



**MINUTES
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING**

July 21, 2026

**6:00 PM - Town Hall-Council Chambers
820 Enfield St, Enfield, CT**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2lzAb0A20M4>

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Corbin Sobinski called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Fire evacuation announcement was made.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Donna Corbin Sobinski, Kevin Zorda, Virginia Higley, Anne Collins (virtually), Kelly Hemmeler, Kenneth Kaufman, Christopher Renaud (virtually), Robert Gillespie Jr

Absent: Christopher Latocki

Also Jeffrey Arigoni, Wetlands Agent and Rebecca Jones, Recording Secretary

Present:

4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND PETITIONS

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

A. July 7, 2026

MOTION by: Kevin Zorda **seconded:** Kelly Hemmeler to approve the July 7, 2026 regular meeting minutes.

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

7. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

None.

8. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. NEW PUBLIC HEARINGS

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. **IW# 730 - 64 Palomba Dr-Unit 01** - Application for a Wetlands Permit for construction of a permeable paver parking lot, driveway, and reconstruction of existing parking lot for vehicle storage within the Upland Review Area; Gale Toyota, Applicant; Michael Green, Owner, Map 56/Lot 18; BR Zone

Commissioner Hemmeler recused herself due to a professional conflict and left Council Chambers at 6:02pm. Chair Corbin Sobinski seated Commissioner Gillespie in her absence.

Present on behalf of the applicant were Guy Hesketh and Michael Green. This is an application for a Wetlands permit to construct an additional parking area on the parcel at 64 Palomba Drive to facilitate off-street storage parking of 20 vehicles. The proposed parking area will be accessed from the existing paved driveway/curb cut at 64 Palomba Drive. Gale Toyota has proposed to use a permeable concrete paver with peastone in between, claiming that this surface would have similar infiltration and hydrologic runoff characteristics as a lawn or a landscaped area. Additionally, the existing paved parking area is to be reconfigured to reduce its impervious footprint and increase the number of parking spaces from 19 to 22. The western edge of this existing lot would be extended closer to the building, and spaces would be re-striped to either 9 ft or 8 ft wide. Pavement section, perimeter curbing, and existing grading will be replicated.

Erosion and sediment control measures were detailed. Planting plan was described. Mr. Hesketh stated that there will be no direct wetlands impact. Mr. Arigoni confirmed that he did not receive any comments from Water Pollution Control. Commissioner Zorda asked about notes related to the final plans. Chair Corbin Sobinski asked clarifying questions related to snow storage and confirmed that the applicant does not anticipate bringing any fill on to the site.

MOTION by: Kevin Zorda **seconded:** Virginia Higley to approve IW# 730 - 64 Palomba Drive, Unit 1.

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

B. IW# 731 - 35 Crescent Beach Dr - Application for a Wetlands Permit to construct a home addition with a garage and front porch within Upland Review Area; James Patsun, Applicant; Julie Piller, Owner, Map 98/Lot 3; R-33/LFOD Zone
Commissioner Hemmeler returned to Council Chambers and the dias at 6:16pm.

Applicant Representative James Patsun was present for discussion. This is an application for a Wetlands Permit to construct a home addition within the 100-foot Upland Review Area from Crescent Lake. The proposed activity includes removing the existing approximately 300 sq. ft. detached garage on the property and expanding the existing home to the northwest, including a now attached garage and covered porch. The design attempted to keep the additions tucked in the corner of the land as far away as possible from the lake. The Town of Enfield GIS shows a large watercourse (Crescent Lake) along the southeast property line. The entire neighborhood is located on a peninsula extending into the lake. The proposed additions appear to be within the Upland Review Area of this watercourse. The applicant claims that the addition has a 4 ft crawl space underneath that will minimize excavation and fill removal to under 100 cubic yards. A Soil Science Report was not submitted as part of this application, as the proposed disturbances are all within the Upland Review Area and not the delineated wetlands.

Mr. Patsun reviewed the erosion and sediment control measures. Chair Corbin Sobinski confirmed that the applicant intends to only bring gravel on to the site for the purposes of freshening up the horseshoe driveway. Mr. Arigoni stated that the home is within the FEMA flood zone. Commissioner Hemmeler asked clarifying questions related to bringing fill on to the site and confirmed that the applicant must speak to staff should this happen. There will be a dumpster on site during construction.

MOTION by: Kevin Zorda **seconded:** Virginia Higley to approve IW# 731 - 35 Crescent Beach Drive.

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

C. IW# 732 – 13 Hillyer Drive - Application for a Wetlands Permit to construct a home, barn, farmstand, and associated improvements within the Upland Review Area; Thomas Brocuglio, Applicant/Owner, Map 18/Lot 277; R-33 Zone

Property owner Thomas Brocuglio and Eric Davison, Wetland Scientist were present for discussion. This is an application for a Wetlands Permit to construct a new house, garage, and barn within the 100-foot Upland Review Area from mapped wetlands on the property. The background of this application stems from a previous Cease and Desist Order issued last year after the property owner conducted excavation work and tree clearing activity

without a permit. Mr. Brocuglio attended the next IWWA Regular Meeting and met with Town Staff to rectify the violation. Since then, one anonymous complaint was filed with the Planning and Zoning Department, which resulted in a Notice of Violation being sent to the property owner on June 9, 2026. This Commission voted to close the violation when Mr. Brocuglio claimed that no construction activities have occurred since the original Cease and Desist was issued. Another complaint was received on July 14, 2026 claiming there was a figure 8 dirt bike course on the pasture located on the site plans. Mr. Arigoni stated that this area was already disturbed, making it a moot point. No dirt bike equipment was viewed on the site during recent inspections.

Mr. Brocuglio is now seeking a Wetlands Permit in order to continue work on the property, which will include tree cutting, stumping, land grading, driveway and utility installation and associated construction with the house and outbuildings. Mr. Davison shared excerpts from his wetlands delineation report, which confirmed that there are three wetlands on the site with a significant chance of vernal pools developing throughout the site. Erosion and sediment control measures were detailed, which will include silt fences and straw waddles to be installed prior to any stumping or land grading. Mr. Davison explained that trenches will be dug for underground utilities. The site plan was reviewed. There will be a barn and pasture area. Proposed animals will include chickens and goats. Chair Corbin Sobinski asked Mr. Arigoni to review Town staff comments. Snow removal plan was detailed. Commissioner Zorda confirmed that Mr. Brocuglio will be growing garden vegetables between the barn and the house.

MOTION by: Kevin Zorda **seconded:** Kelly Hemmeler to approve IW# 732 - 13 Hillyer Drive.

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

MOTION by: Kevin Zorda **seconded:** Kelly Hemmeler to lift the Notice of Violation for 13 Hillyer Drive as of March 19, 2025.

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

D. XAAA# 26-02 – 40 Moody Road - Application for an Agent Approval to conduct a maintenance program to clear brush and silt from Town wide drainage structures and outlets. Applicant: Matthew Coppler, Town Manager of Town of Enfield, CT

Donald Nunes, Director of Public Works for the Town of Enfield was present for discussion. This is an application for an agent approval for a town wide maintenance project involving

the clearing of brush and silt from municipal drainage structures and outlets. The Department of Public Works maintains 355 drainage outfalls throughout the Town. At times, vegetation, natural debris and man-made items block and clog the pipes, preventing stormwater from draining properly. DPW will use hand tools to remove the vegetation from around the openings and remove anything that is blocking the openings. DPW does not anticipate the need for heavy machinery as a part of this approval. A map was shared showing all the drainage outfalls. Mr. Arigoni shared excerpts from his staff report. Chair Corbin Sobinski asked Town staff to look into allowing this via administrative approval going forward.

MOTION by: Kevin Zorda **seconded:** Kenneth Kaufman **to approve XAA# 26-02.**

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

12. ENFORCEMENT REPORTS

A. Cease & Desist - 174 Shaker Road

Mr. Rachele inspected the progress two weeks ago and reported that the shipping containers have been removed but the mulch piles remain. The property owner has reported health issues. The Commission agreed to keep this violation open.

B. Cease & Desist - 8 Pilgrim Circle

Commissioner Gillespie recused himself from this discussion due to a personal conflict. He left the dias at 6:50pm.

Mr. Arigoni shared that a neighbor reported dumping of lawn debris in the regulated area at 8 Pilgrim Circle. The property owner was not at the last meeting because she received the Notice of Violation late. All the debris has been cleaned up since receiving the notice.

MOTION by: Kevin Zorda **seconded:** Kelly Hemmeler to lift the Cease and Desist for 8 Pilgrim Circle.

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

C. Cease & Desist - 504 Hazard Avenue

Commissioner Gillespie returned to the dias and the Council Chambers at 6:54pm. DEEP reported to Town staff that they observed lawn clippings dumped by the landscaping company down the slope. Mr. Arigoni shared excerpts from his staff report. The Cease and Desist was issued on July 13, 2026. Photos were shared of Mr. Arigoni's investigation. The

Commissioners discussed issuing a daily fine, but need to draft a form letter to be used in these situations.

13. PLANNING STAFF REPORT

Staff will be updating the General Conditions for Wetlands Permits to allow for up to 4 inches of topsoil onto the site for seeding purposes. Chair Corbin Sobinski requested that clarification be provided to ensure it is abundantly clear that it cannot be used to fill any wetlands.

14. APPLICATIONS TO BE RECEIVED

A. **DPN# 2026-07-15 - 86 Weymouth Rd** - Application for jurisdictional ruling for expanding a pond into the wetland; Angelo & Christie Bosco, Applicant/Owner; Map 49/Lot 9; R-44 Zone
Commissioner Hemmeler asked if this could be allowed via administrative approval. This application is beyond the scope of the first approval, so a new application is necessary.

15. MISCELLANEOUS

Chair Corbin Sobinski asked for an update on Yankee Casting. Commissioner Zorda requested Town staff inspect the spillway and soil piles located at the former Blair Manor at 612 Hazard Avenue.

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by: Virginia Higley, 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 7:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Higley
Secretary

Rebecca Jones
Recording Secretary