

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD
CITY OF STAMFORD
RECORD OF VOTES OF THE FEBRUARY 15, 2024
REGULAR MEETING
CONDUCTED VIA INTERNET AND CONFERENCE CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary H. Stone, Chairman
Laura Tessier, Member
Leigh Shemitz, Member
Thomas Romas, Alternate Member

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Todd Gambino, Member
Stephen Schneider, Alternate Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Robert Clausi, Executive Director
Courtney Fahan, OSS, Land Use Bureau

Mr. Stone called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Seated to vote for the meeting were Mr. Stone, Ms. Tessier, Dr. Shemitz and Mr. Romas.

➤ **MINUTES:**

January 18, 2024 (Regular Meeting)

The Board considered the minutes of the January 18, 2024 Regular Meeting. Members who were present at that meeting and eligible to vote were Mr. Stone, Ms. Tessier, Dr. Shemitz and Mr. Romas. No comments or modifications were recommended.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Mr. Romas and second by Ms. Tessier, the Board voted to ACCEPT the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2024.

In Favor: Stone, Tessier, Shemitz Romas
Opposed / Abstaining / Not Voting: None

➤ **APPLICATIONS & PERMITS:**

Acceptances/Extensions/Withdrawals

#2024-04 – 150 Interlaken Road – Tigie & Bond Inc. for Aquarion Water Company
Install release flow meter and vault on North Stamford Reservoir Dam

Mr. Stone acknowledged receipt of the minimum information necessary to accept EPB Permit Application #2024-04.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Ms. Tessier and second by Mr. Romas, the Board voted to ACCEPT EPB Permit Application #2024-04.

In Favor: Stone, Tessier, Shemitz Romas
Opposed/ Abstaining/ Not Voting: None

Action Items

#2023-22 – 65 Stanton Lane – Jessica Domiziano

Construct residential additions and drainage system proximate to wetlands

Reference is made to the EPB Agenda Summary Report dated February 12, 2024 recommending a delay of decision to a future meeting.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Ms. Tessier and second by Mr. Romas, the Board voted to DEFER rendering a decision on EPB Permit Application #2023-22.

In Favor: Stone, Tessier, Shemitz, Romas

Opposed/ Abstaining/ Not Voting: None

#2023-26 – 23 Laurel Road – Aleksandra Moch for TGF Holdings LLC

Construct residential additions and drainage system proximate to wetlands and watercourses

Reference is made to the correspondence from Aleksandra Moch, dated February 8, 2024 granting the Board an extension of the statutory deadline for a decision.

No action taken by board.

#2023-27 – 736 Den Road – Aleksandra Moch for Donald Broggi

Install stormwater retention system proximate to wetlands and within a conservation easement

Reference is made to the EPB Agenda Summary Report dated February 9, 2024 containing 10 recommended conditions of approval.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Dr. Shemitz and second by Mr. Romas, the Board voted to APPROVE EPB Permit Application #2023-27 with the 10 recommended conditions including a modification of condition #4 leaving it up to EPB staff to determine whether the planting plan is sufficient mitigation for the tree to be removed.

In Favor: Stone, Tessier, Shemitz, Romas

Opposed/ Abstaining/ Not Voting: None

#2024-01 – 175 Blackberry Drive – Paul Sparacino

Install generator and propane tanks proximate to wetlands and watercourses

Reference is made to the EPB Agenda Summary Report dated February 9, 2024 containing 6 recommended conditions of approval.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Mr. Romas and second by Ms. Tessier, the Board voted to APPROVE EPB Permit Application #2024-01 with the 6 recommended conditions.

In Favor: Stone, Tessier, Shemitz, Romas

Opposed/ Abstaining/ Not Voting: None

#2024-02 – Hunting Ridge Road bridge over E.Branch Mianus River – Stamford Engineering Bureau
Replace bridge No. 135009

Reference is made to the EPB Agenda Summary Report dated February 8, 2024 containing 9 recommended conditions of approval.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Ms. Tessier and second by Mr. Romas, the Board voted to APPROVE EPB Permit Application #2024-02 with the 9 recommended conditions and an additional condition requiring removal of invasive plants via mechanical rather than chemical methods.

In Favor: Stone, Tessier, Shemitz, Romas
Opposed/ Abstaining/ Not Voting: None

#2024-03 – 83 Camp Avenue – Steve Mickels
Continue use of property in special flood hazard area to store landscaping materials

Reference is made to the EPB Agenda Summary Report dated February 9, 2024 recommending the board defer this application until the outstanding items have been addressed by the applicant.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Ms. Tessier and second by Mr. Romas, the Board voted to DEFER rendering a decision on EPB Permit Application #2024-03.

In Favor: Stone, Tessier, Shemitz, Romas
Opposed/ Abstaining/ Not Voting: None

- **SUBDIVISION REVIEWS:** None
- **SITE PLAN REVIEWS:** None

➤ **SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS/ENFORCEMENT:**

35 Bird Song Lane – Gregory Moore – Show Cause Hearing
Unauthorized construction of boulder retaining walls with associated fill in wetlands and upland review area

Reference is made to the EPB staff memo dated February 8, 2024 containing the recommendations that the Cease & Desist Order be maintained and a March 15, 2024 deadline be set for submission of a restoration plan.

Motion/Vote: After consideration of testimony from Mr. Moore, upon a motion by Dr. Shemitz and second by Ms. Tessier, the Board voted to maintain the Cease & Desist Order.

0 Farms Road – Aquarion Water Company – Show Cause Hearing
Unauthorized diversion of a watercourse and replacement of a watercourse crossing.

Reference is made to the EPB staff memo dated February 12, 2024.

Motion/Vote: After consideration of testimony from Dennis Fields of the Aquarion Water Company, upon a motion by Ms. Tessier and second by Mr. Romas, the Board voted to issue an Order to Correct with conditions.

In Favor: Stone, Tessier, Shemitz, Romas
Opposed/ Abstaining/ Not Voting: None

46 Bird Song Lane – Trevor Arthur and Heather Williams

Unauthorized construction of boulder retaining walls with associated fill in wetlands and upland review area

Reference is made to a plan entitled “Composite of plans with which to begin discussion of restoration needed at 46 and 35 Bird Song Lane”.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Ms. Tessier and second by Mr. Romas, the Board voted to maintain the Cease of Desist Order at 46 Bird Song Lane and gave guidance as to the elements it requires in an acceptable restoration plan for 46 and 35 Bird Song Lane, but did not set a deadline for submission of the plan.

In Favor: Stone, Tessier, Shemitz, Romas

Opposed/ Abstaining/ Not Voting: None

➤ **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Discussion of amendment of the Stamford Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations

Discussion only - no action taken by Board.

➤ **ADJOURN:**

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Mr. Romas and second by Ms. Tessier the Board voted to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting of February 15, 2024.

In Favor: Stone, Tessier, Romas, and Schneider

Opposed / Abstaining / Not Voting: None

Meeting adjourned at 10:23 p.m.

Gary H. Stone, Chairman
Environmental Protection Board