Town of Norfolk

Inland Wetlands Agency

Monday January 9, 2023

Regular Meeting 7:00 pm

Draft Minutes

- 1. Call to Order 7:00 pm
- 2. Roll Call Mead (Chair), Webb, Kwast, IWO Halloran
- 3. Agenda Review -
- 4. Approval of Minutes After some minor revisions suggested by Mr. Mead (see final minutes), Webb moved, Kwast second, approved unanimously.
- 5. Public Comment None.

Scott Berube, whose property has been affected severely by the recent gasoline spill, attended.

6. Old Business

Mr. Mead reported on his conversations with DEEP staff and the Conservation Commission regarding the recent herbicide spraying at 71 Bruey Road. According to DEEP staff, contractors must keep track of their herbicide use and report use and amounts to the State. Private landowners have no such requirements. The Conservation Commission said it had no role to play here and suggested going back to DEEP.

After some discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Halloran should monitor the situation in the spring, but that no other action was currently needed.

7. New Business

After some discussion, it was agreed that any need for Mr. Webb to recuse himself from cases involving the recent gasoline spill will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. The issue arose because Mr. Webb's residence has been affected rather severely by the spill.

Mr. Mead read into the record the letter he recently sent to the Norfolk Selectmen regarding the Agency's concerns about the need to hire an expert environmental consultant to assist the Town's environmental attorney. First Selectman Riska replied via email that he believes an attorney is currently sufficient, and is confident the attorney would hire a consultant as needed.

At this point the Agency has little if any authority regarding the spill, and the authorities responsible for managing the issue are the Norfolk Selectmen and the state of CT's DEEP.

There was a short discussion, initiated by Mr. Mead, of problems associated with a fence that has been placed across the Norfolk Brook. The fence is damning up water that is flooding land not owned by the owners of the fence. Mr. Halloran was directed to investigate further.

- 8. WEO Report Mr. Halloran informed the Agency of training opportunities available in March.
- 9. Communications and Bills None discussed
- 10. Adjournment Webb moved and Kwast seconded the motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted – Myron L Kwast