

NIEDBALA FARMS WATER ABATEMENT REQUEST

The Niedbala Farm requests a water abatement. Tests performed by the Water Division indicate the presence of a leak in the service line.

Must be filed with Selectmen by October 1 or if the bill for the real estate tax of which the sewer or water use charge became a part within 30 days after the tax bill was first mailed.

STATE TAX FORM 128-S-W

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Town of Hadley

Received
DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE.
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APPLICATION FOR ABATEMENT

Phone #

Sewer use charge Water use charge

262-2230

To the Board Selectman

NAME OF APPLICANT Juliana Niedbala Robert Niedbala Niedbala Farms

POST-OFFICE ADDRESS Po Box 342 136 East st

The above-named person aggrieved by a Water use charge hereby applies for an abatement.

NAME OF PERSON ASSESSED Robert Niedbala

Location and Description of Property — No. of Street, Plan, or Lot, and Area of Land. 136 East st Niedbala Farms

Description must be sufficiently accurate to identify the premises.

Water use charge Assessed \$ 2,713.46 Amount Paid \$ 0

Charge Paid by NONE on

IF THE APPLICANT IS NOT THE PERSON ASSESSED, what is the applicant's interest in the property? Running the farm

When was such interest acquired? PRESENT OWNERSHIP, MORTGAGE OR WHAT OTHER INTEREST DATE

Complete statement of reasons for this application: Never had a bill this big. All started when they charged the meter. Check the meter ONE time. No Leaks. Next time the town says I have a leak. I can not find a leak. I think there is something wrong with the meter

CONTENTIONS OF LAW RAISED

SUBSCRIBED THIS 30 day of March, UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT Robert Niedbala NAME IN FULL

THE FILING OF THIS APPLICATION DOES NOT STAY THE COLLECTION OF THE CHARGE. IT SHOULD BE PAID AS ASSESSED. REFUND WILL FOLLOW IF ABATEMENT IS ALLOWED.

THIS FORM APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.

TOWN OF HADLEY
OFFICE OF THE
Department of Public Works
P.O. BOX 406, 230 SOUTH MIDDLE ST
HADLEY, MA 01035-0406

MEMO:

To: David Nixon, Sue Glowatsky
From: Sharron Gifford, Water Division
Date: April 2, 2015
Re: 136 East St-request for water abatement

Meter & water service general information:

There is a 1" pit meter at 136 East St. The water service goes from the meter pit to the house where it tees off and goes to the barn. There is a shut off to the barn. The pipe is an old thin walled plastic pipe which isn't the same size as the standard copper pipe and needs clamps to secure it. (Nowadays the plastic used is the same size as copper tubing and rated up to 200 psi.)

Mike Klimoski remembers a few years back when Charlie Niedbala owned the place and Mike was called after hours to shut off the water because of leaks all along the service line.

(The owner is responsible for the service line after the curb box. He is also responsible for the meter pit.)

Usage history:

From 11/24/08 to 1/4/2011 usage per 6 month cycle ranged from 18,400 cu. Ft. to 40,300 cu. Ft.

From 5/5/11 to 7/2/14 usage per 6 month cycle ranged from 6400 down to 2862 cu. Ft.; the lowest reading being the one from 7/2/14.

Current usage readings:

On 7/15/14 the meter was updated to a new E-coder reader. At that time the reading started at 000000.

On 12/12/14 the meter reading was 055400.

In the beginning of January, the Collector's office asked that we reread the meter to check the high usage. I'm unsure if it was visually or radio read but on 1/8/15 the reading was 056663. We also reread the meter sometime near the end of January. The actual date wasn't recorded but we got a reading of 057971.

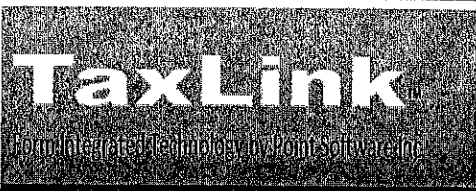
In March the customer asked to have the high reading investigated. On 3/6/15 we reread the meter. Since the meter is located in a meter pit we were unable to access it, so we tried to do a test with the handheld. We got a reading of 060462. We then had the customer turn off all the water that could be running and we reread the meter again. At that time we didn't see any movement in the numbers. Then the owner turned a faucet on and we reread the meter. It did show some usage. This led us to believe that the meter was functioning properly and there probably wasn't a leak. The customer still wanted us to come back the next week, when it got warmer, and to pump out the pit and look around the meter.

On March 11th we went back and pumped the water out of the pit. (Water is in the pit because of its construction. Newer manufactured pits should be water tight. As stated before, the meter pit is the owner's responsibility.) Once the meter was exposed we were able to see the faucet icon in the left hand

corner of the display that signifies that there could be a leak. We informed the customer that we thought he had a leak.

On 3/31/15 we took another radio reading of the usage. The meter read 064186.

At the current rate of usage the customer will use @14,580 cu. Ft. of water in 6 months. That is a significant increase in water usage which leads us to believe that he may have a leak somewhere along his service line. We don't know why the usage in the summer months was higher but the customer did say that he washed potatoes during that period. As to the meter, the readings suggest that it is functioning properly.



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Water/Sewer Billing

WATER BILLING ACCOUNTS 136 EAST ST METER 413 318
CYCLE SERVICE PERIOD CURRENT USE WATER SEWER FEES TOTAL
1 2012-1 08/05/11 362300 360700 6400 241.29 0.00 0.00 241.29
2 2012-2 12/22/11 368700 373900 5200 199.89 0.00 0.00 199.89
3 2013-1 06/11/12 373900 377700 3800 151.59 0.00 0.00 151.59
4 2013-2 12/26/12 377700 381500 3800 151.59 0.00 0.00 151.59
5 2014-1 06/11/13 381500 384500 3000 123.99 0.00 0.00 123.99
6 2014-2 12/12/13 384500 389000 4500 175.74 0.00 0.00 175.74
7 2015-1 07/07/14 389000 391867 2867 119.23 0.00 0.00 119.23
8 2015-2 12/12/14 0.0000 354400 56284 2634.79 0.00 0.00 2634.79

REVIEW CHOICE # 01 ENTER MORE HISTORY

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