



**Town of Amherst, NH
Conservation Commission
FINAL MINUTES**

Barbara Landry Conference Room

Wednesday, 28 February 2018, 7:00 PM

*Conservation Commission members in attendance were: John Harvey, Wes Robertson,
Frank Montesanto, and William Widmer - Alternate.
Also in attendance: Gordon Leedy, Kristan Patenaude*

I. Call to Order

John Harvey called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

II. Eversource Tree Trimming – Route 101/Bragdon Farm – Ian Farley, Eversource

Mr. Ian Farley, an arborist for Eversource, explained the importance of removing/trimming some of the trees along 101. There is a critical part of a fairly large customer account circuit along 101, and having it go down due to a weather-related incident would cause a potential loss of power for thousands of people. There is currently a state-wide project to target trees in critical system areas and either trim or remove them, if necessary. Eversource is working with Asplundh to identify land owners, meet with them in the field and get their approval. The trees in these areas on 101 are under the Conservation Commission's jurisdiction.

Mr. Harvey explained that the trees are on the Bragdon property along 101, and the Sylvester lot.

In response to a question from Mr. Harvey, Mr. Farley stated that he believes there are 6 trees slated to be trimmed/removed.

In response to a question from Mr. Harvey, Mr. Farley explained that the trucks generally need to be on the asphalt in order to put down the outrigger. If this doesn't work at these spots, he will put a restriction on the project to have the trees climbed instead.

In response to a question from Mr. Montesanto, Mr. Farley explained that Asplundh chooses and tag the trees slated for removal, and then Eversource does the quality control work.

46 In response to a question from Mr. Harvey, Mr. Farley stated that the chopped up wood
47 from the downed trees is actually the property owner's. However, if they don't want it
48 Asplundh will usually pick it up, if it's not taken by other townspeople first. If the town
49 wishes, Asplundh can pick up the wood quickly and disperse it back to the town. Mr.
50 Harvey stated that he believes they would prefer the wood be taken away.

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52 Mr. Leedy stated that most of the trees along the line are small saplings. He believes if they
53 are going to trim the saplings, they might as well remove them. He also believes the
54 trimming will allow for a nicer view of the meadow and hill.

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56 *A MOTION was made by Mr. Harvey and SECONDED by Mr. Robertson to allow*
57 *Asplundh to take down 6 trees and also trim as appropriate with the understanding that the*
58 *residual wood will be removed.*

59 *Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

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61 **III. Roundtable**

62 The Commission discussed a financial matter regarding vegetation control, but decided to
63 table the matter until a later meeting.

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65 **IV. Adjourn**

66 Mr. Harvey adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Kristan Patenaude

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