



# TOWN OF MEDWAY COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Public Works

Medway Department of Public Works  
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Director

*David D'Amico*

APPROVED 3/9/21

Deputy Director

*Peter Pelletier*

January 12, 2021

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, Peter Pelletieri, DPW Deputy Director, Barry Smith, Water & Sewer Superintendent, Joel Cutler, Resident, and Jill Karakeian, Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary

**Member Callahan called the Water & Sewer Advisory Board meeting to order at 6:07 P.M.**

**Member Callahan made a motion approve the minutes from the 11/10/20 meeting. Member Burke seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken due to the nature of the remote Zoom meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **Abatement Requests**

### **3 Spring Street**

Homeowner has private well but was charged for water that was used outdoors for watering and didn't go through the sewer system. There was 2,428cf used this bill. Deducting the average of the same like periods of 2,081cf. The breakdown of the sewer charge is as follows: 347cf @ minimum \$38.19 that could possibly be abated.

Member O'Rourke suggests hiring a plumber to install a spigot before the meter so that they can water without it going through the sewer meter.

Superintendent Smith stated that he had already met with the homeowner and explained what the plumber needs to do.

**Member O'Rourke motions to approve abatement of \$38.19, Member Burke seconds. The motion carries unanimously. A roll call vote was taken due to the nature of the remove Zoom meeting.**

14 Juniper Road

Sprinkler system leak discovered & repaired in Sept – seeking water abatement. Property is water only. 14,329cf of water was used during the billing period (8/20/20-11/16/20). The repair was made on 9/17/20. The average use in like periods is 4,971cf. 9,358cf was over the average use. The leak was during the first 30 days of the billing period and during the DEP Mandated Water Ban, which in the past, abatements are not granted during the water ban. The cost breakdown is as follows: 500cf @ \$46.14 (minimum), 1,500cf @ \$10.61 = \$159.15 (Tier 1), 1,500cf @ \$12.88 = \$193.20 (Tier 2), 5,858cf @ \$17.07 = \$1,000.00 (Tier 3) with a total that could possibly be abated of \$1,398.49. With the repair being made within the first quarter of the bill, a third of the possible abatement is \$466.16.

**Member O'Rourke motions to approve abatement of \$100.00, cost to repair sprinkler head, Member Burke seconds. The motion carries unanimously. A roll call vote was taken due to the nature of the remove Zoom meeting.**

52 Holliston Street

New Lawn Install / Aerate & Seed. The homeowner filed for an abatement back in December of 2019 for the 11/29/19 bill due to landscape work they had done (seed and aerate lawn). Due to this work that was done - he claims he would like an abatement on the sewer because of the water used to keep up the lawn, the water went into the lawn and not into the Sewer system. The August abatement had been denied because he was water during the DEP Mandated Water Ban for lawn watering. This November period they used 3,252cf of water and were billed \$262.10 for sewer. I deducted the average of the same November periods of 2,093cf. This leaves 1,159cf of water used to water the new lawn that did not enter the sewer system. Part of this usage was during the DEP Mandated Water ban. The breakdown is 500cf = \$38.19, 659cf x \$7.64(Tier 1) = \$50.35 for a total of \$88.54 that could potentially be abated.

**Member O'Rourke motions to approve abatement of \$88.54, Member Callahan seconds. The motion carries unanimously. A roll call vote was taken due to the nature of the remove Zoom meeting.**

170A Main Street

Homeowner feels usage is high with no change in the household. Please see meter graphs attached showing the meter stopping, which indicates that it is working properly. There was 2,907cf of water used. The average water usage for this time period is 1,793cf - I deducted the average from the current usage, which is 1,114cf. The breakdown of the charge is as follows: Water: 500cf @ minimum \$46.14, 614cf @ \$10.61 (Tier 1) \$65.15 - total Water \$111.29. Sewer: 500cf @ minimum \$38.19, 614cf @ \$7.64 (Tier 1) \$47.00 - total Sewer \$85.19. Total water & sewer \$196.48 that could possibly be abated.

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

## **Water Treatment Plant Discussion**

Director D'Amico updates the Board, we currently requesting proposals from Design Firms and they are due by 2:00 on 1/13/2021. Thursday, 1/14/2021 the selection committee will have a short meeting to see how many applied and to make sure we have a plan in place for review of their submittals. We've already come up with criteria and to make sure everyone is on the same page. On Monday, 1/25/21, we will be coming up with the short list, which will be 3 firms. We will then have interviews, then our final selection on February 5<sup>th</sup>. We will then enter into negotiations at the end of February and hopefully have one on board by the end of March.

Member O'Rourke asked to have a copy of the specifications forwarded to the Board Members.

## **I&I Update:**

Superintendent Smith explains we put out request for 8 repairs and we are waiting for some pricing. It's been a slow process, with the holidays and everyone is very busy. National Water Main should come through for the repairs. We repaired one ourselves, that was in an easement. The camera van has been out every day. Once the 8 repairs are made that should definitely keep us under but this is a long project.

## **Directors Report**

Director D'Amico we are looking at the roads that we have done for the water main project. Primary concern is there are 3 or 4 roads left to do. Contractor is estimating a couple of month's worth of work and wants to start in March, weather permitting. Trying to figure out if once they are done just re-doing all the Brentwood area roads or should some of the new ones be left to settle and go through a winter. We don't want to pave the roads and then have them sink.

## **Other Business**

Program Administrator Karakeian mentions Aquahawk and that we have about 175 registered users. People are excited about it. The Recycling Center is also passing out flyers.

Member Callahan asked if anyone posted the flyer on Social Media.

Program Administrator Karakeian said that the flyer was pushed to all Social Media that the town posts to.

Member Callahan says he will also post a copy on Friends of Medway.

**The next meeting was scheduled for March 9, 2021 @ 6:00 pm.**

**Member O'Rourke made a motion to adjourn at 6:37. Member Burke seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously. A roll call vote was taken due to the nature of the remote Zoom meeting.**