

**WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 1, 2010
7:00 PM**

Present: John Meader, Chairman
Bryant Firmin

Also

Present: Kara Buzanoski, DPW Director
Patrick Moynihan, Atty. - 1 International Place 7th Flr, Boston
Catherine Kwan - Northboro Common, 4 West Main St, Northborough
Arthur Eliadis - Arthur's Pizza, 4 West Main St, Northborough
Jeff Antone, 20 Summer St, Northborough

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of minutes from the July 7, 2010 meeting.

The minutes were not available.

2. Review water bill interest for 10 Blake St. with property owner.

Present for this discussion were Arthur Eliadis, Catherine Kwan and Atty. Patrick Moynihan. At the last meeting of the Water & Sewer Commission, Mr. Eliadis had requested an abatement of this bill (the 1st quarter bill of FY2010). The request was denied after it was determined that there was a leak. Atty. Moynihan, representing the landlord asked about the previous meeting and the discussion held. Chairman Meader recapped the discussions and the Commission's decision. Atty. Moynihan stated he didn't want to change the Commission's decision but, the landlord would like to request that the interest portion be waived on this bill. When asked by the Chairman what the reason for the request was, the response was that Arthur's Pizza is a small, struggling, local business. The lease between the landlord and tenant requires the tenant to pay the water bill. The landlord and the tenant have come to an agreement, where the landlord will pay the charges and the tenant will repay the landlord on a payment plan. The landlord will pay the bill within 10 days.

Commissioner Meader and Commissioner Firmin agreed to allow the landlord to pay the water bill less the interest if paid within 10 days. Mrs. Buzanoski added that if the payment is not received within 10 days all of the interest will be due and the entire bill plus interest will be placed as a lien on the property. The Commission concurred. Atty. Moynihan stated that it would be paid within the required 10 day period.

3. Review request for bill reduction for 20 Summer St. due to estimates and replaced usage.

Mr. Antone was present to discuss his most recent water bill and the fact that he had replaced usage, unbilled from the old meter, that was being billed on the current bill at the new rates. He stated that he had calculated the replaced usage at the old rates and it is approximately \$200 less. The Commissioners asked for some history and Mrs. Buzanoski stated that the bills for this address have been estimated the last 3 quarters. She had some issues with the fact that there was a message on each of the estimated bills that states please call the office about your meter. Mr. Antone said that he read the message this time and called. The Commission discussed this request at length and agreed that the replaced usage was used prior to the new rates being in effect. They agreed two in favor to grant this request to bill the replaced usage at the previous rate. The adjusted bill will be sent to Mr. Antone by the end of the week. Mr. Antone thanked the Commission for their time and consideration.

4. Review charge for final readings.

Mrs. Buzanoski explained the reason for a final reading charge. She stated that the department has costs associated with performing a final reading. In the past, the final reading charge was equal to the basic rate charge. So on top of the water and/or sewer usage charge, there will now be a separate charge or final reading charge. Mrs. Buzanoski is requesting the final reading charge amount to be \$25.00. After discussion, the Commission agreed two in favor to the request.

5. Review of drainlayers license requests.

Patriots Environmental Corp./Jeff Murray - This contractor will be working on removing two old services for 73-85 West Main St. Mrs. Buzanoski received good references for Mr. Murray.

Commissioner Firmin moved to approve the drainlayers application for Patriots Environmental Corp./Jeff Murray to do the work at 73-85 West Main St. Commissioner Meader seconded. The vote was two in favor.

6. Review Correspondence.

The Commission reviewed the correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review of Westerly plant construction.

Construction continues.

2. Review of Brigham Street Well.

Tata & Howard has submitted an SRF loan application to the state for a zero percent loan to fund the project.

3. Supervisor's Report.

- Capital Projects Requests for FY 2012 are due September 27th. Mrs. Buzanoski asked the Commission to review the items from last year and if they think we should move anything back. She also noted that the capital budget could change to encompass the construction of sewers outlined in the Comprehensive Wastewater Plan. They will discuss at their next meeting.
- Mrs. Buzanoski informed the Commission that the Davis St paving should begin the week of September 20th.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 6th, 7:00 pm.

Adjourn: At 8:30 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda LePoer
DPW Administrative Assistant