



MINUTES
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
January 20, 2026
7:00 PM - Town Hall-Scitico Room
820 Enfield St, Enfield, CT

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Comissioner Higley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Fire evacuation announcement was made.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Donna Corbin Sobinski (via Teams), Virginia Higley, Kelly Hemmeler, Kenneth Kaufman, Christopher Renaud, Robert Gillespie, Christopher Latocki

Absent: Kevin Zorda, Dylan Bridge, Anne Whitney Collins

Commissioner Higley seated Commissioners Gillespie and Renaud as voting members.

Also present was Stephen Hiney, Assistant Town Planner.

4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND PETITIONS

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

A. December 16, 2025

MOTION by: Kelly Hemmeler **seconded:** Kenneth Kaufman to approve the December 16, 2025 meeting minutes.

UPON A ROLL CALL VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: Donna Corbin Sobinski, Virginia Higley, Kelly Hemmeler, Kenneth Kaufman, Christopher Renaud, Robert Gillespie No: None Abstain: None.

7. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

A. December 19, 2025

Town Attorney report was received.

8. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. NEW PUBLIC HEARINGS

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. **IW# 721 - 14 Cranbrook Blvd** - Application for a Wetlands Permit for an expansion of a non-conforming use to include a tow truck; Mandeep Singh, Applicant, SAM + ZAK LLC, Owner; Map 56, Lot 33; BL Zone

Mandeep Singh was present along with the applicant, Abdelaziz Youseff. This is an application for a wetlands permit to expand a non-conforming use to include a tow-truck operation. This property currently operates under "Mad Hatter" and performs motor vehicle repairs. These repairs include battery testing and replacement, tire changes and minor repairs, brake service limited to pads and rotors, oil changes and fluid top offs. Repairs are intended to be completed within a business day. The new operation by "American Roadside Services Inc" proposes no physical changes to the property. Any vehicles attended to on the property are expected to be operable and repairable. There are no proposed stormwater improvements to the site, and it will continue to flow as it currently exists. No outdoor vehicle washing will occur, and no wastewater, chemicals, or automotive fluids will be discharged to the ground surface or stormwater system. There will be no cars parked on the road or outdoor storage of oil. There will be no used tire disposal. Mr. Hiney shared excerpts from his staff report.

MOTION by: Kelly Hemmeler **seconded:** Kenneth Kaufman to approve IW# 721 - 14 Cranbrook Blvd - Application for a Wetlands Permit for an expansion of a non-conforming use to include a tow truck.

UPON A ROLL CALL VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: Donna Corbin Sobinski, Virginia Higley, Kelly Hemmeler, Kenneth Kaufman, Christopher Renaud, Robert Gillespie No: None Abstain: None

B. **IW# 722 - 83 First Avenue** - Application for a Wetlands Permit to restore Grape Brook to its original path; Omadai Zander, Applicant/Owner, Lester Entin + Joseph Waters, Owner; Map 36/Lot 313, Map 43/Lot 13, R-33 Zone

David Stoll was present on behalf of the applicant. This is an application for a wetlands permit to restore Grape Brook back to its original path. This application is the result of a Cease and Desist order sent March 9, 2024. The order was sent to prevent further excavation and dams within the watercourse. The purpose of this project is to restore Grape Brook Watercourse back to its original natural path. Mr. Stoll has met with CT DEEP on-site to discuss the violation and create a resolution. The draft plan included in the packet was

created with DEEP. While they are not engineers, they have confirmed with staff that, given town approval, they will accept this plan to restore the watercourse and have staff on-site to supervise the work performed. The plan consists of primarily using erosion and sediment controls to hold soils in place while restoration work is performed. Erosion and sediment controls will be put in place prior to any excavation work. Chair Corbin-Sobinski recommended a condition that seeding must be required if it does not grow back naturally.

MOTION by: Kelly Hemmeler **seconded:** Christopher Renaud to approve 83 First Avenue - Application for a Wetlands Permit to restore Grape Brook to its original path with site-specific conditions.

UPON A ROLL CALL VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: Donna Corbin Sobinski, Virginia Higley, Kelly Hemmeler, Kenneth Kaufman, Christopher Renaud, Robert Gillespie No: None Abstain: None.

C. 83 First Avenue - Cease & Desist

David Stoll was present on behalf of the applicant. This Cease-and-Desist was issued in March 2024 for excavation work in Grape Brook which caused its diversion by the deposition of materials in the natural waterway. The commissioners discussed leaving this Cease-and-Desist open until the property owner is in full compliance.

12. ENFORCEMENT REPORTS

Mr. Hiney shared an update related to the Enforcement Report for 50 Steele Road. He will be completing a site inspection on Friday as the homeowner has completed the requested work.

13. PLANNING STAFF REPORT

The Connecticut Association of Wetlands Scientists will hold their Annual Meeting on March 4th at the Aquaturf.

14. APPLICATIONS TO BE RECEIVED

A. **IW# 723 – 226 Brainard Rd** - Application for a Map Amendment to remove the wetland delineation on the property; William & Carolyn Herbert, Applicant/Owner; Map 62/Lot18: R-33

15. MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Hiney shared an update related to the Town-issued iPads. Commissioner Kaufman asked for an update on the commissioners' badges.

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by: Kenneth Kaufman, seconded: Kelly Hemmeler to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion adopted unanimously, and the meeting stood adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Higley
Secretary

Rebecca Jones
Recording Secretary