I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman de Jongh called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited at the public hearing.

III. ROLL CALL

Ms. Dunne called the roll at the public hearing. Members in attendance for the public hearing were still in attendance for the regular meeting.

Robert de Jongh, Matthew Bowman, Charles Dimmick, Sheila Fiordelisi, and Kerrie Dunne were present.

IV. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman de Jongh determined there were enough members present for a quorum.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

- Public Hearing – November 15, 2011
- Regular Meeting – November 15, 2011
- Site Walk – November 18, 2011

The majority of Commission members did not receive the minutes from the November 15, 2011 public hearing and regular meeting or the November 18, 2011.
Commission members agreed that the approval of the minutes would be deferred to the January 3, 2012 meeting.

VI. APPROVAL OF 2012 MEETING DATES

Chairman de Jongh called for a motion to approve the 2012 meeting dates.

Motion: That the Commission approves the 2012 Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission meeting dates as submitted.

The Commission will hold their meetings the first and third Tuesday of each month in Council Chambers, 84 South Main Street, Cheshire, CT unless otherwise noted (no second meeting in August and December).

Moved by Dr. Dimmick. Seconded by Mr. Bowman. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from CT Dept of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) Re: Ravenswood Dam

This communication was reviewed.

2. Letter to Don Nolte, Public Works Department Re: Wetland Determination for Sindall Brook Stabilization, Section “D”

This communication was reviewed.

3. Drainage Maintenance Notification for Drainage Swale next to Pump Station at Woodbridge Court & Waterbury Road

This communication was reviewed.

4. Request for Determination by Milone & MacBroom, Inc. Re: 435 Highland Avenue

This communication was reviewed. This item would be discussed under new business.

5. Request for Determination by Milone & MacBroom, Inc. Re: 382 South Main Street
This communication was reviewed. This item would be discussed under new business.

6. Request for Determination by Town of Cheshire, Public Works Re: Country Club Road Bridge Channel Work

This communication was reviewed. This item would be discussed under new business.

7. Staff Communications Re: Wiese Road Subdivision, IWWC Permit # 2011-019

This communication was reviewed. This item would be discussed under new business.

8. Staff Communications Re: 1392 Cheshire Street

This communication was reviewed.

9. Welch Subdivision Overview, IWWC Permit # 2011-024

This communication was reviewed. This item would be discussed under new business.

10. Abutting Town Notification Re: 347 Highland Avenue, Wallingford, CT

This communication was reviewed.

VIII. INSPECTION REPORTS

1. Written Inspections

There were no written inspections due to Ms. Simone's absence.

2. Staff Inspections

There were no staff inspections due to Ms. Simone’s absence.

IX. ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

1. Unauthorized Activities in a Regulated Wetland Area SC 5/04/10 Dr. Robert Henry and Maria Passaro-Henry 12 Mountaincrest Drive
Chairman de Jongh stated that this item would remain on the agenda for informal purposes only.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Permit Application
   Verna Properties, LLC
   Wiese Road
   Subdivision
   APP #2011-019
   DOR 09/20/11
   FT 09/26/11
   PH 10/04/11
   PH 10/18/11
   PH 11/01/11
   PH 11/15/11
   PH 12/06/11
   WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT: 12/02/11

This item was subject of tonight’s public hearing. The applicant requested that the application for Verna Properties, LLC, Weise Road, Subdivision be withdrawn.

2. Permit Application
   Town of Cheshire Public Works Department
   815 Allen Avenue
   Pond Dredging / Sediment Removal
   APP #2011-020
   DOR 10/04/11
   FT 10/15/11
   MAD 12/08/11

Motion:

That the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission, having considered the factors pursuant to Section 10 of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Cheshire, Commissioners’ knowledge of the area, site visitations, and after review of written information provided by the applicant on this application finds the following:

1. That this application is for excavation of 40 cubic yards of soil from a pond shared by the properties of 815 Allen Avenue and 825 Allen Avenue.

2. That the affected private property owners have authorized the permit submission, as indicated by signatures on the application forms.

3. That the proposed site plan activities will not have a significant adverse effect on adjacent wetlands or watercourses.
Based upon the foregoing findings, the Cheshire Inland Wetland and Watercourses Commission conditionally grants CIWWC Permit Application #2011-020, the permit application of Town of Cheshire, Public Works Department for site plan approval as presented and shown on the plans entitled:

“Area of Proposed Maintenance Dredging
To Restore Original 3-foot Depth as Approved in 1995
Prepared by Cheshire Public Works Department.”

The permit is granted on the following terms, conditions, stipulations and limitations (collectively referred to as the “Conditions”) each of which the Commission finds to be necessary to protect the wetlands and watercourses of the State and the Town of Cheshire:

1. Any lack of compliance with any condition or stipulation of this permit shall constitute a violation of the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations, and an enforcement order shall be both issued and recorded on the Town of Cheshire Land Records.

2. No changes or modifications may be made to the plans as presented without subsequent review and approval the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.

3. Throughout the course of conducting construction activities covered by this permit grant, and per Section 11.2K of the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations, the applicant shall be responsible for ensuring the following:

   a) That all maintenance and refueling of equipment and vehicles is performed as far as practical from all wetlands and watercourses, at least 100’ if possible. All oil, gasoline, and chemicals needed at the site shall be stored in secondary containment to prevent contamination of any wetlands or watercourses from possible leaks.

   b) That all disturbed areas on the site not directly required for construction activities are temporarily hayed and seeded until the site is permanently stabilized.

4. This permit shall expire on December 6, 2016.
Moved by Dr. Dimmick. Seconded by Mr. Bowman. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

3. Permit Application  APP  #2011-021
   Town of Cheshire Public Works Department  DOR  10/04/11
   825 Allen Avenue  FT  10/15/11
   Pond Dredging / Sediment Removal  MAD  12/08/11

Motion:

That the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission, having considered the factors pursuant to Section 10 of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Cheshire, Commissioners’ knowledge of the area, site visitations, and after review of written information provided by the applicant on this application finds the following:

1. That this application is for excavation of 40 cubic yards of soil from a pond shared by the properties of 815 Allen Avenue and 825 Allen Avenue.

2. That the affected private property owners have authorized the permit submission, as indicated by signatures on the application forms.

3. That the proposed site plan activities will not have a significant adverse effect on adjacent wetlands or watercourses.

Based upon the foregoing findings, the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission conditionally grants CIWWC Permit Application #2011-021, the permit application of Town of Cheshire, Public Works Department for site plan approval as presented and shown on the plans entitled:

“Area of Proposed Maintenance Dredging
To Restore Original 3-foot Depth as Approved in 1995
Prepared by Cheshire Public Works Department.”

The permit is granted on the following terms, conditions, stipulations and limitations (collectively referred to as the “Conditions”) each of which the Commission finds to be necessary to protect the wetlands and watercourses of the State and the Town of Cheshire:

1. Any lack of compliance with any condition or stipulation of this permit shall constitute a violation of the Cheshire Inland Wetlands
and Watercourses Regulations, and an enforcement order shall be both issued and recorded on the Town of Cheshire Land Records.

2. No changes or modifications may be made to the plans as presented without subsequent review and approval the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.

3. Throughout the course of conducting construction activities covered by this permit grant, and per Section 11.2K of the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations, the applicant shall be responsible for ensuring the following:

   a. That all maintenance and refueling of equipment and vehicles is performed as far as practical from all wetlands and watercourses, at least 100' if possible. All oil, gasoline, and chemicals needed at the site shall be stored in secondary containment to prevent contamination of any wetlands or watercourses from possible leaks.

   b. That all disturbed areas on the site not directly required for construction activities are temporarily hayed and seeded until the site is permanently stabilized.

4. This permit shall expire on December 6, 2016.

Moved by Mr. Bowman. Seconded by Dr. Dimmick. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

4. Permit Application APP #2011-022
   Town of Cheshire Public Works Department DOR 10/18/11
   815 Allen Avenue
   Sindall Brook Restoration MAD 12/22/11

Motion:

That the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission, having considered the factors pursuant to Section 10 of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations of the Town of Cheshire, Commissioners’ knowledge of the area, site visitations, and after review of written information provided by the applicant on this application finds the following:

1. That this application is for stabilization of a 75 linear foot section of Sindall Brook by regrading the brook bank and use of standard rip rap unlain by geotextile material.
2. That this stabilization will include the correction of an eight foot deep, nearly vertical embankment.

3. That the affected private property owners have authorized the permit submission, as indicated by signatures on the application forms.

4. That the proposed site plan activities will not have a significant adverse effect on adjacent wetlands or watercourses.

Based upon the foregoing findings, the Cheshire Inland Wetland and Watercourses Commission conditionally grants CIWWC Permit Application #2011-022, the permit application of Town of Cheshire, Public Works Department for site plan approval as presented and shown on the plans entitled:

“Rip Rap Bank Protection”

And

“Regrade 80 Lineal Feet of Eroded Stream Bank to 2:1,
And Stabilize with Rip Rap”

The permit is granted on the following terms, conditions, stipulations and limitations (collectively referred to as the “Conditions”) each of which the Commission finds to be necessary to protect the wetlands and watercourses of the State and the Town of Cheshire:

1. Any lack of compliance with any condition or stipulation of this permit shall constitute a violation of the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations, and an enforcement order shall be both issued and recorded on the Town of Cheshire Land Records.

2. No changes or modifications may be made to the plans as presented without subsequent review and approval the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.

3. Throughout the course of conducting construction activities covered by this permit grant, and per Section 11.2K of the Cheshire Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations, the applicant shall be responsible for ensuring the following:
a) That all maintenance and refueling of equipment and vehicles is performed as far as practical from all wetlands and watercourses, at least 100’ if possible. All oil, gasoline, and chemicals needed at the site shall be stored in secondary containment to prevent contamination of any wetlands or watercourses from possible leaks.

b) That all disturbed areas on the site not directly required for construction activities are temporarily hayed and seeded until the site is permanently stabilized.

4. This permit shall expire on December 6, 2016.

Moved by Mr. Bowman. Seconded by Ms. Dunne. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

5. Request for Determination
House 2 Home Construction, LLC.
1392 Cheshire Street
House Demolition and Reconstruction

John Cablewood of House to Home Construction, LLC was present on behalf of the applicant.

Chairman de Jongh informed the Commission that this item was before the Commission at the last meeting to determine whether or not the activity was significant requiring a wetlands permit application.

A field walk of the site was held on November 18, 2011.

Commission members reviewed staff correspondence dated December 2, 2011 regarding 1392 Cheshire Street.

Staff noted in her comments that there was no Inland Wetlands and Watercourses permit on record for 1392 Cheshire Street; the house was built in 1945 and the Inland Wetland regulations went into effect in 1974. A permit to fill and grade approximately 3600 SF of sand and gravel into a wetland area was granted in June 1996; a permit to construct a garage was granted in September 2006.

The Commission talked about what they saw on the field trip. It was noted that there were wet areas to the rear of the existing home.

Mr. Cablewood explained that the parcel in question was .68 acres in size as is known as 1392 Cheshire Street. He said based on the
information requested by the Commission they had the site flagged. He stated that the wetlands were flagged by Eric Davidson, Soil Scientist from East Haddam, CT.

Mr. Cablewood said the proposal is to raise the existing home and build a new home. He said the applicant would like to move the proposed home back from its current location.

Mr. Cablewood stated the new home would be serviced by city water and sewer.

Mr. Cablewood said that wetland flag number ten is the closest point to the wetlands and the house is 40’ from the wetland limits.

The Commission discussed the proposal and the wet areas surrounding the parcel.

Dr. Dimmick noted there was a drainage ditch in the area of the house. He said the Commission did have concerns since there were wetlands with 40’ of the subject area.

Chairman de Jongh said he had concerns the area was wet.

Dr. Dimmick said in his opinion the applicant would need a full permit application.

Motion: That the proposed activity work at 1392 Cheshire Street would require a full Cheshire Inland Wetland wetlands permit application.

Moved by Dr. Dimmick. Seconded by Ms. Fiordelisi. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

Ms. Dunne asked that the report from Eric Davidson be read into the record.

Dr. Dimmick noted for the report that a report dated November 22, 2011 was received from Eric Davidson, a registered soil scientist from East Haddam, CT. The letter and sketch map was submitted concerning the property at 1392 Cheshire Street.

Mr. Cablewood submitted a copy of the permit application for the record. The correct address of the subject parcel is 1392 Cheshire Street.
Further action on this item was deferred pending the submission of a full application.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Permit Application APP #2011-024
   Kathie A. Welch DOR 12/06/11
   Reservoir Road
   Resubdivision MAD 2/09/12

Matt Ducsay, PE from Milone and MacBroom was present on behalf of the applicant Kathie A. Welch for the property at 650 Reservoir Road.

Mr. Ducsay addressed the Commission. He said to begin – the property is located on the north side of Reservoir Road, its approximately 10.5 acres in total size and its located in an R-80 zoning district.

Mr. Ducsay said as the Commission can see by the proposed plan shows a subdivision of three lots with the existing home, pool, pool house and garage to remain on lot one, and two new lots to be created on the rear of the property.

Mr. Ducsay said the property is located in the watershed area of the Broad Brook reservoir and being that it is notification has been sent to the Meriden Water Department – at this point comments have not yet been received but notification has been sent.

Mr. Ducsay stated that the proposed subdivision is to be served by individual well as well as subsurface sewage disposal systems. He said they have done test pits on the lots and submitted a sanitation certificate to the Chesprocott Health District which has been approved.

Mr. Ducsay said the Commission can see from the configuration of the lots that both lots are to be served by 50’ access strips – those are strips that are owned in fee by the individual lots with driveways coming in parallel to each other along the eastern boundary of the property.

Mr. Ducsay said in terms of wetland features – there are two wetland features on this site – there is a perennial watercourse that is fed by a cross culvert underneath Reservoir Road which extends northerly towards Broad Brook Reservoir.
Mr. Ducsay said in addition to that there is an intermittent watercourse. He explained that the perennial is a watercourse with approximately 44 acres – while the intermittent watercourse is a watershed of approximately 2.5 acres – that is watershed area that is located all on site and is not fed by any other means other than the onsite surface water drainage.

Mr. Ducsay said the Commission can see based upon the plan that one of the lots – north access - a portion of the developable area requires a crossing of both the intermittent watercourse as well as the perennial watercourse.

Mr. Ducsay showed on the map the location of the proposed crossings.

Mr. Ducsay stated that in order to accommodate the drainage from the 100 year storm – one of the crossings requires a 15” pipe and the other requires a 36” pipe. He said the driveway has been graded to accommodate those pipes as well as adequate cover to bring utilities over the top of the culverts and service the proposed home on the lot.

Mr. Ducsay said in terms of impacts – these crossings result in .04 acres of direct wetland disturbance – in terms of square footage that results in 1,700 SF of direct wetland disturbance for the installation and the fill associated with those culverts.

Mr. Ducsay stated that in addition to that the grading required for the fill and the driveway crossings results in 1,200 SF of upland review area disturbance.

Mr. Ducsay said the lots are proposed to be served by individual wells and subsurface sewage disposal systems. Each lot also has a rain garden with a rain filter bottom down gradient of the proposed homes – the roof leaders from those lots will be directed towards those rain gardens to mitigate some of the increase in flows as well as promote infiltration into the underlying soils.

Mr. Ducsay noted there were numerous sediment and erosion controls measures on the site – there are construction entrance pads at the entrances to the lots as well as silt fence enforced with hay bales pretty much surrounding the entire perimeter of the property.

Mr. Ducsay said the silt fence and hay bales are located down gradient of all the constriction activity as the topo sheds from
Reservoir Road to Broad Brook – that is why the S&E control measure located down gradient of those construction activities.

Mr. Ducsay noted that Bill Root of Milone and MacBroom had been out to the site and his report regarding the wetlands features identified has been included with the application package.

Mr. Ducsay stated that Mr. Root was present tonight to discuss any questions the Commission might have in regards to the wetlands.

Mr. Ducsay said this concluded the information that he had – he opened it up to any questions the Commission had.

Dr. Dimmick asked that Mr. Root present his soil report information.

Mr. Bill Root, soil scientist of Milone and MacBroom addressed the Commission.

Dr. Dimmick said that he imagined at this point the crossing of the major stream – what is the nature of the stream at the point of the crossing.

Mr. Root explained that he flagged the wetlands on the site. He said he was out there a couple of weeks ago – the date is in the report.

Mr. Root said there is a pond on the south side of Reservoir Road which discharges through a culvert across the road- he said you can see by the size of the topography that there is a watercourse that makes its way all the way through - it’s a fairly broad wetlands near the roadway – its disturbed it’s kind of shrubby and there are small Red Maples and Willows and things like that.

Dr. Dimmick said he you look at the contours the stream doesn’t seem to be following the path that you would think from the contour line.

Mr. Root said that he thought Mr. Ducsay could answer that better than he could. He said he thought the source of topography is not the same as the source of the wetland mapping that he did.

Dr. Dimmick said he thought it was off by about 30’.

Mr. Root stated he did not think it was that much but there was some underlying shift which they talked about how to handle.
Mr. Ducsay said for the topography on site they utilized town aerial mapping for the majority – they did field survey mapping in the area they knew where they were going to encounter the wetland crossing areas to make sure that the could point the grid.

There was discussion about the topography, the aerial mapping, the location of the stream.

Mr. Ducsay said some features are off due to the aerial mapping doesn’t line up perfectly with the underlying soils.

Dr. Dimmick said so they are not to rely on the contours until they get to the proper place.

Mr. Ducsay said more specifically to the area that they are focusing on where there are impacts – they field survey areas and then used aerial topography to supplement that other remainder of the site.

Mr. Root said it is a perennial watercourse - the watershed has been described as being 44 acres or so – there is a fairly constant flow – the destination is down to the Broad Brook Reservoir. He stated there was a slight break in the wetland mapping and that is where the exit is – to indicate the wetland is open up to the east and to the south side.

Mr. Bowman asked about the property just to the north.

Mr. Root said it was the City of Meriden property.

Mr. Bowman stated that was then reservoir property.

Mr. Root said there is a gas line right of way.

Mr. Root explained the perennial watercourse – the property is fairly steep – the soils were silty.

Mr. Bowman commented about the gas right of way issue, wetland disturbances and that he wanted to see a conservation easement as part of the proposal.

Motion: To accept the application.

Moved by Dr. Dimmick. Seconded by Mr. Bowman. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.
A field trip of the site was set for Saturday, December 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m.

The Commission asked that the crossings be flagged prior to the field trip.

Determination of significance would be deferred until after the field trip.

Motion: To defer further action on this application pending the outcome of the field trip.

Moved by Dr. Dimmick. Seconded by Mr. Bowman. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

2. Request for Determination
Milone & MacBroom, Inc.
435 Highland Avenue

Matt Ducsay, PE of Milone and MacBroom was present on behalf of the applicant. Bill Root of Milone and MacBroom was also present.

Mr. Ducsay informed the Commission that the subject parcel is the former location of Stone Works which is now located at the far north end of Cheshire on Route 10.

Mr. Ducsay informed the Commission that the lot does not depict any wetlands features.

The proposal is to construct an office building on the property.

There are no wetland soils or watercourses on the subject property.

Mr. Root had submitted a wetland delineation report pertaining to the subject parcel.

Commission members reviewed the report as part of the communications received in tonight's packet.

Dr. Dimmick commented about the channel's characteristics.

The Commission discussed the request for determination for the proposed activity and determined that based on the information provided by the applicant no wetland permit would be required.
Motion: That an Inland Wetlands permit is not needed for the proposed activity at 435 Highland Avenue.

Moved by Dr. Dimmick. Seconded by Mr. Bowman. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

3. Request for Determination
   Milone & MacBroom, Inc.
   382 South Main Street
   Permit Modification

   Matt Ducsay, PE of Milone and MacBroom was present on behalf of the applicant.

   The Commission reviewed the correspondence submitted with the request for determination.

   A permit for the proposed activity was granted by the Wetlands Commission on October 4, 2011.

   Mr. Ducsay explained that Fire Departments comments necessitate a slight change to widen the access way along the south side of the parking lot using two foot grass pavers. In addition, a concrete paver setup and a turning area has been provided in the front of the buildings.

   A small portion of the grass pavers extends into the 50’ upland review area within the limits of disturbance previously approved. The minor surface changes have a negligible impact on the surface runoff and no changes to the storm water management system are necessary.

   The Commission reviewed the modification to the plan and reviewed the submitted correspondence.

   The Commission determined the proposed modifications would not require a permit modification.

   Motion: That the proposed activity would not require a permit modification.

   Moved by Dr. Dimmick. Seconded by Ms. Dunne. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.
4. Request for Determination
Town of Cheshire, Public Works
Country Club Road
Bridge Channel Work

Don Nolte, Engineering Technician for the Town of Cheshire was present on behalf of the application.

Mr. Nolte addressed the Commission. He explained that the homeowner at 148 Country Club Road is dissatisfied with the appearance of the rip-rap used to re-stabilize the Honey Pot Brook banks within the drainage easement over his property which is located on the northerly (downstream) stream side of the new bridge. The homeowner is not satisfied with the stone color and the 2:1 angle of repose of the modified rip-rap; he wants the original stone masonry wall restored.

Mr. Nolte explained that the Public Works Department is willing and prepared to purchase stone that matches the stone wall through the property and use mortar to reconstruct the preexisting walls over the 35 linear foot section.

The work would be performed utilizing appropriate dewatering methods and sediment controls. The stone masonry wall will be 30” in height with a one-foot deep stone footing and a 6:1 batter. The inland wetlands permit is still valid; this request is for a determination that no new permit or permit modification is required to restore the original stream bank condition in this vicinity.

The Commission reviewed the pictures of the site and the plan for the prospered activity.

Mr. Nolte said the project cost is about ten thousand dollars to replace the stone wall.

Mr. Bowman said in his opinion what was done to the homeowner’s property was wrong and no one would be happy if something like that was done on their property.

Chairman de Jongh commented that in his opinion the contractor should bear the cost of the project if they were responsible for creating the issue.

Motion: That the proposed activity would not require a permit modification.
Moved by Dr. Dimnick. Seconded by Mr. Bowman. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m. by the consensus of Commission members present.

Respectfully submitted:

Carla Mills
Recording Secretary
Cheshire Inland Wetland and Watercourse Commission