

Montague Conservation Commission

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MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 13, 2020

Upstairs Meeting Room, Town Hall, One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA

Commissioners Present: Mark Fairbrother (Chair), Donna Francis, Justin Ferman, Sean Werle (remote participant)

Commissioners Absent: Alex Peterkin, Deb Henson, Laurie Reid

Staff: Walter Ramsey (Agent)

Mark Fairbrother called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. and announced that Sean Werle was participating remotely.

6:31 PM RE-VOTE: Conservation Fund Expenditure to authorize expenditure of \$57,500 from the Waidlich Conservation Fund for the purposes of matching state funds to purchase an Agricultural Preservation Restriction on Map 39 Lot 37- farmland owned by Karl Garbiel located off Old Greenfield Road in Montague Center (36 acres). W. R. recaps previous conversation on the subject from January. Since that was topic not anticipated, the board needs to re-vote the motion.

***MOTION** by Donna F. to authorize the expenditure of up to to \$57,500 from the Waidlich Conservation Fund for the purpose of matching state funds for an Agriculture Preservation Restriction on Assessors Map 39 Lot 37- farmland owned by Karl Garbiel. Seconded by Justin F. Fairbrother- AYE, Francis- AYE, Ferman AYE, Werle- AYE. MOTION PASSED.*

This motion was made with the clear understanding that Franklin Land Trust has committed to contribute \$17,500 to the Fund for the express purpose of supporting this APR. The Town will effectively contribute \$40,000 from the Fund.

6:36PM Conservation Agent Report

Walter R described planned maintenance at Turners Falls Road and Gun Club. Cut down four hazardous trees at the end of their life. Photos provided. Trees are on FirstLight land- on the riverbank. MESA filing is pending.

***MOTION TO ADJOURN** at 6:50PM by Justin F. at 6:35PM Seconded by Donna F. (Y), D.F.(Y), J.F.(Y). Fairbrother- AYE, Francis- AYE, Ferman AYE, Werle- AYE. MOTION PASSED.*

Approved by: _____ Date: _____