

**Town of Cromwell
Conservation Commission**

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
May 15, 2023 11:27A
JoAnn Doyle
TOWN CLERK
CROMWELL, CT



**REGULAR MEETING
7:00 PM THURSDAY MAY 11, 2023
COUNCIL CHAMBERS CROMWELL TOWN HALL
41 WEST STREET**

Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman Scott Lamberson, Vice Chairman John Whitney, Joe Corlis, Stacey Dabrowski, Jamin DeProto and Faye Tine

Absent: Joe Cap

Also, Present: Director of Planning and Development Stuart Popper

1. Call to Order

Chairman Scott Lamberson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Seating of Alternates

A motion was made by John Whitney and seconded by Joe Corlis to seat Jamin DeProto and Faye Tine as alternates. *All in favor, motion passed.*

3. Approval of Agenda

John Whitney made a motion to approve the amended agenda; Seconded by Joe Corlis. *All in favor, motion passed.*

4. Town Planner Report:

Mr. Popper said his report is under New Business.

5. Old Business: There was none.

6. New Business:

a. Sustainable Connecticut

Mr. Popper passed out a copy of an email outlining serval events and programs being sponsored by Sustainable Connecticut. He noted that the Conservation Commission is the official designated liaison for the Town of Cromwell to Sustainable Connecticut. The Commission members and Mr. Popper discussed the events and programs. Mr. Popper said this summer we will be working on becoming a certified sustainable community. Chairman Scott Lamberson asked the Commission members to take a look at the Sustainable events and programs and please register yourself and if you are interested in helping out Mr. Popper in the process please let him know.

b. Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) Update

Mr. Popper said as background information for the Commission he has copies of Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 7-131a. Conservation commissions. He read parts of it into the record,

“Sec. 7-131a. Conservation Commissions a) Any town, city or borough, by vote of its legislative body, may establish a conservation commission for the development, conservation, supervision and regulation of natural resources, including water resources, within its territorial limits. The commission shall consist of not fewer than three nor more than eleven members and not more than three alternates, to be appointed by the chief executive officer of the municipality, to serve for terms to be designated by the legislative body establishing the commission. Such alternate members shall, when seated, have all the powers and duties of a member of the commission. The chief executive officer may remove any member or alternate for cause and may fill any vacancy.

(b) A conservation commission shall conduct research into the utilization and possible utilization of land areas of the municipality and may coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes, and may advertise, prepare and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets as necessary for its purposes. It may propose a green-ways plan for inclusion in the plan of conservation and development of the municipality prepared pursuant to section 8-23. It may inventory natural resources and formulate watershed management and drought management plans. Such plans shall be consistent with water supply management plans prepared pursuant to section 25-32d. It shall keep an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including open marshlands, swamps and other wetlands, for the purpose of obtaining information on the proper use of such areas, and may from time to time recommend to the planning commission or, if none, to the chief executive officer or the legislative body plans and programs for the development and use of such areas. It may make recommendations to zoning commissions, planning commissions, inland wetlands agencies and other municipal agencies on proposed land use changes. It may, with the approval of such legislative body, acquire land and easements in the name of the municipality and promulgate rules and regulations, including but not limited to the establishment of reasonable charges for the use of land and easements, for any of its purposes as set out in this section. It may supervise and manage municipally-owned open space or park property upon delegation of such authority by the entity which has supervisory or management responsibilities for such space or property. It shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the municipality in the manner required of other agencies of the respective municipalities. The commission may receive gifts in the name of the municipality for any of its purposes and shall administer the same for such purposes subject to the terms of the gift.”

Mr. Popper said we have hired SLR Consulting out of Cheshire to update the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). He explained that they are moving along on the POCD update. He said the town wide survey is complete and we had a good response. Mr. Popper said they have completed the dataset for the town which would include all the pertinent demographic and economic data. Mr. Popper said the Conservation Commission is

the body charged with working on the open space plan component of the POCD. He explained that SLR will be presenting the Open Space component to the commission once it is updated for their review and consideration. He said he will be talking to the consultant and will inquire as to the status of the Open Space component and will let the Commission members know as when we will be meeting to discuss it.

7. Farmland Preservation Committee:

Chairman Scott Lamberson asked John Whitney if there are any new farm aid type programs that we should be aware of. John Whitney said he has not seen anything about new programs or any new or old program funding.

8. Communications:

None

9. Commissioner's Comments:

There were no comments.

10. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

11. Approval of Minutes:

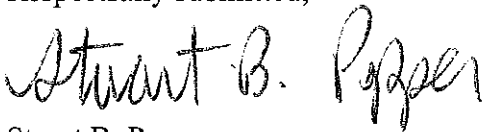
a. November 10, 2022

John Whitney made a motion to approve as amended the minutes of November 10, 2022; Seconded by Joe Corlis. *All in favor, motion passed.*

12. Adjourn:

John Whitney made a motion to adjourn at 7:21 PM; Seconded by Joe Corlis. *All in favor, motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart B. Popper". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stuart B. Popper
Temporary Recording Clerk