



TOWN OF MEDWAY
WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
MEDWAY, MASSACHUSETTS

Commissioners

Leo O'Rourke, Chair
Robert Wilson, Member
Cranston Rogers, Member

Meeting Minutes

APPROVED 09/19/16

August 22, 2016

Middle School Presentation Room
45 Holliston Street
Medway MA 02053

Present: Robert Wilson, Leo O'Rourke, Chan Rogers, Tom Holder and Program Administrator Judi LaPan.

A motion was made by Bob Wilson to open the Water/Sewer Commissioners meeting at 5:01 PM. Leo O'Rourke seconded, unanimous vote, 3-0.

Bob Wilson makes a motion to approve the minutes from the July 18, 2016 meeting. Leo O'Rourke seconded, unanimous vote, 3-0.

Abatements:

Abatement Request – 42 Summer Street –The Commissioners voted to table this at the last meeting so they can see more of the consumption history and have more information before they make a decision, now that the leak is fixed. This information was provided tonight. **Bob Wilson made a motion to abate the sewer charges associated with the leak as the water did not enter the sewer system pending the dollar value breakdown.** The breakdown is as follows: As this is a business, the usage can fluctuate so using the average of like cycles does not apply here as a method of determining normal usage. Since there has been a history of leaks here there is no other good data to base usage on other than the recent bill produced on 8/16/16 shows a usage of 15,280 cf...

A well grounded option that meets the spirit of the Commissioners intentions is an abatement of $19,124 - 15,280 = 3,844 \text{ cf} = \$314.82 \text{ in sewer} + \$371.72 \text{ in water} = \$686.54 \text{ (FY16 rates, tier 3)}.$

Abatement Request – 115 Holliston Street- Medway Country Manor Nursing Home

The owners of the Nursing Home have been notified via a leak detection postcard that there were concerns about water loss every three months for the past year. We also called and spoke to their head of maintenance. We discussed the fact that they were using water 24/7 and did not know if they had a leak or simply used water all night for patient care. The maintenance man stated they had toilets, faucets and shower heads leaking that he would need to repair. I have attached the consumption history which shows they are consistently very high users, as would be expected from such a facility. I recommended that we look at the consumptions for the next bill cycle to figure out what portion of the use was due to the leak and what is normal consumption for this account.

The Commissioners voted to table this until the next meeting so they can see the consumption history now that the leak is fixed. This information was provided at the August 22, 2018 meeting. Based on this information: **The Commissions denied the abatement stating the Nursing Home had been informed on multiple occasions that they had a leak and should have fixed it immediately. The Commissioners also wanted the owner to be informed that they have used more water this past quarter, and this is since the leak was fixed.**

Abatement Request – 320 Village Street- Galante’s Restaurant

The owner, Lou Galante was in to the office to request an abatement. In late April he states he had to run the water for a long period of time trying to clear the sediment in the water due to flushing. Upon investigation, his consumption history indicated that he did use approximately 230 cf of water, which is 150 cf more than usual most days on April 19th. The consumption chart also shows that their consumption was much higher throughout the 3 month bill cycle; the high use was not due to just one day. His average daily use the other 6 days of that week was 70 cuft. (230-70 = 160 cuft potentially used for flushing). This has a value of \$15.47 in water, and \$13.10 in sewer (using the highest tier in both) for a total abatement of \$28.57. **The Commissioners voted to abate water and sewer charges in the amount of \$28.57. This is a onetime courtesy as this is a restaurant and Mr. Galante was concerned about using water that was discolored from flushing to serve to his customers. Mr. Galante has been informed to call the Water Division if he has any further issues and not to run his water trying to clear it.**

Director’s Report

Tom Holder updated the Commissioners on Lead & Copper Testing. Medway continues testing for lead & copper. We send our samples to RI Analytical. Tom Holder informed the Commissioners that Medway was recently advanced from a Drought Advisory to a Drought Watch. There was a conversation questioning if when the Drought Advisory is upgraded should we impose stricter implementation of the water ban? Tom Holder went on to discuss irrigation use, backflow prevention with irrigation wells, and wells. Tom Holder updated the Commissioners on the MS4 Permit. Leo O’Rourke asked Tom to provide an electronic version of the MS4 Permit and the MS4 Funding Report. Bob Wilson asks if we can set up an Enterprise Account for the Storm water Management Program? Tom states we can. Leo O’Rourke feels that we need more information from the DEP & EPA regarding Storm water Management. Bob Wilson says they simply don’t know enough yet, that this is evolving and the first year of the program we will be mapping outflows, general housekeeping and will not even be sampling. This then led to a discussion on sewer versus septic, ground water and phosphates. Milford, Bellingham, and Franklin are considered Residual Determination Authority Communities (RDA). They were selected by the EPA as their towns are at the head of the Charles River. The implementation of the Storm water Management Program will cost these towns more money as they will have more stringent commercial regulations than Medway will.

Member prerogative:

Leo O’Rourke is requesting more information on Debt Service/Borrowed Monies. He would like a breakdown of the amounts borrowed, account numbers and balances for the next meeting. .

Bob Wilson is requesting an update on the Water Conservation Rebate Program for the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2016 at 5PM in the Middle School DPS Conference Room.

Robert Wilson made a motion to adjourn at 6:40 PM. Chan Rogers seconded. Unanimous vote, 3-0.