Inland Wetlands Agency for 2016.

3. Correspondence/Discussion:

- a. Notification of application for Use of Pesticides in State Waters for Ellington Ridge Country Club.

SO NOTED

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (BROWN) SECONDED (HOFFMAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 16, 2016 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY AT 7:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Troy M. Ciesco, Recording Clerk