


**TOWN OF SALEM
INLAND WETLANDS & CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024 – 7:00 P.M.
SALEM TOWN HALL – CONFERENCE ROOM 1**


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**The minutes submitted below have been filed in accordance with
Section 1-225 of the CT General Statutes. They are subject to final approval with or
without amendments by a vote of the Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission.
Approval and any such amendments will be detailed in subsequent minutes.**

PRESENT

Diba Khan-Bureau, Chair
Roger Phillips, Vice Chairman
Jennifer Messervy, Secretary
Ed Natoli
David Carlson, Alternate (*seated*)
LaVan Norwood, Alternate (*seated*)

ABSENT

Dean Wojcik
Larry Moore, Alternate

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Khan-Bureau called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call/Seating of Alternates

**M/S/C: Khan-Bureau/Natoli, to seat alternate Commissioners Carlson and Norwood
for the vacant position and Commissioner Wojcik, respectively. Discussion:
None. Voice vote, 4-0, all in favor.**

3. Approval of Agenda

**M/S/C: Natoli/Messervy, to approve the Tuesday, February 5, 2024 Inland Wetlands
& Conservation Commission Regular Meeting Agenda. Discussion: None.
Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor.**

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting Minutes of Monday, February 5, 2024

**M/S/C: Messervy/Norwood, to approve the Monday, February 5, 2024, Inland
Wetlands & Conservation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.
Discussion: None. Voice vote, 5-0-1. Voting in Favor: Commissioners
Carlson, Messervy, Mulholland, Phillips, and Khan-Bureau. Voting in
Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Commissioner Natoli.**

Chairperson Khan-Bureau informed the Commission that the Town's Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer resigned from his position. In addition, Commissioners Miller and Mulholland also submitted their resignations.

5. Public Comment – *none*

6. Public Hearing – *none*

7. New Business

a. Discuss the IWCC Budget

Chairperson Khan-Bureau reported that the Board of Finance approved the Commission's proposed FY2024/25 Budget request, subject to review and/or revision and pending final approval by the Board of Finance. The proposed budget includes increases for conferences and GIS Expenses.

She also reported that the Commission is over budget for the current fiscal year and, as a result, has been frozen. She is in the process of acquiring additional details regarding the attorney's fees, which were not approved by the Commission. Extensive discussion ensued regarding the allocation of funds for the Town Attorney to provide guidance regarding the filling of a small wetlands area along the Multi-Purpose Path, the related As-of-Right Determination, and the Attorney's potential Conflict of Interest. She requested a consensus from the Commission to inform and discuss the Commission's FY2023/24 Budget with the Board of Finance.

M/S/C: Natoli/Messervy, to inform and discuss the Commission's FY2023/24 Budget with the Board of Finance, specifically with respect to the September 2023 and February 2024 invoices, which were not approved by the Commission. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor.

b. Public Works 5-Year General Permit

Chairperson Khan-Bureau proposed that the Commission request the Town to apply for a Five-year General Permit for maintenance, including the cleaning up of culverts and storm drains, as has been done in the past. She clarified that As-of-Right Determinations are issued to residents, not municipalities. A copy of the Statute that outlines As-of-Right Determinations will be provided to the Commissioners. Other items, such as installing/de-installing a bridge or filling the wetlands, will require a permit application.

M/S/C: Phillips/Messervy, to review and update the Town's previous Five-year General Permit and request that a representative from the Public Works Department come before the Commission to discuss the issuance of the Permit. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor.

c. Training in April

Chairperson Khan-Bureau informed the Commissioners that she has invited Land Use Attorney Mike Ziska, author of *What's Legally Required? A Guide to the Legal Rules for Making Local Land Use Decisions in the State of Connecticut*, to provide a training session to the Commission during their April Regular Meeting. The members of the Planning & Zoning Commission and Recreation Commission will also be invited. A grant application has been submitted to the Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Watershed Committee to fund the training session.

8. Old Business

- a. IWCC #24-01 – 3 Rattlesnake Ledge Road – Application of Debra Suchowirsky for a permit for a regulated activity related to dredging of an existing pond –**
no discussion; the Application was denied during their previous meeting.

8. Wetlands Agent's Report – none

9. Correspondence/Announcements/Critique – none

11. Adjournment

M/S/C: Natoli/Messervy, to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes T. Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Salem

A VIDEO RECORD OF THE MEETING CAN BE FOUND ON THE TOWN'S WEBSITE UNDER BOARDS & COMMISSIONS – INLAND WETLANDS & CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MEETING VIDEOS.