

**WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 18, 2007
7:30 PM**

Present: John Meader, Chairman
Briant Firmin

Also

Present: Kara Buzanoski, DPW Director
Steve Haberman, 24 Emerson Road

* Meeting opened at 7:50 pm

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of minutes from the June 6, 2007 meeting.

Postponed to next meeting.

2. Meeting re: Water bill interest issue for Steve Haberman.

The Commission, at their last meeting, voted against a request from Mr. Haberman to waive the interest charges for a late payment on the October 2006 water & sewer bill. Mr. Haberman wanted to appear in person to discuss the vote. He noted that the charge was a penalty charge. Mrs. Buzanoski stated it was interest due on unpaid charges. They explained how the enterprise fund works and how the interest is not a fee. After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to uphold the previous decision and not waive the interest charges due for the late payment of the October 2006 bill. Mr. Haberman asked how to appeal it further. Commissioner Meader stated the Commission is the final word on the Enterprise Funds. Mrs. Buzanoski stated in answer to Mr. Haberman's question who her boss was, that it was to the Town Administrator.

3. Review trail extension Coyote Trail around Assabet River.

Mrs. Buzanoski referred to a plan showing the Coyote Trail, which runs along a portion of our sewer easement on Hudson Street. She stated that access is at Boundary Street and at Yellick's property on Hudson Street. Commissioner Firmin asked if a waiver of liability would be required. Mrs. Buzanoski will look into. Commissioner Meader suggested some kind of sign noting the different property ownerships.

4. Review of drainlayers' license requests.

There were no requests.

5. Review Correspondence.

Correspondence was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review of Assabet River Consortium Study.

Waiting on MEPA decision on the draft EIR for Phase 3.

2. Review of Lyman Street well.

The bids are due August 2nd.

3. Supervisor's Report.

- Ethics Commission Meeting - Commissioners Meader & Firmin to attend.
- Execute water & sewer betterment recordings.
Commissioner Firmin moved to execute the water and sewer betterments for recording at the Registry of Deeds. Commissioner Meader seconded. The vote was two in favor.
- Mrs. Buzanoski stated that the Town's backflow tester would like to revise the water regulations as follows: in regards to private well owners connected to town water, they should sign a document exempting the public water supplier from any liabilities in the event of injury caused by an illegal cross connection within the home or facilities to an irrigation well. Mrs. Buzanoski will work on the document.
- Next agenda - formal vote on changing over to quarterly billing.

Next Meeting:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 5th at 7:30 pm.

Adjourn:

At 9:00 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda LePoer
DPW Administrative Assistant