

Westmoreland Conservation Commission
August 25, 2022 minutes

Meeting called to order 7:00 pm

Present: Marshall Patmos, Jeanette Hubert, Perry Sawyer, Jean Rudolph
Jon Lounsbury, Doug Oatley, guest Steve Horton

Minutes of the August 11, 2022 meeting were approved

Steve Horton presented some updates concerning the proposed fire station. We discussed our continued concerns about “forever” chemicals and other hazardous materials from activities at the fire station. We reviewed the 5/15/21 Department of Environmental Services site-specific permit and the 49 project specific provisions required. In addition, we reviewed the Hazardous Building Materials Inventory done by Ransom Consulting of Portsmouth.

The construction of a new station will probably be next Spring rather than this Fall to give time for adequate planning and finances. Steve explained resolution to many of our concerns including soil testing before and after construction, wastewater provisions, soil contaminant issues and compliance with the variety of State and Federal regulations regarding a project such as this. Steve said to contact him with any questions we have and he will keep us up to date. We decided to send him a written note outlining our concerns similar to the 6/2/22 letter we sent to Selectmen.

We were confident in Steve Horton’s compliance with actions and attention to our concerns. At this time, Commission contact with State and Federal agencies will be put on hold although some procedural and legal questions might still be appropriate.

The Monadnock Conservancy has notified us that a Conservation Easement has been proposed for a 48 acre property belonging to the Goodrum’s Crossing Realty Trust on route 63. The Conservancy is currently seeking additional funding and would like us to send a letter of support for the project. The area is in the Connecticut River watershed, adjacent to already protected property, provides aquifer protection and wildlife habitat. It is in the continued interest of the town in maintaining its rural character through the retention of farms, forests and wetlands. Marshall will compose and send a letter of support for the project.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30

Next meeting is scheduled for September 8 at 7:00 pm at the town hall

Submitted by Marshall Patmos