



TOWN OF MEDWAY
WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
MEDWAY, MASSACHUSETTS

Commissioners

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

Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2014 – 5:00pm
DPS Office
155 Village Street, Medway MA

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

A motion was made to open the meeting at 5:05PM by Robert Wilson. Chan Rogers seconded, unanimous vote, 3-0.

Abatements:

1. Rob Pomponio- 104 Summer St.-Abatement request- this is a well account. When AMR meters were being installed he requested they plumb so as not to capture outside usage. He waters his gardens and landscaping extensively. Using his past like cycles as a reference proposed abatement would be for 5,378 cf for a total abatement of \$249.98. This has since been re-plumbed. Bob Wilson feels this should have been plumbed correctly at the time the meters were installed.

Bob Wilson made a motion to delay the abatement to determine household usage now that the outside usage is not captured. He thinks there is more of an abatement due than this one bill cycle. Leo O'Rourke seconded. Unanimous vote, 3-0. Tom Holder states we will need to hold interest on this account until the abatement is determined.

2. Lauren Ellis-9 Carriage House Way- Abatement request- this is a well account. They are new owners, not using irrigation but a sprinkler to establish new lawn and flower beds. They did not know the outside use was tied to sewer charges. This has since been re-plumbed. As they are new owners we do not have a history of same like cycles. Using their last bill as a reference proposed abatement would be for 3147 cf for a total abatement of \$87.80.

Leo O'Rourke made a motion made to approve the abatement. Chan Rogers seconded, unanimous vote, 3-0.

3. Stanley Misuak- 19 Meadow Road-new pool liner. Have proof from Village Pool. 1800cf. Proposed abatement \$ 79.22

Leo O'Rourke made a motion made to approve the abatement. Robert Wilson seconded, Unanimous vote, 3-0.

4. Michael Damon – 9 Little Tree- Requested an abatement last meeting for leak in the waterfall of the pool. He was unable to get proof of repair for this meeting. He has asked we defer for one more meeting and then discuss an abatement at that time due to a family medical emergency.

Leo O'Rourke feels this is a waste of money. Bob Wilson feels that this is considered partial filling which is not eligible for an abatement. This will be tabled until the next meeting. If he is able to provide a repair bill and

picture of the setup of the waterfall it will be discussed at the next meeting. If he is unable to provide documentation it will be an automatic denial.

5. Nancy & Evan Vaida – 29 Ellis Street –leak in the water line from the basement out to the barn. They do not use the barn and were not aware of a leak. Sarah found the incredibly high consumption when researching for a bill run. A plumber was contacted immediately. He turned the valve to the barn off and removed the handle. The line appears to be leaking underground as no water in the basement or the barn. Owner is caring for her quadriplegic son and is does not have the money to repair the line. Jeff Roach was out to verify that the valve is closed and the handle is removed. She is unable to make repair due to cost associated as the line runs through the ceiling in the basement and then underground to the barn.

After much discussion Robert Wilson made a motion to approve a partial abatement due to the fact that the leak is underground and the owner was unaware. Once notified of the leak the owner made the necessary repaired immediately. The proposed abatement is for of \$1,461.97. Leo O'Rourke seconded, unanimous vote, 3-0.

Robel Bond Release- This is an old performance bond associated with a drain layers license that was granted by the W/S Commissioners in 1998. The Board that ordered the bond must vote to release the funds.

Robert Wilson made a motion to release the bond. Leo O'Rourke seconded, unanimous vote, 3-0.

Past minutes needed to be approved. This had been deferred at a prior meeting.

Robert Wilson made a motion to accept both the 08/29/14 and the 09/22/14 minutes. Leo O'Rourke seconded, unanimous vote. 3-0

Directors Report:

Tom Holder informs the group that on October 6th the Commissioners met at CRPCD to discuss the O & M agreement. It was discussed that there is no clear answer as to why the numbers are higher. On October 14, 2014, which was the next round of sampling, they tested both up and downstream. The results came back that upstream was higher. The theory that downstream results are higher is not valid. There are two things that demonstrate that May's higher figures are an anomaly and should be removed. The rate summary should include the formulas so we can see if that caused the dollar values to be inflated. Bob Wilson asks why didn't they resample when they saw such high numbers? Another result of the meeting is that five (5) locations upstream of Chicken Brook will be tested. We will contract two rounds of testing. Bob Wilson asks if we own the meters? Tom Holder says no, we do not. Bob Wilson asks why don't we?

BOD-what does that mean?

Bob Wilson thinks that we need to deal with these high numbers. Where are these higher flows coming from? Water accountability and flow numbers are at the top of the priority list for Tom Holder.

Bob Wilson would like to invite the CRPCD Board to the next Water/Sewer Commissioners meeting to discuss fees two years from now.

Tom Holder goes on to discuss that water accountability testing continues next week when we start the Leak Detection Survey with Liston. Jim Liston knows detection and accountability. It appears that the south west side of town has a higher flow than would be expected during the overnight. We use tank levels to determine volumes. It appears that the pressure gauges could be off. If indeed the gauges are not accurate it could be something is wrong. Tom is hoping that Jim Liston will find something. Chan Rogers thinks it is going to be a hard sell to pay 15 million dollars for a new DPS facility. Tom says there is a committee discussing the new facility. The committee does not support a 15million dollar facility; they are more in line with a 12 million dollar facility. In closing the directors report Tom Holder says that the water main project is wrapping up. The project has come in on time and on budget!

The next meeting has been scheduled for Monday December 1· 2014 at 5PM.

Leo O'Rourke made a motion to adjourn at 5:40PM. Bob Wilson seconds, **unanimous vote, 3-0.**

Respectfully submitted by,

**Judi LaPan
Program Administrator**

