

# TOWN OF MEDWAY WATER & SEWER COMMISSION MEDWAY, MASSACHUSETTS

## **Commissioners**

Leo O'Rourke, Chair Francis E. (Ted) Kenney Jr., Member

Meeting Minutes June 19, 2017 **APPROVED 07/17/17** 

DPS Conference Room 45B Holliston Street Medway MA 02053

Leo O'Rourke makes a motion to open the Water/Sewer Commissioners meeting at 5:05 PM. Ted Kenney seconded, unanimous vote.

Ted Kenney makes a motion to approve the minutes from the 05/15/17 meeting. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Robert Wilson makes a motion to approve the minutes from the 05/30/17 meeting. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous.

### **Abatement Requests:**

motion. Unanimous.

Abatement Request -22 Broad Acres Farm Road- Ronald & Joanne Brodeur.

This abatement request was initially received in October 2016 for the August 2016 bill cycle. This is a well account with town sewer. The new owners did not know how the water meter was configured and that it was measuring their outdoor water usage. They were establishing their lawn and watered heavily June-August resulting in usage of 6,439 cf of water. The water used to irrigate was not sent to sewage. They are requesting a sewer abatement for the water that did not enter the sewer system. This will actually need two separate abatements as this issue encompasses the May 2016 bill and the November 2016 bill. As they were new owners and we did not have any consumption history, this was tabled until we could obtain history to find an average use for the same like bill cycles for domestic use within the home. The Brodeur's re-plumbed last fall so the irrigation no longer pulls through the meter. We now have a years' worth of history. The average domestic usage since they re-plumbed is 827 cf per month. In regard to their August 2016 bill it appears that 2,068 was used for domestic use (827 cf June, 827cf July and 414cf for 1/2 of August). They were billed for 6439 cf of sewer. If you deduct their average domestic use for the ill cycle of 2,068 you can see that 4,371cf can be abated (6439-2068 = 4,371 cf). The dollar value is \$270.96. Ted Kenney made a motion to approve the abatement as written above. Leo O'Rourke seconded the

<u>22 Broad Acres Farm Road -Abatement Request # 2</u> the same issue occurred with the November bill, where irrigation usage was captured until they had the plumbing fixed. 2,515cf of usage did not go to the sewer system and can be abate. The dollar value is \$140.42.

Ted Kenney made a motion to approve the abatement as written above. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Abatement request – 101 Lovering Street – Ryan Ober – The homeowner had a silent leak in a toilet located in the bathroom in the basement. An abatement was granted for the February bill. The leak crossed over two bills bill cycles. This is a water and sewer account. This leak represents approximately 3,839 cf of lost water/sewer used in the period of time on the May bill from when the February reads were pulled and when the research was done indicating they had a leak and the valve was shut off and ultimately repaired. If an abatement were granted the value would be approximately \$505.88. The breakdown is as follows: \$ 284.16 for water and \$221.72 for sewer. Half of the value would equal \$252.50. Ted Kenney made a motion to approve the abatement as written above. Leo O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous .

# **Directors Report:**

Barry Smith informed the Commissioners that Hydra-Tech continues performing leak detection throughout town. They have found 4 service leaks and a few hydrant leaks thus far. This should help with our unaccounted for water numbers.

Barry Smith informed the Commissioners that he is still working on the reporting software for residents. The costs are higher than we had anticipated. He will continue to research companies that have similar software. Leo O'Rourke would like to know how many abatements for water leaks have been abated and what the dollar value of the abatements total in the past two years. He also wanted administrative time spent researching abatements to be included in the dollar values.

Barry Smith informed the Commissioners that the Route 109 Reconstruction will require the lowering of the water main and the re relocation of 10 hydrants. He also informed the Commissioners that he saw a demonstration of a sewer tool that determines if sewer lines are blocked. There are two sensors, one end is the receiver and the other is the transmitter. It appears to be quite accurate but also quite expensive. Mr. Smith also informed the Commissioners that the Oakland Well has been running. It is creating some discoloration of the water. Bob Wilson asks how much we are pumping daily. We are pumping 900k daily. Lastly Mr. Smith informed the Commissioners that the CCR (Consumer Confidence Report) was completed and postcards will be mailed to all residents on June 23, 2017.

### Open Discussion:

The next meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2017 at 5PM. The meeting will be held in the DPS Conference Room, 45B Holliston Street, Door 9, Medway, MA.

Bob Wilson made a motion to adjourn at 5:59 PM. Ted Kenney seconded. Unanimous vote.

# The FY18 Rate Study Public Hearing was opened at 6:00PM.

Ted Kenney made a motion to open the FY18 Public Rate Hearing at 6:00PM. Leo O'Rourke seconded. Unanimous

There were no attendees from the public.

Leo O'Rourke made a motion to adjourn at 6:20PM. Ted Kenney seconded. Unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted Judi LaPan