

WATER-SEWER COMMINISSORS MINUTES

April 12, 2011

Present: Leo Collette, George Cornwall, Valorie Daigle, Charlie Packard, Dave Berger and Mark Petersen

1. Leo called the meeting at 7PM
2. Charlie made a motion to approve the April 12, 2011 agenda. Unanimous
3. Valorie made a motion to approve the March 8, 2011 minutes, seconded by George. Unanimous

7:00 PM Bernadette Clark met with the Commissioners to request an abatement. Mrs. Clark owns a 2 family home located at 40 Central Street. Mrs. Clark's usage is high but for her is consistent. There are no leaks. Mrs. Clark will make an appointment with the Water Dept. to verify her meter is correct. If the meter is correct she can still have the meter sent out. Should the meter test positive then Mrs. Clark will have to pay for the testing.

4. Leo updated the Commissioners on the water tank. A meeting was held earlier in the day with Leo Collette, Mark Petersen, Town Administrator Doug Briggs and Peter Valenski from Tighe & Bond. Tighe & Bond quote for a full time engineer to be onsite with inspections will be \$100,000. So far everything is on schedule. Attorney Phillips is going over all 3 of the contracts.
5. The Commissioners discussed seasonal billing. Mark reported that DEP would like all homes to be metered. Mark met with Linda Lane from DEP and explained there are about 40 camps that do not have meters which accounts for some of the unaccounted water. When the seasonal customers call to have their water turned on a fee of \$50.00 will be charged, they will also be charged for the consumption they use plus the \$32.00 debt fee per quarter. When they call to have the water shut off they will not be charged for quarters or debt fee. The Commissioners will give the seasonal customers 1 year to have a meter installed or updated. After a year the water will not be turned on until they comply. Anyone tampering (turning & shutting off water themselves) may be fined.
6. The Commissioners reviewed from Carla, Town Collector water & sewer unpaid water-sewer amounts for the last 3 billings. These amounts have not been applied to the tax bill. They feel that when the water-sewer dept. had payment plans money was coming in. They also review the water-sewer collections for the month of March 2011.

7. Leo signed a letter stating Mr. John Fritsch will be replacing Dan Leonard as the Authorized Agent for the Ashburnham/Winchendon Water Treatment Facility. The next meeting of the Joint Water Authority will be Wednesday April 20, 2011 at noon.
8. A request dated March 23, 2011 for an abatement from Laurie Ducharme property located at 74 Main St. She received a bill for \$1,739.30. This property is being rented from someone working at Cushing Academy. The water dept. made an appointment to personally check the reading and the meter read correctly. She is confused and frustrated. Everything seems to be OK now. The Commissioners will wait until the May meeting after the April billing to make a decision.
9. A discussion was held to change the time of the monthly meeting from 7 PM to 6 PM. The Commissioners voted to hold their monthly meetings starting at 6 PM.
10. Mark reported that the boards at Lower Naukeag have been replaced according to the Conservation Order of Conditions.
11. Val made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by George, all in favor at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Elaine Cormier
Admin Clerk