

**WATER-SEWER COMMISSION MEETING**  
**May 9, 2017**

Members Present: Leo Collette, Dave Berger, Val Daigle, George Cornwall, Charlie Packard, Steve Nims, Julie Dean

Also Present: Heather Budrewicz, John Esposito

CALL TO ORDER 6:00 p.m.

**Motion by Charlie Packard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leo Collette to approve the May 9, 2017 Agenda, vote was unanimous. Motion by Leo Collette, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cornwall, to approve the April 11, 2017 minutes, vote was unanimous.**

NEW BUSINESS

John Esposito was present to request \$27,500 water and sewer entrance fees paid in 2009 for Bray Avenue development. He stated he was told that the fees had to be paid up front for the project to continue. He stated he had a deal with 3 other individuals on this development, 2 are now deceased, the other is in a rest home and the development has since been sold to another person. Steve stated that the owners are the same on record with the town from 2009. John feels that the fees should be returned to him because the new person will have to pay fees to connect. John stated he can provide paperwork if requested. The board feels that if the property sold, John should have received his fees from the owners when the property sold. Val told John Esposito that the board will take this under advisement, check with town counsel and a letter will be prepared for John with a decision. John Esposito's mailing address is P.O. Box 396, Lunenburg, MA 01462 and phone number is 781-858-8402.

Heather Budrewicz discussed having a formal study done regarding rate schedule. Rates have not changed since 2014. Study would be completed based on 5 years of historical data, consumption, general fund, retained earnings, meeting with personnel, customer based changes, etc., to develop an electronic rate model. Heather will clarify if this electronic rate model can be used to modify rates in the future. The town auditor recommends a study. Heather received a quote from Tighe & Bond for \$14,000 but would like to request additional quotes. Steve will review the proposal submitted by Tighe & Bond.

The board would like to know what type of enterprise fund we have and budget information provided. Heather said she would find out enterprise fund type and bring budget/slideshow to the next meeting.

The Fluoride Study was completed and the board sees no reason to discontinue fluoride.  
**Motioned by Charlie Packard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leo Collette, Val abstained to leave fluoride as is.**

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

Steve discussed with the board that Flo Chemical owes \$237,000 to the town and that the daughter, Rachel Freedman has approached the Tax Collector and Water/Sewer Department to pay a settlement on what is owed. The Tax Collector reached out to Town Counsel and was advised that the Town does not have any authority to settle for any amount less than what is owed to the Town because Flow Chemical filed for an abatement under Chapter 59 but now that the amounts are past due, have been certified to the tax title account the Town cannot accept anything less than payment in full. The Land court has no authority as well to abate the amounts owed to the Town. Steve will send a letter to Rachel/Flow Chemical stating payment is due in full.

Steve clarified that the water conservation (ban) posted throughout town and on the town website is mandated by DEP which is why the signage is out there. Postings will be modified to stated this is a DEP mandate.

OLD BUSINESS

Steve said that Peter Valenski will contact Oakson directly and that he told Peter this needs to be done quickly.

NEXT MEETING

Tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June13, 2017 6 p.m.

ADJOURN

**Motion by: Charlie Packard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leo Collette, vote was unanimous. 7:12 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by, ***Julie Dean***