

**Water and Sewer Commission**  
**53 Elm Street**  
**Blackstone, MA 01504**  
**Minutes from Thursday April 14, 2016**  
**6:30 pm**

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**Water and Sewer members in attendance:**

Charles Sawyer	Tom Devlin	Bruce Paterson	John Parmentier
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>

**Also present:**

Superintendent James Sullivan  
Recording Secretary: Amy Sutherland  
Selectmen Keefe

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The meeting for the Water and Sewer Commission was opened at 6:30 pm.

**Abatement:**

**83 Main Street:**

Mr. Gary Gignac submitted an application for abatement dated March 21, 2016. This abatement form was for bill number 451080 dated May 4, 2013 and bill number 448511 dated October 30, 2012. The total amount he wants abated is \$2,184.07. The applicant believes that the bill should have been averaged out. There has been liens placed on the account for non-payment. The Commission was supplied with copies of the bills and documentation regarding payments made on the account. The members were also provided with a consumption report. This is a multi family apartment unit. The commission was in receipt of a meter report dated August 5, 2010 which indicated that there was a leak detection done at this address and no leaks were detected.

The Commission informed Mr. Gignac that the bills along with the submitted application indicated that any applicant seeking an abatement must first pay the bill and submit the necessary abatement form. This process was not followed back in 2013.

**On a motion made by Bruce Paterson and seconded by Tom Devlin, the Commission voted unanimously to not abate the amount of \$2,184.07.**

**Parks and Recreation Commission:**

The Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission was asked to attend the meeting to discuss that the Water and Sewer Commission will be sending them a bill for the water and sewer usage at the various park locations. It was indicated that all other locations throughout the town are billed. This includes schools, library, town hall, historical building etc. Since the water and sewer department is an enterprise fund and is self-sustaining, all those with water and sewer will be receiving a bill. There was a new meter put in at the fields. The Parks and Recreation Commission will need to put money into their FY 2017 budget.

### **Bay State Trail Riders:**

The Commission had a site walk on Friday, March 11, 2016 at 10:00 am.

### **Capital Meeting:**

There will be a capital meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

### **Water and Sewer Member:**

The Commission continues to seek a member to serve as a member of the Water and Sewer Commission.

### **Finance Budget Meeting:**

The Finance Committee will hold the public hearing on the budget on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7:00 pm. The FY 2017 budgets will be presented.

### **Well #9:**

There will be a meeting with the Water and Sewer Commission and Board of Selectmen to discuss the warrant article for Well #9. The article is seeking \$310,000.00. The Commission wants a review of their numbers. It was suggested that Consultant McClure be invited to this meeting. The bills for F.C. Sullivan was submitted in the amount of \$91,300.00

### **Audit:**

The Commission discussed at their last meeting have an independent audit company be hired to address the questions about the water and sewer enterprise numbers. The secretary contacted three recommended names and none of these firms were interested. The Chairman would like to create a list of questions and meet with the town auditors to address these questions. The members will forward questions to the Chairman.

### **Spring Billing:**

The spring water and sewer bills are scheduled to go out the first week of May.

**Good and Welfare:**

Member Parmentier recommended that the meetings be held at the town hall where they can be televised.

**On a motion made by Tom Devlin and seconded by Bruce Paterson, the Commission voted to keep the meetings at the highway barn. (vote 3 to 1).**

**Secretary Payment:**

**On a motion made by Tom Devlin and seconded by John Parmentier, the Water and Sewer Commission voted unanimously to pay the secretary.**

**Future Meeting Date:**

- Thursday, May 12, 2016.
- Annual Town Meeting, Tuesday May 31, 2016.

**Adjourn:**

**On a motion made by Bruce Paterson, and seconded by John Parmentier, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland  
Recording Secretary  
Approved June 9, 2016