

**WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 14, 2009
7:30 PM**

Present: John Meader, Chairman
David Pepe
Bryant Firmin

Also

Present: Kara Buzanoski, DPW Director
Dr. Prasad Maddukuri re: water bill for 27D Solomon Pond Road

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of minutes from the October 1, and November 5, 2008 meetings.

Commissioner Firmin moved to approve the minutes from October 1, 2008. Commissioner Pepe seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Commissioner Firmin moved to approve the minutes from November 5, 2008 as amended. Commissioner Meader seconded. The vote was two in favor.

2. Meeting with Dr. Prasad re: water bill for 27D Solomon Pond Road.

Dr. Prasad began by stating that he had concerns over the usage on his current bill. Mrs. Buzanoski showed the Commission the consumption history. She noted that back in April, there was zero usage billed. It seems that there was a problem with the handheld where several accounts were billed zero usage on the April bill. This was not discovered until the fall billing.

Commissioner Meader asked Dr. Prasad if he had any kind of work done that would result in high water usage. He replied no. His lawn was not watered and he had no leaks in the house.

Commissioner Pepe asked Mrs. Buzanoski if the problem back in April was with the meter or the handheld. She stated the problem was with the handheld. The service rep from Badger meter has been out to investigate. Commissioner Pepe's view was that since this was not a case of an error with the meter and repeat readings were consistent, the reading on this bill is a good reading and therefore this is a good bill.

Commissioner Meader would like to obtain another reading to compare to reading on bill to establish an average daily value, and use that over the 355 days bill

period. Commissioner Meader and Commissioner Firmin were both in favor of this while Commissioner Pepe was opposed.

Commissioner Meader encouraged Dr. Prasad to investigate leaks.

3. Meeting with Tony Abu re: sewer for 7 duplexes off Pinehaven Dr.

Mrs. Buzanoski stated that the property does have a sewer lateral on Pinehaven Dr. Commissioner Meader asked if the sewer pipes in the street had the capacity. Mrs. Buzanoski said there was capacity in the pipes. Commissioner Firmin asked if these duplexes were 14, 2-bedroom units. Mrs. Buzanoski replied that she believed they are 3-bedroom units. She added that Mr. Abu is in the beginning stages of this project. The Commission concurred that Mr. Abu should be aware that there is no approval issued at this time. He will need to come back to the Commission with plans.

4. Review Avalon betterments.

The Commission discussed the Avalon betterments.

5. Review Brigham Woods sewer betterments.

The Commission discussed the Brigham Woods sewer betterments.

6. Review and vote new water rates.

Mrs. Buzanoski stated that there is a revenue issue in the water fund, so she contracted with Financial Advisory Associates (FAA) to review the rates. She gave the board copies of the new proposed water rates prepared by FAA, which were emailed to her on January 13, 2009.

Commissioner Pepe moved to approve implementation of the new water rates as proposed by FAA. Commissioner Firmin seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

(A copy of FAA's proposed rates is attached.)

7. Review drainlayers' license requests.

No requests were received.

8. Review correspondence.

Correspondence was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review of Assabet River Consortium Study.

There was no new information.

2. Review of Lyman Street well project.

Mrs. Buzanoski stated that there is a letter in the correspondence folder from DEP approving the proposed well locations for Brigham St well. Mrs. Buzanoski will go to Town Meeting for approval of funding for construction of a treatment facility at the Brigham St well site.

3. Supervisor's Report.

- Mrs. Buzanoski gave the Board copies of the Capital Plan. She noted that the format has changed and should be easier to follow.
- Mrs. Buzanoski stated that the application for Collins Road water main extension has been submitted.
- Mrs. Buzanoski asked the Commission to execute the water and sewer betterments recordings. The Commission executed the following: water betterments totaling \$4,200, sewer betterments totaling \$91,500.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 4th, 7:30 pm.

Adjourn: At 9:15 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda LePoer
DPW Administrative Assistant