

**Conservation Commission**  
**Tufts-EMPACT Public Hearing, NOI DEP file #287-0020**  
**Hearing Minutes, July 24, 2002**  
**Hearing Minutes, July 29, 2002**  
**Hearing Minutes, July 31, 2002**

**July 24, 2002: Tufts University- EMPACT- Hearing opened at 9:55 pm**

Present were Conservation Commission chair, Cassandra Koutalidis, and members, Elisabeth Miley, John Reinhardt, Michael Fager, and Lisa Brukilacchio, Associate Member, Rachel Evans and Agent, Anne Phelps.

Attending for Tufts were Vithal Despande, DPW, and John Durant, Tufts University.

**Introductions**

JR, MF and LB recused themselves for potential conflict of interest. Because we no longer have a quorum, no abutters notified, and no DEP file number the CC continued the hearing to Monday, July 29, 2002, at 6:30 pm, in the Board of Aldermen's chambers at City Hall.

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**July 29, 2002 / Tufts-EMPACT Hearing continued at 6:40 pm from July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2002**

Present were Conservation Commission chair, Cassandra Koutalidis, and members, Elisabeth Krautsheid (nee' Miley), Leslie Brayton, and Delia Kaye, Associate Member, Janet McGowan and Agent, Anne Phelps.

Present for Tufts were Vithal Despande, DPW, and Matt Herberger, graduate student at Tufts.

CK read from the NOI General Project Description:

“ We plan to install water quality monitoring equipment as part of an EPA-funded study with the MYSTIC river Watershed Association. We will dig a trench between the MWRA Alewife pump station and the Alewife Brook to run a cable to the sensors which will be located in the stream. The sensors are contained in a 18” long x 2.5” diameter tube, as shown in Figure 3. Installation will require digging a 100’ long by 6” wide by 1” deep trench (entirely on the shore) to accommodate the data cable encased in a 1.5” galvanized conduit. The device will emerge from the conduit and be held in place atop a cinder block as shown in Figure 4. All digging shall be completed in one day, and the trench will be backfilled immediately. The area above the trench will be reseeded and

mulched with straw, with additional conservation measures as directed by the Conservation Commission.”

CK asked for the DEP file number, and was told by Matt that they do not have it yet. Matt said they have already installed three monitoring devices; this project is to replace a device originally installed in Alewife Brook in Arlington that was vandalized after only 2 days.

CK asked how long the work is expected to take. Matt said it would take 1 afternoon. He said they wanted to put the data recorder inside a building but cannot because of access issues. He said they may put it inside a shed on the property.

Leslie noted that since they do not know the exact location for the recorder, they do not know exactly where they will put the trench. **CK asked if Matt could estimate the path and someone from the CC could go out with him to examine the site.**

Delia asked “Why this location?” Matt said he and John Durant walked most of the length of Alewife Brook and decided this site is the best for security. Delia asked, since they are putting a trench through the bank, how do they expect to stabilize the bank afterward? Matt said the pipe emerges into the stream channel, but it could come out above the waterline, if that is better.

Matt said a cinderblock is placed into the stream channel to hold the monitor on the bottom. Leslie asked if they had experienced any flood/storm conditions, and Matt said, not yet. Leslie asked how long the program will run. Matt said funding is for 3 years, but the monitoring might go longer, if more funds become available.

A discussion of the calculation of fees followed. The total fees should be \$375.00, of which \$40 have been submitted.

**The CC recommends staked hay bales be placed to protect the bank/stream from erosion. Sod should be removed and saved, and replaced after backfilling of the trench.**

**CK said we can close the hearing, contingent on receiving the DEP file number and fees—this can be accomplished during the procedural meeting scheduled for Wed., July 31, 2002.**

**VOTE: Delia moved to vote now on granting OOC, conditional on receipt of DEP file number and check for remaining fees. John seconded. All approved.**

Delia moved to grant OOC. Leslie seconded. All approved.

Hearing to be closed upon receipt of DEP file number.

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**July 31, 2002 / Tufts-EMPACT Hearing continued from July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2002**

Attendees were Conservation Commission members Elisabeth Krautscheid, Delia Kaye, Leslie Brayton, John Reinhardt, Michael Fager, and Lisa Brukilacchio, Associate Member, Janet McGowan and Agent, Anne Phelps.

**DEP file number and check for remaining fees received. Hearing closed, 9pm.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Phelps, Commission Agent