



TOWN OF MEDWAY  
WATER & SEWER COMMISSION  
MEDWAY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Commissioners**

Robert Wilson, Chair  
Cranston Rogers, Member  
Leo O'Rourke, Member

Meeting Minutes

MINUTES APPROVED 5/04/15

January 5, 2015  
DPS Office  
155 Village Street

Present: Robert Wilson, Chan Rogers, Leo O'Rourke DPS Director Thomas Holder and Program Administrator Judi LaPan. Also present were residents Thomas & Juliann Lazetera and Nicole Haberman

A motion was made by Bob Wilson to open the Water/Sewer Commissioners meeting at 5:30 PM. Leo O'Rourke seconded, unanimous vote, 3-0.

Abatement request- 11 Temple Street - Thomas & Juliann Lazetera- Silent leak in a toilet located in back of the house. The homeowners are requesting an abatement due to the financial hardship this high bill creates and the fact that they were unaware they had a leak until they received the high bill. They contacted a plumber and shut the valve off to the toilet until they were able to buy a new flapper and make the repair. This is a water and sewer account. They were billed for 45,081 cf of water/sewer used. The leak represents approximately 42,676 cf of lost water.  $42,676 \text{ cf} \times 7.48 = 314,160$  gallons of water was used for the quarter.  $319,216 / 90 \text{ days} = 3,547$  gallons of water were used daily. If an abatement were granted the value would be approximately \$5,890.29. The breakdown is as follows: \$ 3,497.01 for water and \$2,393.28 for sewer.

**After much discussion Bob Wilson made a motion to reduce the water and sewer amounts owed by 50% and to offer the Lazetera family a payment plan for up to 24 months due to the large amount owed. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous vote, 3-0.**

Abatement request – 224 Main Street – Nicole Haberman -Similar in nature to first abatement. Silent leak in toilet located in the first floor bathroom. They could not see or hear anything leaking. We sent an employee out who found the leak. This has since been repaired by replacing the flapper. This is a water and sewer account. They were billed for 6,650 cf of water and sewer. The leak represents approximately 5,109 cf of lost water.  $5,109 \text{ cf} \times 7.48 = 38,215$  gallons of water was used for the quarter.  $5,190 / 90 \text{ days} = 425$  gallons of water were used daily. If an abatement were granted the value would be approximately \$593.36. The breakdown is as follows: \$352.65 for water and \$240.71 for sewer. **After much discussion Bob Wilson made a motion to reduce the water and sewer amounts owed by 50%. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous vote, 3-0.**

Abatement request – 104 Summer Street – Rob Pomponio –At the last meeting I was asked to calculate the abatement amount for this account. At the 10/27/14 meeting it was voted to abate this well account as the meter was not installed correctly, even though the owner requested it be plumbed so as not to capture his outside usage. See attachment for breakdown. **Bob Wilson makes a**

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**motion to abate \$543.80 as discussed at the last meeting per the breakdown. Leo O'Rourke makes a motion to abate half this amount as he feels the owner has some culpability. Bob Wilson makes a motion again to abate \$543.80 as discussed at the last meeting. Leo O'Rourke then recollected that it was discussed that the owner did not have any culpability. Leo O'Rourke then seconded the motion. Unanimous vote, 3-0.**

Abatement request - 3 Orchard Street – Pool Fill after replacing liner. All necessary paperwork was submitted. The calculations would set the sewer abatement at \$65.12 based on the size of the pool and cf of water used.

**Bob Wilson made a motion to abate the sewer charges only for the pool fill. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous vote, 3-0.**

Abatement request– 1 Richardson Street – David & Pauline Lambirth – Their Outside spigot was leaking into the basement which went undetected initially. No water went into the sewer. See statement from David Lambirth. This property averages 3610 cf of usage each quarter. Based on an average of like cycles it appears the leak represents 1,107 cf of lost water. If an abatement is granted the value would be approximately \$108.92. The breakdown is as follows: \$ 63.98 for water and \$44.94 for sewer.

**Bob Wilson made a motion to abate the sewer charges only for the leak. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous vote, 3-0.**

Abatement request – 15 Hemlock Drive - Similar in nature to first abatement. Silent leak in toilet located in the basement. The toilet has never been used since they bought the house 3 years ago. A contractor turned on the feed and they did not know it was running as this is a low foot traffic area. . This has since been repaired by replacing the flapper. This is a water and sewer account. They were billed for 5,634 cf of water and sewer. The leak represents approximately 4,479 cf of lost water.  $4,479 \text{ cf} \times 7.48 = 33,502$  gallons of water was used for the quarter.  $4,479 / 90 \text{ days} = 50$  gallons of water were used daily. If an abatement were granted the value would be approximately \$504.53. The breakdown is as follows: \$299.92 for water and \$204.61 for sewer.

**After much discussion Bob Wilson made a motion to reduce the water and sewer amounts owed by 50%. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous vote, 3-0.**

The Commissioners need to accept prior meeting minutes. **Bob Wilson made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2014 minutes. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous vote, 3-0.**

As the Commissioners were on the agenda for the Board of Selectmen's meeting, **Bob Wilson made a motion to close the meeting in the DPS office at 6:55PM and reconvene in Sanford Hall. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous vote, 3-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Judi LaPan  
DPS Program Administrator

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