

**Town of Sterling**  
**Earth Removal Board**  
**Meeting Minutes 08/27/2019**

Chairman Kilcoyne called the meeting to order at approximately 6:37pm followed by The Pledge of Allegiance

**Members present:** Rich, Kilcoyne, Mosley, Miller

**Members Absent:** Rivers

Chairman Kilcoyne commented meeting is subject to recording, Mosley recording for purposes of minutes.

Arden Sonenberg, liaison to the DPW, was present to discuss the DPW desire to extract gravel and dirt from town property on Griffen Road for use in the winter. Miller noted that the by-law provides for the municipality to remove material from their own property. Kilcoyne suggested she have the town administrator send a letter to DPW stating that they can remove the material and copy the ERB.

There was a brief discussion regarding the committee established to review and recommend changes to the existing earth removal by-law. Kilcoyne commented that the current is ERB is not directly working with the review committee but would like to. He commented that he had reached out to the town administrator regarding this and the need to get planning board involvement. Miller asked if the draft of the new by-law would come to the ERB for review; Kilcoyne said it should. Ms Sonenberg asked if the current ERB should have a representative on the review committee. Mosley commented that Mike Rivers should be given the opportunity to be on the review committee if he desired.

**DISCUSS 7 CHOCKSETT ROAD DRAINAGE ISSUE.**

Ms Desmarais provided the final report submitted by Whitman and Bingham. John Durkin, operations manager, reviewed the updates made to the site to minimize drainage issues on Mr. Plante's property. To date they have put asphalt millings on the entrance road, changed grading to tip away from Mr. Plante's property and added an edge on the road to reduce silting. The final item to be done is adding four 6 inch pipes to the retention pond to take water below the freeze level if the bottom freezes. The pipes will be approximately 8 feet deep into the ground. The pipe will be installed before winter.

Kilcoyne commented that he would contact Mr. Plante and provide him a copy of the engineer's report. If Mr. Plante had any questions, he would refer him to Mr. Durkin.

**PERMIT RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR 7 CHOCKSETT RD.**

Ms Desmarais provided a renewal application for the site in question, Map/lot 71/2, 71/1 and 71/23. She also provided the renewal permit applications for the last two years. Additionally she provided a letter outlining earth removal on the site over the last year. The letter also

included contact numbers for the key people involved with the site operations. A check for \$250 was submitted.

It was stated blasting will occur on the site, usually every 4-6 weeks. Mr. Durkin commented that the last blast was stronger than usual, 92% of the state allowed air blast was reached. He stated their target is only 50-60 percent of the state limit. He commented that they are in the process of changing the direction of the face and this resulted in the larger blast pattern.

Dana Mastroianni of Laurelwood Rd was present and commented on the strength of the most recent blast. Normally the blast impact is minimal at his house but he felt the last one. Mr. Durkin commented that this impact was due to changing the direction of the blasts more towards Chocksett Road. Mr. Durkin said they would work with the blasting team to reduce the blast impact going forward.

The board reviewed the permit renewal application. Only conditions 11 and 15 were marked as not being applicable to this site. This represents no change from previous renewals.

Mosley moved to approve the application, effective September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Second by Miller with unanimous approval.

#### **APPROVE MINUTES**

Miller moved to approve minutes of meetings held July 16, 2019, second by Rich. Approved unanimously.

No date for the next meeting was proposed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.