

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2015

Present: Bob Boynton, David McTigue, Jack Messe, Matt Oliveira, Lisa Oden, Lori Rautiola, Kleta Dudley (SoRLAC Representative)

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 at the Town Office.

The minutes of the November 4, 2015 meeting were reviewed and the following correction was made: Page one under Public Water Supplies change Al Jenk's to Al Jenks' regarding his pond. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. David seconded and it passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Lands: Bob made the motion to appoint Lisa Oden as an associate member of the Conservation Commission. David seconded and it passed unanimously. Bob asked the Commission if any members wanted to take a vote to oppose the pipeline. Bob asked the same question again. No motion was made. The Conservation Commission will remain neutral regarding the pipeline.

Bob stated he and Betsy Cook from New England Forestry foundation met with the Selectmen regarding the New Ipswich Mountain easement (178 acres). The Selectmen will have the easement reviewed and if approved, the property will be in easement with New England Forestry Foundation. Bob noted the purpose of putting the parcel into easement is to make sure the property is being monitored every year, and if there is a violation, it is not the Town's liability.

Signs: David noted there are a handful of conservation signs that are made and need to be hung.

Water Resources: Bob stated a ground water protection ordinance for wellheads and aquifers was submitted to the Planning Board. He was informed by the Planning Board that due to time restrictions the ordinance cannot be done this year, but the ordinance that is similar to Rindge can be done this year and we can make amendments as needed. Matt questioned if this ordinance was to impede the pipeline. Bob answered that the Commission is trying to protect water resources, whether it be a pipeline or anything else. The pipeline raised the Commission's awareness of protecting the Town's water.

Old Business: Regarding the kiosk at Nussdorfer, David has not bought the plexi glass yet. Bob suggested putting an old map up until we get the updated map.

New Business: Bob projected a large map showing lands in New Ipswich with potential impacts by the pipeline. He stated he would like to compile a list for Kinder Morgan of projects for mitigation. Kleta asked where the money goes if there is mitigation. Bob replied the money has to remain in the water shed. The Town would have to apply to use the funds for the projects and may not be able to use any funds. He noted time is running short for the list of projects and it would be in the Commission's best interest to get it to Kinder Morgan as soon as possible. If we delay Kinder Morgan could say the Town

does not want any mitigation and if this happens, the money will go to the State and will be very hard to get back.

Bob showed on a large map where the impacts would be from the compressor station and pipeline. There would be three streams impacted. The first one starts on Al Jenks' pond and flows into the Gridley River which runs into the Contoocook River. The compressor station would most likely be located on the former SKAT and Taft properties. Bob noted there would be roughly \$30,000-\$40,000 in impacts. The Board discussed how Kinder Morgan would lay the pipeline, under the wetlands or over. Bob noted if they go under it, there would be no impact and no mitigation. He added they take the amount of impact in acres and use that for mitigation, not the total acreage of the parcel. For example, the property that borders Rindge is 14 acres but only a half-acre would be impacted, and anything under 10,000 square feet, is not mitigated. There is a parcel on Al Jenks' land that with about a half-acre of impact. The parcel near Boynton Hill would be about one and a half acres, and the parcel down by Green Farm Road would also be impacted. Matt pointed out they should ask Kinder Morgan to avoid these areas and Bob agreed.

Bob showed a map of the wellheads in the area of the pipeline/compressor station that may be impacted. Freedom Pond (Vaillancourt Trailer Park water supply) would be impacted as well. He also showed a map of the aquifers in this area and noted that the stratified drift aquifers extend down as much as 200 feet below the ground surface. The trench for the pipeline would be down about six feet and therefore the aquifer would not be mitigatable. Bob noted all of these maps can be found on the Town's website.

Members viewed another map showing the route of the pipeline going through the surrounding towns and New Ipswich. Bob noted there are no conservation easements on the land that will be impacted. David questioned where this leaves the mitigation if the lands are not impacted that much and Bob replied that will not be known until the Commission submits the list of projects for mitigation. The Selectmen have suggested to wait until the application is accepted and approved. Kleta questioned if New Ipswich had checked on over-sized culverts and Bob noted Peter Goewey is compiling a list of culverts. There was thought to be at least nine culverts to replace as potential projects that could be mitigated.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Rautiola