



**TOWN OF MEDWAY  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
MEDWAY, MASSACHUSETTS 02053**

**DAVID D'AMICO  
DIRECTOR**

**PETER PELLETIER  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

January 14, 2020

APPROVED 02/25/20

Medway Middle School  
45 Holliston Street, Door # 9  
Medway MA 02053

**In attendance:** Michael Callahan, Chairperson  
Leo O'Rourke, Commissioner  
Steven Burke, Commissioner

**Also in attendance:** David D'Amico DPW Director, Barry Smith Water & Sewer Superintendent, Kevin Hanegan resident and Judi LaPan Program Administrator and Recording Secretary

Chairman Callahan called the Water & Sewer Commissioners meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Commissioner Callahan made a motion to approve the minutes from the 12/17/19 meeting. Commissioner O'Rourke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Abatement Requests**

**52 Holliston Street**

This is a water and sewer account: In early September the owners hired a landscape company to seed and aerate their lawn. The work was not completed to their satisfaction. They hired a second company to redo aeration and re-seeding of the lawn. The work was completed the last weekend of September. The owners are requesting to file an abatement / appeal on the sewer charges as well as any possible credit that could be issued on the water charges. It was explained that as the water was used the abatement if one were granted would be for sewer only.

They used 3,470cf of water and were billed \$281.13 for sewer. Deducting the average of the same November periods of 1,404cf leaves an estimated 2066cf of water used to establish the new lawn. That water did not enter the sewer system. The breakdown is as follows: 2,000cf @ \$7.64(tier 1) = \$152.80 + 66cf @ \$8.73(tier 2) = \$5.76 for a total of \$158.56 that could potentially be abated.

**HIGHWAY – WATER – SEWER – FLEET – PARKS – FACILITIES – SOLID WASTE**

52 Holliston Street Continued:

**Commissioner O'Rourke made a motion to abate \$158.56 in sewer charges. Commissioner Burke seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.**

2 Ash Lane

This is a water and sewer account. The owners are requesting a sewer only abatement as they realize they used the water. The owners purchased the home in April 2019. The property has a pool. The owners have never owned a pool before. They had been told in good faith that the pool was in good working condition without leaks when they purchased the property. Once they opened the pool they stated that they were constantly having to add water to the pool. They did not realize that this was not normal as they had never owned a pool before. When they received their extremely high August bill in which they used 8,496cf Mrs. Benso called the office. It was recommended that they hire a pool company to determine if they had a leak as this type of usage was not normal. The pool company did find a leak in the liner. The repair was completed in late September. This request encompasses two separate bill cycles, both the August and November 2019 bills. As these are new owners we do not have any prior consumption history. If the Commissioners would like to entertain an abatement this may need to table this until November 2020 in order to obtain history for the same like cycles.

**Commissioner O'Rourke made a motion to abate \$475.00 in sewer charges from the 08/29/19 bill and \$225.00 in sewer charges from the 11/29/19 bill. Commissioner Burke seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.**

2 Candlewood Drive

This is a water & sewer account. The property has a pool. In the spring of 2018 the owners performed extensive upgrades in the backyard. For the past two years from May through November their water consumption has been extremely high and the water meter never stopped. They were notified numerous times via phone calls and certified letters of the water ban and of the probability they had a leak. They never responded to phone calls or certified leak letters. Due to the non-responsiveness it was thought that they were irrigating. They were assessed Water Ban Violation fines both last year and this year. All Water Ban violations assessed last year were waived internally. Residents were notified that if they were fined in the future for the same type of violation the fines would not be waived. The owner Mr. Hanegan is requesting that the Water Ban Violation fines be waived as it turns out the constant usage was due to a pipe leaking underground near the pool and not from irrigation use. The property is piped for irrigation however there is no irrigation panel. He admits that he should have called the office to discuss the notifications he received.

**Commissioner Callahan would like an inspection to confirm there is no irrigation panel. This will be tabled until the next meeting to allow for the inspection. No additional interest charges**

will be assessed between today and the next meeting. Commissioner Burke seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

#### **Water & Sewer Regulation Discussion:**

Deputy Director Pelletier and Superintendent Smith are meeting weekly to update the regulations. They will report back to the Commissioners when the regulations are ready for review.

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

Superintendent Smith updated the Commissioners on the progress of the Populatic Well. The 24" casing has been installed 99 feet down. Screens will be installed in the next 4-6 weeks. We are looking at putting the pump and pit out to bid. He stated that the Water Division is performing preventative well maintenance. This is done every winter. He also informed the Commissioners that we have made a change to the pH in the water. The DEP wants to see our pH maintained around 7.0. We are now blending at different locations which allows us to maintain the proper pH levels.

#### **Directors Report:**

Director D'Amico updated the Commissioners on the Aquahawk reporting software roll out. We continue to make progress.

Superintendent Smith updated the Commissioners on information that Chairman Callahan discussed at last month's meeting regarding sewer capacity. Medway is currently over our allowed sewer capacity. We are currently at 107%. Meter have been installed and are collecting data to assess flows and determine where the towns I & I issues are. The CRPCD has requested that they receive notice of any subdivisions being developed prior to the project review and approval. If there is no capacity for the town these projects should utilize septic systems. The CRPCD, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals are discussing ways to improve communication regarding sewer connection capacity and I & I improvements that may be necessary prior to a Board decision. The CRPCD is being added to the permitting process. The CRPCD Commissioners are still discussing language indicating future permitting may state that I & I concerns will need to be addressed before any further hookups are allowed. Commissioner O'Rourke wanted to discuss his concerns that a few years ago the Commission felt they were being estimated too high on the unmetered section of the interceptor. Medway is currently at 500,000 gallons per day of I & I based on the flow meters. Commissioner Burke asks what a good number would be. Superintendent Smith mentions that we have scheduled filming the lines in zones 8 & 9 this week. We are also working on putting camera work out to bid. The town should not need to purchase additional capacity if we can address the I & I. Superintendent Smith also informed the Commissioners that the DEP is working on setting guidelines for PFA's but they haven't come out with them yet.

Action Items:

Inspection to confirm there is no irrigation panel at 2 Candlewood Drive.

The next meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 6:30PM.

Commissioner Callahan made a motion to adjourn at 7:50PM. Commissioner Burke seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.