



TOWN OF MEDWAY  
WATER & SEWER COMMISSION  
MEDWAY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Commissioners**

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

Meeting Minutes

September 29, 2015  
Sanford Hall  
155 Village Street

Present: Robert Wilson, Leo O'Rourke, Chan Rogers, DPS Director Thomas Holder and Program Administrator Judi LaPan.

***A motion was made by to Leo O'Rourke to open the Water/Sewer Commissioners meeting at 5:00 PM. Bob Wilson seconded, unanimous vote, 3-0.***

***The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from the August 17, 2015 meeting. Leo O'Rourke made a motion to approve the August 17, 2015 minutes. Bob Wilson seconded. Unanimous vote, 3-0.***

**Abatement Request –**

**Abatement Request – 4 Buttercup Lane** – William & Deborah Kingsbury - There was a leak in a toilet in the basement. 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. His wife heard the toilet running and shut the valve off on July 30, 2015. The valve will stay turned off until the homeowner replaces the toilet. This morning documents were provided indicating the toilet has been replaced.

This is a water and sewer account. They were billed for 14,491cf of water/sewer used. The usage for the August 2015 quarter was 14,491, and the previous Aug. 2014 the usage was 3,195 cf. If we were to abate the difference between these two like bill cycles it would be for 11,296cf. In water charges that would be \$928.07 and in sewer charges that would be \$752.45. Total abatement = \$1680.52

If an abatement were granted and the Commissioners were to vote as they have in the past to *reduce the difference of the water and sewer charges on their average bill and the last bill reflecting the leak owed by 50% the abatement would be for \$840.26.*

***Leo O'Rourke makes a motion to approve the abatement for \$840.26 as stated in the paragraph above. Robert Wilson seconded. Unanimous vote, 3-0.***

The listed matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent allowable by law.

**Abatement Request – 17 Main Street** – Steven & Kathleen Perkins - This is a relatively new home. The Perkins hand watered for 3 months trying to establish a new lawn. They did not realize how much water they used while establishing the lawn. This is a onetime request as they now understand how much water a hose uses. If we were to abate the sewer charges only based on the difference from the same quarter in 2014, it would be 8,158 cf minus 4,777 cf = 3,381 cubic feet. This would be a total abatement of \$177.67.

**Leo O'Rourke makes a motion to approve the abatement for \$177.67 as stated in the paragraph above. Robert Wilson seconded. Unanimous vote, 3-0.**

**Action Items were discussed.**

There was a continuation of the Toilet-Washing Machine Rebate Program. The outreach flyer was discussed and is mostly completed.

**Bob Wilson makes a motion that we accept the program as written with semantic changes to the brochure and application to be made. Leo O'Rourke seconded. Unanimous vote, 3-0.**

*Bob Wilson asked how much money has been allocated to the rebate program? Tom Holder explained that the Water Division budget will have to absorb the costs this fiscal year. Next year it will be worked into the budget or may be a program offered by a local business.*

#### **Directors Reports:**

The Inflow & Infiltration Study (I & I) has not been approved. Tom Holder is negotiating the price with the Abrahams Group.

The Exelon Forum will be held at the Medway High School on Wednesday October 21, 2015 at 7PM. There will be a brief presentation and a question and answer period. The three main concerns are as follows:

1. Air Quality - The exhaust tower and emissions
2. Fuel Source- Exelon initially stated they would be using natural gas when they started the expansion project. They are now requesting to utilize oil as the backup fuel source. Residents are concerned about the size and holding capacity of the oil tanks
3. Water- Residents are concerned that the town does not have enough water. The Town has stated we will NOT be providing water for the expansion.

Exelon has approached the Town of Millis to discuss the potential of purchasing water from Millis. Millis has a well that is not utilized to capacity. Millis Selectmen are investigating the possibility of selling water to Exelon.

With the discussion on water, Leo O'Rourke asks why the water from the CRPCD that goes out to the Charles River is not captured and filtered back into the aquifer?

Leo O'Rourke is requesting a copy of the Kleinfelder report on the Exelon Expansion. Tom Holder will forward this to the Commissioners.

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## **Directors Report Continued:**

Fall Town Meeting has been scheduled for November 16, 2015. The DPS-Water Division has an article on the warrant. The article is to re-appropriate monies not spent on the AMR project to the Water Main Project.

Hydrant Flushing has been scheduled for early October. Postcards were mailed to all residents to notify them. The flushing will be north of Route 109 and east of Holliston Street. All flushing will be done at night.

Demand Notices for delinquent accounts will be mailed out toward the end of October. Liens will Occur in early December. DPS will no longer be offering payment plans. Residents will have the options of making payment arrangements with the Treasurer-Collectors

Water Ban Violations and fines were discussed. Two builders were fined for blatantly violating the water ban.

The Salmon Health Project to be built on Village Street is coming along. The status of the 40B Project for the land formerly owned by Henry Lee Wicket is that the project currently at a standstill.

## **Member Prerogatives:**

The next Water & Sewer Commissioners Meeting will be held on November 2nd at 5PM in Sanford Hall.

***Bob Wilson made a motion to adjourn at 6:25 PM. Chan Rogers seconded. Unanimous vote, 3-0.***

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