



**TOWN OF KILLINGLY, CT  
OPEN SPACE LAND ACQUISITION COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, MARCH 5, 2020**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**7:00 PM**

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK, KILLINGLY, CT  
2020 MAR -6 AM 11:51

*Elizabeth M. Wilson*

**ROOM 102 Killingly Town Hall, 172 Main St., Killingly**

**AGENDA**

**I. Call to Order / Roll Call**

Members Present: Keith Thurlow, William Cheng, Byron Martin, Donna Bronwell

Others: Kevin Kerttula, Town Council Liaison; Ann-Marie Aubrey, Director Planning and Development

Public: Andy Hanson, Ian McDonald

**II. Citizen Participation – limited to three (3) minutes per speaker for an accumulated time of no more than twenty-one (21) minutes (unless extended by a majority vote of the Committee)**

**III. Adoption of Minutes – (review/discussion/action)**

A) Regular Meeting – September 26, 2019

Byron Martin made a motion to adopt, William Cheng seconded, no further discussion, vote 4 to 0, Motion passed.

**IV. Old Business- (review/discussion/action)**

1) Setting Goals and Priorities for upcoming year

2) Review of the following –

a) Open Space Land Acquisition Fund Ordinance

b) By-Laws of the Killingly Open Space Land Acquisition Committee

c) Town of Killingly Open Space Map

d) List of Parcels of Land under the 490 classification

Very quick review of the above, no motions made.

**V. New Business – (review/discussion/action)**

1) Discussion of Five Ponds - Dams

Donna Bronwell made motion to open the floor for the public to participate in the discussion, Byron Martin seconded the motion, no further discussion, vote 4 to 0, motion passed.

Donna let the committee members know that WISH (the owner of the Five Ponds and their dams) came back before the Town Council to Offer the dams to the Town, and there was some sort of discussion of also giving the Town a sum of money to start a stewardship fund for the dams. Donna stated that WISH had come forward in the past (2010 & 2015) to offer the dams, but at that time WISH stated they would breach the dams if the Town refused to take them.

Kevin Kerttula said that WISH had indeed made a presentation to the Town Council and offered the dams to the Town and offered a sum of money for a stewardship fund for the dams.

Keith Thurlow stated that he is the paid by WISH to maintain the dams, and that he follows the repair, maintenance plans that the engineer(s) from WISH put together. He is also the first contact person on the Emergency Action Plans (EAP) for the dams. Keith also stated that WISH has repaired the dams and

that the repairs meet DEEPS requirements, and he is just awaiting the approval letter from DEEP to put on the land records in Town Hall.

Ann-Marie reminded the group that the Town Council would need to balance the costs of the inspections, maintenance, repairs, and insurance (if we could even get it) to keep the dams versus what benefits, if any, owning the dams would bring to the Town. There is still quite a bit of research to be done and information gathered before the Town can even decide to take or refuse the dams.

William Cheng offered ideas of how the Town could raise money for the stewardship (maintenance) funds for the dams. Some involved a user fee, and a landowner's benefit (view) tax.

Byron thought accepting the ponds and the dams would be a benefit to the Town.

Donna also mentioned a parcel of real estate near the corner of Route 101 (Hartford Pike) and Pond Road that is for sale and would be a great parcel for the Town to purchase. Would be introduction to the Town as a Welcome center or park area.

Ann-Marie stated that the Town is scheduling a representative from WISH come before each of the Committees, Boards and Commission to make their presentation regarding the dams. Ann-Marie will keep everyone informed of when that will be.

## 2) Comments from Committee Members

None.

## VI. Other Discussion Items – (review/discussion/action)

### 1) Board of Recreation Report

Nothing to report, no member present

### 2) Agriculture Commission Report

Byron Martin reported for AG COMM.

- \* A survey was sent out the landowners of real estate (basically farmland) classified under 490;
- \* Killingly Community Garden has new leadership – so they are entering a new phase;
- \* AG COMM is continuing to offer classes – a class for organic gardening at the end of March

### 3) Conservation Commission Report

Donna Bronwell reported for KCC.

- \* This spring they intend to do extensive clean up on their Litchfield Ave location;
- \* Bus Tour on May 9<sup>th</sup> for the NE corner of Town (Five Ponds area);
- \* They are working on a sustainable green team – having a meeting with Mary Calorio to discuss;
- \* Looking for nominees for the KCC Environmental award

### 4) Economic Development Report

William Cheng reported for EDC.

- \* Elsie Bisset, Economic Director will be retiring at the end of March;
- \* Discussion of 140 Main Street, RFQ's; Ann-Marie said 4 responses were received;
- \* Commercial Real Estate Agents (and others) meet during the month to discuss what is happening in the area – there seems to be an up take in the amount of commercial and residential development in the Eastern corridor of the State

5) Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission

Ann-Marie Aubrey reported for IWWC.

\* There is an application before IWWC regarding a development off Hartford Pike, approximately 20-30 houses, there appear to be some issues and the review will continue next month;

6) Planning and Zoning Commission

Keith Thurlow reported for PZC.

\* The Plan of Conservation and Development – the hearing was started last month and will continue Monday, March 16, 2020;

\* Working on revising the parking regulations;

\* Once the POCD is approved the next big project will be the total re-write of the Zoning Regulations;

7) Citizens Report

Nothing to report

VII. **Town Council Liaison Report – (review/discussion/action)**

Kevin Kerttula Town Council Member reported

\* Stated again that WISH had come before the Town Council;

\* There are two large projects that will be going before the Town Voters on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – the voting will take place at the Library (there will be only one voting location) projects are;

\* Killingly Memorial School – we need to replace the temporary classrooms which are well beyond their “life expectancy”;

\* Killingly Westfield Ave (Old HS) – needed repairs to the building, and the renovations to allow the Community Center to relocate to that building.

VIII. **Enter into Executive Session (if needed/ review/discussion/action)** – Per CT General Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D) [discussion of the selection of a site or the lease, sale or purchase of real estate... when publicity regarding such site, lease, sale, purchase, or construction would adversely impact the price of such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction until such time as all of the property has been acquired or all proceedings or transactions concerning same have been terminated, or abandoned...”]

Nothing to discuss in executive session.

IX. **Next Meeting – Tentatively, Thursday, March 26, 2020**

X. **Adjournment**

Byron Martin made a motion to adjourn, William Cheng seconded.

Meeting adjourned around 8:20 pm.