**Town of Hamilton**

**Conservation Commission**

Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2025

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Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, MGL Chapter 30 A, §§ 18-25, written notice posted by the Town Clerk delivered to all Commissioners, a remote meeting of the Hamilton Conservation Commission was posted for June 25, 2025 at 7PM via Zoom. *This meeting was recorded.* Commissioners: Sandy Codding, Virginia Cookson, Denise Kelly, Nancy Baker.

**CALL TO ORDER The Chair convenes the meeting pending the establishment of a quorum. The following items shall be addressed in order, subject to the discretion of the Chair and the Members**

*Chair Nancy Baker called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and identified the meeting was being recorded and those present:* N. Baker,

V. Cookson, S.Codding, N.Baker, D.Kelly. Also present: Bethany Barstow, Conservation Agent. Others present as noted in the minutes.

**PUBLIC MEETINGS AND HEARINGS:**

**Amended Order of Conditions: MassDEP #172- 0625, Bridge Street & Miles River Road, Hamilton, MA.**

**Applicant: Timothy Olsen**

**Representative: Matthew Perry, The Engineering Corp**

**Project: Minor changes to the layout and location of the drainage system and to detail proposed pavement maintenance activities. Most of the proposed work is located within the 100-foot Buffer Zone, and the 200-foot Riverfront Area.**

The applicant requested the application to be continued to the July 9, 2025 meeting.

**Vote:** *The Commissioners voted unanimously by roll call to continue the public hearing to July 9, 2025.*

**MINUTES: June 11, 2025**

**Vote:** *The Commissioners voted unanimously by roll call to approve the minutes of June 11, 2025.*

**ENFORCEMENT ORDERS/VIOLATIONS:**

* **Athletic Fields Project** – B.Barstow introduced the new staff person, Alicia, and stated they both went to visit the School Athletic Fields site. The complaints provided to the contractors at the last site visit had all been corrected and they fully complied with all requests. She believed an enforcement order was not necessary based on their quick action to comply, but would confirm further with them on any remaining reporting responsibilities.
* **Bridge St** - B.Barstow determined, based on the complaints of sediment laden water flowing profusely from the slopes of the Bridge St lots, the existing erosion control was not adequate. There is the potential for (another) violation letter to be issued if they do not respond to her request for a site visit with the owner.

It appears the hay bales used at the street level are degrading and insufficient. She explained the enforcement order process, and Commissioners expressed interest in also visiting the site. There was discussion of which lots were still having problems, and in particular the difficulties the Commission has historically had with lot #9, including unresponsiveness and unpaid fines.

**New/Other Business:**

* **Potential New Member Introduction –** Jeremy Foster introduced himself as a potential new member of the Commission, he has worked with the Environmental Impact Committee and the town to get the rain barrel program up and running again. He is involved in a number of local organizations, and has volunteered with the Ipswich River Watershed. Chair Baker explained the appointment process, and noted they would be thrilled for him to join the Commission.

***Vote:*** *The Commission voted unanimously to write a letter of recommendation to the Select Board to support the appointment of Jeremy Foster.*

* **Children Environmental Club Suggestion –** B.Barstow explained she was contacted by a local organization to request the Town add a student’s guide to invasive species to the town website. She will look into this further.
* **MACC Dues –** The Commission briefly discussed the MACC (Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions) membership, dues, and noted classes are available to members. The dues will be paid for FY26.
* The next Conservation Commission meeting is currently scheduled for July 9, 2025.

**Adjournment –** *The Commissioners voted unanimously by roll call to adjourn at approximately 7:40pm.*

*Documents:*

1. [Amended Order of Conditions – Miles River Road and Bridge Street ,](https://www.hamiltonma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/T1093_Request-for-Amended-Order-of-Conditions_Hamilton-ConCom.pdf) [Attachment A](https://www.hamiltonma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Attachement-A-Bridge-Street-and-Miles-River-Road-Revised-NOI-Plans-2021-7-7.pdf),[Attachment B,](https://www.hamiltonma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Attachment-B-Hamilton-Bridge-St-and-Miles-River-Rd-2025-2-28.pdf) Attachment C, [Email Correspondence.](https://www.hamiltonma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/email-Bridge-Street.png)
2. Meeting Minutes Review :[6.11.2025](https://www.hamiltonma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/TOH-CC-6.11.25_dp.docx)
3. Jeremy Foster[Resume](https://www.hamiltonma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/CV_Hamilton_Foster.doc) and[Application](https://www.hamiltonma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Application-for-Appointment-Con-Com.pdf)
4. [Gen Earth Website Suggestion Correspondence](https://www.hamiltonma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Screenshot-2025-06-18-113454.png)

*Respectfully submitted by D. Pierotti, Recording Secretary, 6.26.25. The minutes were prepared from video.*