

**CITY OF GARDNER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

115 Pleasant Street
Gardner City Hall

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Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 2nd, 2026, at 6:30 PM

Hubbard Conference Room, Room 203, City Hall Annex

(Rescheduled from 1/26/26 and 1/27/26)

Present Members: Chairman Gregory Dumas, Duncan Burns, Corinne Smith, Brian Hall,
Nicholas Summerhayes, David Orwig

Conservation Agent: Justin Enright

Minute Taker: Justin Enright

Guests & Visitors: Steven Rockwood – Citizen, Alan Rousseau – Resident, Connor Ennis –
Bohler, LLC., Eric Dubrule – Bohler, LLC.

Meeting brought to order by Chairman Dumas at 6:30PM

Public Comment on Agenda Items: 2:00 minute time limit per individual.

(Participants in hearings will be able to make public comment when recognized by the chair after the opening to the hearing, but prior to the hearing being closed).

Alan Rousseau commented on the topic of the Sludge Landfill. Mr. Rousseau thanked the Commission for their continued monitoring efforts regarding the Enforcement Order on site. Mr. Rousseau expressed concern with snow storage capacity on site and that he was concerned that if left unchecked, he feared that build-up could contribute to a future washout event. MR. Rousseau concluded by asking that the Commission keep the Enforcement Order open and that they continue to monitor the site

Minutes:

- Vote to approve the minutes of 1/12/26.

Motion to approve the minutes of 1/12/26.

Motion by Duncan Burns

Motion seconded by Nicholas Summerhayes

Motion carries 5-0-1

Emergency Certification:

None at this Time

Request for Certificate of Compliance:

None at this Time

Enforcement Order:

- Sludge Landfill (continued until 1/26/26)

Mr. Dumas reopened the discussion regarding the Enforcement Order on the Sludge Landfill. The Commission voted to continue the EO discussion to the 2/9/26 meeting. Mr. Enright summarized his observations from his most recent site visit to the area. The Commission asked that the Agent follow up with DPW on maintenance. The Commission voted to continue the discussion on the EO until the 3/9/26 Meeting.

Motion to continue the EO for the sludge landfill to the 3/9/26 meeting.

Motion by

Motion seconded by

Motion carries 6-0-0

- 36 Nicole Terrace (Continued until 5/11/26)
- 282 Brookside Drive (Continued until 5/11/26)

HEARINGS

Request for Determination of Applicability:

31 Travers St.

The Gardner Conservation Commission will hold a joint Public Hearing under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance on a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Robert Rudd for the proposed installation of a new carport to take place at 31 Travers Street, Gardner, MA 01440 (Map: R17-18-7). The work will be set to occur within the Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW) as well as Riverfront Area (RA). (Continued to 2/9/26)

Notice of Intent:

677 Timpany Boulevard

The Gardner Conservation Commission will hold a joint Public Hearing under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance on the Notice of Intent filed by Bohler, LLC. on behalf of Walmart Real Estate Business Trust for the proposed redevelopment and construction of a fuel station and convenience store with landscaping, associated utilities and stormwater infrastructure located at 677 Timpany Boulevard Gardner, MA 01440 (Map: R12-16-1). Portions of the proposed work are set to occur within the Buffer Zone of both bordering (BVW) and isolated vegetated wetlands (IVW). (DEP160-0682)(Continued to 1/12/26)

Mr. Dumas reopened the NOI hearing discussion for 677 Timpany Boulevard (DEP#160-0682). Connor Ennis and Eric Dubrule introduced themselves as representatives for the project from Bohler, LLC. Mr. Ennis went over some of the recent updated submittals for the project including the maintenance logs, fail-safe information, revisions to the plans, and data regarding the stormwater treatment (jellyfish) system. Mr. Ennis went on to explain the changes to the plan

including shifts of the building, trash enclosure and fuel tanks out of the No-Build Zone. Mr. Dumas inquired about standard practice for cleaning out the on-site catch basins. Mr. Ennis stated that he believes cleaning out would occur typically if there is an excessive buildup of sediment or debris, but those in charge may not have deemed as a necessary action within the exhibited timeline on the logs. Mr. Orwig inquired about who would oversee maintaining the jellyfish system. Mr. Ennis had stated it would have to be done by a party certified for handling the system maintenance. Mr. Dumas inquired about the position of the guard rail. Mr. Ennis made a comparison with the layouts and talked about the new green space. Mr. Ennis then inquired whether a variance request would be needed for the No-Build zone in light of the shift in layout for the project. A brief conversation ensued. Mr. Dumas then inquired about fail safes in place in the event of either a fire or a major spill. A conversation ensued regarding safeguards that would be implemented to handle those types of events. Mr. Ennis suggested that in addition to the system, a stop gap could be placed near the outfall. A brief conversation ensued. Mr. Dumas then inquired about the number of fuel pumps associated with the project. Mr. Ennis explained that due to queuing necessities, the minimum was set to eight pumps. Commissioner Smith inquired about processes for snow storage. Mr. Ennis had stated that they were amenable to conditions regarding snow storage. Mr. Dumas inquired about timeline of the project. Mr. Ennis estimated that the project would likely span between four to five months. A brief conversation ensued. Mr. Dumas then stated that due to the site being difficult jurisdictionally, proposed the idea of third-party inspections and sought feedback. Mr. Dubrule and Mr. Ennis agreed to looking into a possible schedule to implement the requested inspections. Mr. Dumas then inquired about when a stamped plan may be produced. Mr. Ennis and Mr. Dubrule agreed to work to get the stamped set of the revised plans and schedule for inspections ahead of the 2/23/26 meeting. The Commission voted to continue the NOI hearing discussion until the 2/23/26 meeting

Motion to continue the hearing until the 2/23/26 meeting

Motion by Brian Hall

Motion seconded by David Orwig

Motion carries 6-0-0

Old Business

170 Mill St (Continued Discussion) 160-0658:

The Gardner Conservation Commission will hold a joint Public Hearing under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance on a Notice of Intent filed by Mark Harasimowicz, for the construction of a contractor building and associated site improvements, located at 170 Mill Street, Gardner. The project is located within the riverfront area. (Continued from September 25th, 2023) (Continued to 1/26/26)

Mr. Dumas reopened the discussion on 170 Mill Street (DEP#160-0658). No updates at the time of the meeting. The Commission voted to Continue the discussion on DEP#160-0658 until the 2/9/26 meeting

Motion to continue the discussion to the 2/9/26 meeting.

Motion by Duncan Burns

Motion seconded by Brian Hall

Motion carries 6-0-0

New Business

- New England Power Company (NEP) Utility Maintenance Notification

Mr. Dumas opened the discussion on the maintenance notification from NEP. Mr. Enright summarized the talking points from the previous meeting and stated that he had received follow-up correspondence from DEP stating that they had no major concerns with the temporary fix concerning the Perley Brook culvert. Mr. Enright stated that he would reach out and inquire about periodic check-ins regarding the work.

- Agent Report

Mr. Enright would follow up with parties for updates on their projects, including the Old Duck Pond Dam Project. Mr. Orwig inquired about how the Agent was handling work balance with the ongoing grant schedules. Mr. Enright briefly summarized progress on grants and how he had been balancing it with other tasks. Mr. Dumas inquired about the recent DEP Freshman Agent series. Mr. Enright summarized some of his takeaways from the event. Mr. Burns inquired if Mr. Enright had checked in with North County Land Trust on their project. Mr. Enright stated he would work to get in contact with the party for a check-in. Mr. Dumas had inquired about the fire that occurred the previous Thursday at the daycare center off West Broadway. Mr. Enright said that he would contact other departments to gauge where conservation will have to be involved where applicable. A brief discussion ensued about best management practices in communication between departments when events such as the mentioned fire occur.

Professional Development

- MACC Conference 2/28/26 and vote on use of Commission funds for member attendance.

Mr. Dumas opened the discussion for the MACC conference. A brief discussion ensued about the sue of funds for commissioner attendance for the MACC annual conference. Mr. Dumas proposed setting the cap at \$800.00. The Commission voted to utilize up to \$800.00 from Commission Accounts for member attendance to the MACC Annual Conference.

Motion to utilize up to \$800.00 from Commission accounts for member attendance.

Motion by Duncan Burns

Motion seconded by David Orwig

Motion carries 6-0-0

Upcoming Meetings

- ✓ February 9th, 2026
- ✓ February 23rd, 2026

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the 2/2/26 meeting at 7:15PM.

Motion by Duncan Burns

Motion seconded by Brian Hall

Motion carries 6-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Enright

Conservation & Planning Agent