



# TOWN OF WARE

## Conservation Commission

126 Main Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082

t. 413.967.9648 ext. 117

conservation@townofware.com

Meeting Minutes from

**Wednesday, January 8, 2020**

Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall

**Commission Members Present:** Chairman Mark Swett, Dave Kopacz, Thomas Barnes

**Commission Members Absent:** Kristen Rosenbeck and Dennis Cote

**Public in Attendance:** Anna Marques and Nicole Croteau

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### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and T. Barnes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ADMINISTRATION

Approval of Minutes - Motion by T. Barnes to approve the minutes as presented, Seconded by D. Kopacz, All in Favor 3-0.

### APPLICATIONS

- a. NOI – DEP File # 317-462 by Grassroots Landscaping LLC, 108 Shoreline Drive.  
No Update. The Applicant requested a continuation.  
**Motion** by D. Kopacz to continue the hearing as requested. Seconded by T. Barnes.  
No Discussion, All in Favor 3/0.
  
- b. NOI DEP File # 317-454 by Bertin Engineering Inc for Melink Solar LLC, 45 Greenwich Plains Road.
  - General discussion was made about the Applicant needs to submit additional information for the Commission to review.
  - Requested the delineation of the resource area to be clearly defined and to complete the additional delineation with final grades. Suggest the Applicant submit supporting documentation.
  - D. Kopacz is aware there are complaints coming from the neighbors and therefore, would like additional geological information of the soils from the Applicant.
  - T. Barnes stated that 2 of the 3 projects from Melink Solar are within the Towns Aquifer Zone and should be aware of this.
  - General discussion was made about the Lithium batteries and storage containers and if there are any studies of such being within Town's water resources.

**Motion** by T. Barnes to continue the hearing as requested until February 12, 2020. Seconded by D. Kopacz. No Discussion, All in Favor 3/0.

- c. NOI DEP #317-463 by Bertin Engineering Inc. for Melink Solar LLC, Greenwich Road, owned by FT Smith Trucking & Excavating

**Motion** by D. Kopacz to continue as requested, Seconded by T. Barnes, No Discussion, All in Favor 3/0.

- d. NOI DEP #317-465 by Bertin Engineering Inc. for Melink Solar, LLC, Greenwich Road, owned by R. & E. Couture.

**Motion** by T. Barnes to continue as requested, Seconded by D. Kopacz, No Discussion, All in Favor 3/0.

- e. NOI DEP #None Issued by Bertin Engineering Inc. for Melink Solar, LLC, Osborne Road owned by J. Harder.

- DEP has still not issued a file number.
- T. Barnes stated this is an estate lot and has been talking with the Hardwick Conservation Commission (portion of property lies within Hardwick) and the Town of Hardwick portion has a DEP File number. D. Kopacz did do a site walk. A. Marques has received complaints for ice build-up across Osborne Road because the amount of water runoff from this site is now being discharged into the road. Suggestions were made to take soil samples of the site and the results of the soil type could be the reason why water is not infiltrating on this site.
- D. Kopacz suggested that the Engineer should possibly design the site so the grading and swales are not allowing the water to runoff the site. General discussion was made regarding that if the Applicant is seeking a continuation, can we have the date be after the Planning Board has made their decision of the application? M. Swett stated that may be a very good option.
- The overall feeling of the Commission was they are still waiting for the changes to be made to the plans as requested at the first meeting in December (additional topo on one site). General discussion was made that these solar projects won't go out for peer review until the Commission feels that adequate information has been provided to support the application. Once this information is received and reviewed prior to the next public hearing, that is when the Commission will decide if they wish to vote for such peer review. This is the Commission's standard procedure.

**Motion** by Dave to continue the hearing for land owned by Harder until February 12, 2020 as requested, Seconded by T. Barnes. No discussion, All in Favor 3/0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

a. 50 OLD POOR FARM ROAD

D. Kopacz was to perform a site walk. T. Barnes stated he could just pull into the driveway to be able to do the site visit.

D. Kopacz stated he will be preparing an enforcement order for the bridge at Doane Road and Rampco Tech.

**NEW BUSINESS**

N. Croteau asked about the standard procedures of how site inspections are conducted. D. Kopacz stated to inform him via email/text and he will handle.

General discussion was made about past seminars and current seminars for the 2020 year. The most favorable one is in March but there is a MACC one in February.

**Motion** by T. Barnes to allow Nicole Croteau to be a member of the Commission to be able to participate in MACC seminar/classes, Seconded by D. Kopacz, No Discussion, All in Favor 3/0.

General discussion was made about the FY21 Budget. D. Kopacz is usually the one that submits the budget request and asked if the Commission members will be requesting reimbursement for seminars to be sure to let him know so it will be added.

General discussion was made to all N. Croteau to sign site inspection forms as instructed and any other documents with the approval of the Commission and/or Agent.

**Motion** by T. Barnes made a motion to allow N. Croteau to act as an authorized signature as instructed, Seconded by D. Kopacz, No Discussion, All in Favor 3/0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** by T. Barnes to adjourn at 7:55 pm. Seconded by D. Kopacz, All in Favor 3-0.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

Minutes from January 8, 2020

Respectfully submitted by,

Nicole Croteau  
Conservation Commission  
Administration

	Minutes Approved on: 2/12/2020
Swett	
Kopacz	
Barnes	
Cote	_____
Rosenbeck	