

TOWN OF STERLING
Earth Removal Bylaw Review Committee
February 14, 2019

MEETING:

Minutes

Adjourn

Chairman Lane called the Earth Removal Bylaw Review Committee meeting to order at 2:08pm. The following members were present: Chairman Richard Lane, Civil Engineer Shaun Francis, Building Commissioner Sarah Culgin, Conservation Agent Matt Marro, and Health Agent, Dave Favreau. Builder Carl Corrine participated via telephone. ERB member Mike Rivers was in the audience. Melissa Warren attended, as minute taker.

- Chairman Lane proposed that the committee pick up where they left off at the last meeting : Site Restoration: 63-9 A . In the second sentence the word “ will “to be replaced by “shall”. Vegetative cover minimum was discussed and agreed that 6 inches would be acceptable. Alternatives to this method shall be included in 63-9 A.
- * 63-10 B. Bonding and Security: In the first sentence “ all conditions of the permit have BEEN Satisfied”
- 63-11 A. Violations: PGA may authorize its engineering consultant to enter the site as part of the application process
- 63-12 Regulations: clause was added “ to meet the general law requirements”
- 63-13 Appeal: B., C.,and D. were added to address the specifics of the appeal process.
- 63-15 Dissolution of the ERBC was added stating that upon adoption of the bylaw by majority of voters during town meeting the ERBC shall be dissolved.
- * 63-3 B. Permit: “except as specified in 63-4 B.” was added.
- * 63-4 B. Exemptions: adjoining was replaced by contiguous , and parcels “ of land” was added. There was discussion regarding the ability to move soil among contiguous lots .
- * 63-4 C. and D. stipulations giving the Planning Board full authority to regulate
- * 63-4 F. Earth removal within wetland areas would require compliance with the Wetland Protection act General law #131, section 10. J. was added to stipulate that no additional fees would be imposed.
- * 63-6 B. Submission: structures are to include test pit and/or observation well locations.
- * 63-7 I. Performance Standards: Will not result in the removal/stripping of organic soil which would result in less than 6” of cover. “K” was added to require that the ground water level be approved by a MA soil evaluator according to the season, and the lowest excavated point shall be no less than 8 feet above the existing groundwater table. At the owner’s expense observation wells are to be installed
- 63-8 B.1 Site Standards : Inserted after the first sentence”Depending upon the size, permit, or Conservation Commission. “ Also Discussed were questions regarding the digging of ponds: That unless it went over 10,000 Sq feet or ¼ acre in size it would not require a permit from the Conservation Commission.
- * 63-8 B. 6, Operations shall be conducted during the hours of 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM ,Monday through Saturday. 63-8 B. 8 and 9 :Change of ownership of quarrying or mining earth removal permits both need approval of the PGA and shall automatically expire upon 12 months.

Chairman Lane proposed that due to the school vacation, the next meeting would take place in 2 weeks at a date to be determined. At that time constructive comments will be considered in order to prepare the ERB for Town Council. A complaint has been issued and members were given copies so that it may be reviewed along with minutes at the next meeting.

At 3:46 Chairman Lane moved to adjourn. All attendees agreed.