



# TOWN OF MEDWAY COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Public Works

Medway Department of Public Works  
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Director

*David D'Amico*

APPROVED 1/12/21

Deputy Director

*Peter Pelletier*

November 10, 2020

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, no in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted at this meeting. Board members will be participating remotely. For public hearings, access via Zoom is provided for the required opportunity for public participation.

In attendance via Zoom: Michael Callahan, Advisory Member  
Leo O'Rourke, Advisory Member  
Steven Burke, Advisory Member

Also in attendance via Zoom: David D'Amico, DPW Director, Barry Smith, Water & Sewer Superintendent, Barbara Saint Andre, Community-Economic Dev. Director, and Jill Karakeian, Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary

**Member Callahan called the Water & Sewer Advisory Board meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.**

## **Abatement Requests**

### **3 Steppingstone Drive**

Tabled from meeting in September - Water & Sewer account. Abatement on bill due to nobody living there - passed papers on 2/27/20, stayed at son's house in Mendon that night then flew to Florida the next day until 3/31 and then stayed with relatives until 4/3, then went to our NH home. First night to stay at the condo will be 9/15 to 9/16. Outside spigots weren't even on until 7/1 - that's when furniture was moved in. I can see the minimal use on the dates they say they had made day trips to the condo but can't explain the high usage on 5/16, 5/17 and 5/18. There was 2,293cf used on the current bill. Using the previous bill of 329cf, that's a difference of 1,964cf. The breakdown of the water usage 500cf - \$46.14, 1,464cf @ \$10.61(Tier 1) - 155.33 = Total Water \$201.47. The breakdown of the sewer usage 500cf - \$38.19, 1,464cf @ \$7.64(Tier 1) - \$111.85 = Total Sewer \$150.04. The total is \$351.51 that could be possibly abated.

Meter results came back and meter is working properly.

**Member O'Rourke motions to approve abatement of 50% of the total which is \$175.76, Member Callahan seconds. The motion carries unanimously. A roll call vote was taken due to the nature of the remove Zoom meeting.**

### 2-3 Pine Ridge Drive

Tabled from meeting in September - Water & Sewer account. Homeowner is seeking abatement - claims usage spiked with no changes to the home. Research was done showing the meter to be working properly - stopping, as it should, for periods of time during the night (typically when people are sleeping). It was explained that during this bill period, we are in the middle of a pandemic, everyone is home a lot more than usual, it has been a very hot few months and the rates went up. The time period from 7/8 - 7/13 had very high usage. Average usage for this period is 1,298cf - this period there were 3,199cf used. 1,901cf over what is normally consumed - breakdown of cost is as follows: Water 500cf @ \$46.14, 1,401cf @ \$10.61(Tier 1) = \$148.65 TOTAL \$195.79. Sewer 500cf @ \$38.19, 1,401cf @ \$7.64(Tier 1) = \$107.04 TOTAL \$145.23. The amount that could possibly be abated is \$341.02.

Superintendent Smith spoke to the homeowners, asked them if they had checked all 3 toilets to make sure there are no leaks. The homeowner's claimed they are all working properly.

Meter results came back and meter is working properly.

**Member Burke motions to approve abatement of 50% of the total with is \$170.51, Member O'Rourke seconds. The motion carries unanimously. A roll call vote was taken due to the nature of the remove Zoom meeting.**

### 7 Dean Street

Water & Sewer Account - Homeowner found 2 outside spigots leaking. Requesting abatement on the sewer portion due to the overage not going into the sewer system. 10,895cf used this quarter, average of same period 3,608cf - difference is 7,287cf. Breakdown is as follows: 500cf - \$38.19, 1,500cf @ \$7.64 = \$114.60, 1,500cf @ \$8.73 = \$130.95, 3,787cf @ \$11.65 = \$441.19 - possible abatement from sewer \$724.93.

Additional breakdown was provided as previously requested, which showed a high consumption of water at certain times of the day not a continuous use that would indicate a leak.

**Member Burke motions to deny the abatement request, Member O'Rourke seconds. The motion carries unanimously. A roll call vote was taken due to the nature of the remove Zoom meeting.**

### 63 Summer Street

Water & Sewer Account - Homeowner states they had received a notice of a possible water leak and found the leak - seeking abatement from sewer charges. 4,572cf used this quarter, average of same period 2,758cf with a difference of 1,814cf. Breakdown is as follows: 500cf = \$38.19, 1,314cf @ \$7.64 = \$100.39 - possible abatement from sewer \$138.58

Additional breakdown was provided as previously requested, which showed a high consumption of water on a specific day, indicating there was an obvious leak.

**Member Callahan motions to approve the abatement request of \$138.58, Member Burke seconds. The motion carries unanimously. A roll call vote was taken due to the nature of the remove Zoom meeting.**

## **Water Treatment Plant Discussion & Satellite Well at Populatic Discussion:**

Director D'Amico talks about the Committee that is formed and they met for their first meeting on 10/22/10 and had a site visit on 10/31/20. The items that are being discussed at the moment is the layout, some concern about the new facility right along Walker Street with the required set-back, but obvious the facility is there and there are some other options being looked at. Lagoons are a possibility depending on what we do with treatment and permits from CRPCD. This time a year from now we will be getting ready to put bid packages on the street – bidding January 2022, ready to go March/April time and ready for May Town Meeting. The RFP for the Design Consultant will be ready to go out end of December this year.

Superintendent Smith talks about the site visit, 5 members, himself and Glen Trindade. Spoke about some ideas and what was discussed at the last meeting.

Member O'Rourke asked about the green sand option and Director D'Amico says we are recommending Green Sand, but should the Designer have another option, it's not etched in stone. There are a few different green sands. The Designer selected will be able to tell us what is the best option for the town.

## **I&I Update:**

Superintendent Smith has a call with GHD and National Water Main on 11/11/20 to discuss the findings and what steps are necessary to take moving forward.

Member O'Rourke asked if there was a report that could be shared with the Board, Superintendent Smith said he would get something together.

Member O'Rourke asked about capacity from Franklin and if anything is being done. Director D'Amico stated that Town Manager Boynton mentioned the price has gone up significantly and hasn't done anything currently. Director D'Amico feels that Medway and surrounding communities should approach CRPCD and push them to come up with a conceptual plan to expand capacity. What would it take, what are some of the options, pricing? Come up with a long term, 10-year plan.

## **Directors Report**

Director D'Amico states the water main project is winding down. Superintendent Smith explains that KJS is done putting pipe in the ground, by-pass all off, they are in the process of cleaning that up, loaming, seeding, paving and all the clean-up is being performed. Gravity, last week they put the water main up Ellis Street, all pressure tested and chlorinated and round of samples complete; waiting for results. Additional pipe was delivered this week and will start running the water main up Virginia and should take 3-4 days, then will jump over to Ellis to complete the services then Virginia. They are moving right along. Planning on being on Wellington the month of December. There are no more active bypasses.

## **Other Business**

Member Burke asked about the Medway Community Farm and questioned if they are keeping up with their Water/Sewer/Trash bills. Recording Secretary Karakeian explains they haven't paid their last 2 bills, this is what's owed since the Board Abated their past due bills.

Director D'Amico explains his thought of when he does the budget for the coming year to propose to add a line item for some amount of money to cover their bill.

Member O'Rourke asked to see what and if they have a Business Plan in place for the future, especially with their obligations and how they will manage those. Feels someone needs to approach them and ask their intentions.

Director D'Amico says the Board can certainly put it on the next meeting to discuss and make a recommendation to the Board of Selectman.

**The next meeting was scheduled for January 12, 2021 @ 6:00 pm.**

**Member O'Rourke made a motion to adjourn at 6:45. Member Burke seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously. A roll call vote was taken due to the nature of the remote Zoom meeting.**