

**WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES –October 23, 2012**

6:30 PM – Selectmen’s Meeting Room, 63 Main Street Northborough MA

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Meader
David Pepe

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bryant Firmin

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Nason, Public Works Director

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 18, 2012 REGULAR MEETING

Commissioner Pepe moved to approve the meeting minutes of the September 18, 2012 regular meeting; Commissioner Meader seconded the motion; the vote was two in favor.

- 2. GNL METERS:** Mr. Nason stated that he reviewed the regulations, and noted that a policy change requires a public hearing, which must be advertised in the local paper. The Commission agreed to hold a public hearing at their next meeting in November.

Mr. Nason reviewed the policy and program.

- GNL METER AMNESTY POLICY

This policy effects property owners who currently have a GNL (Outside Register or OSR) meter. These meters are beyond their useful life expectancy and are not accurately recording usage. As a result, the Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds have experienced a significant loss of revenue. There is a current inventory of approximately 260 GNL meters installed in residential, commercial and industrial properties.

The GNL Meter Amnesty Policy addresses the fact that the Town has not proactively maintained a meter replacement program. The Town has not realized the benefit of newer more effective and efficient metering systems and as a result has lost revenue for the Water and Sewer Enterprise accounts. The meter is owned by the Town and therefore the maintenance of said meter is the Town’s responsibility. Mr. Nason recommended a program where the Town forgives the payment of the replaced usage on these GNL meters, if they comply with the policy as written and intended.

- METER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

The meter replacement program will address the replacement of water meters. After the GNL meters have been replaced, the Town will focus on the remaining water meters which are slowly reaching their useful life expectancy.

Mr. Nason stated that he has reviewed the policy and program with the Finance Team and has received their support. He stated that with the Commission's support, he recommended the policy and program be considered and voted to be made part of the Rules and Regulations. The Commission reviewed the details of the policy and program and made comments. Any additional comments will be emailed to Mr. Nason. The policy and program will be considered at a public hearing scheduled for the Commission's next meeting on November 20th.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda LePoer
DPW Administrative Assistant

Documents used during meeting:

1. October 23, 2012 Agenda
2. September 18, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes
3. October 5, 2012 Memo from the Director to the Commission
4. Draft Memo from the Director to the Commission