

Town of Newton Utility Advisory Board
November 20, 2012

The regular meeting of the Newton Utility Advisory Board was held on November 20, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. at the Newton Municipal Building, 39 Trinity Street, Newton. Chairman Lawler called the meeting to order and the following members were present: Ms. Unhoch, Mr. Pham and Chairman Lawler. Mr. Ervin Lasso, Water Sewer Foreman, and Mrs. Jacki Shackleton, Utility Collector, were also in attendance. Mrs. Millikin and Mr. Simmons were excused.

Chairman Lawler read the Open Public Meetings Act statement and then moved to approval of the minutes from the July 17, 2012 meeting. Mrs. Shackleton read the amendment forwarded to her by Mr. Simmons. Ms. Unhoch then made a motion to accept the revised minutes and was seconded by Mr. Pham. The revised minutes were unanimously approved by an "aye" vote.

The first order of business was for Robert Aumick of 101 Ryerson Avenue. Mr. Aumick was requesting an adjustment for water that he felt he could not have used. Chairman Lawler stated that if you break the usage down daily, it certainly was elevated, but there is no way to pinpoint a cause. He inquired as to whether it was suggested that Mr. Aumick have the meter tested. Mr. Lasso explained that it was suggested, but the homeowner did not want to have it tested. Mr. Lawler asked to see a printout of the 4th quarter billing at the next meeting. Chairman Lawler motioned to deny the request, and Ms. Unhoch seconded the motion. The appeal was unanimously denied by an "aye" vote.

The second order of business was for Rick Baron of VGB Group, at 125 Sparta Avenue. Chairman Lawler explained that although they did not have details about the sprinkler system, the fact that it is a five-zone system makes it feasible for that kind of usage. Mr. Lasso further explained that when they went to the premises because they were told there was low water pressure, there was a backflow preventer spraying out water. Chairman Lawler motioned to deny the request, and Mr. Pham seconded the motion. The appeal was unanimously denied by an "aye" vote.

There being no more new business, Chairman Lawler inquired about the Water Filtration Plant. Mr. Lasso explained that everything was running smoothly. Chairman Lawler then asked about the Water Treatment Plant and Mr. Lasso stated that everything was in order.

Mr. Lasso went on to explain that the Maple Avenue project has been

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completed, other than going back to put soil on some yards in the Spring. Chairman Lawler thanked Mr. Lasso for his work on the project and inquired about the rock that had been slowing the project down over the summer. Mr. Lasso explained that once they were up the hill and around the bend, there was less rock. He stated that they never lost a pound of pressure. Chairman Lawler inquired about the hydrants in that area, and Mr. Lasso explained that they have not yet been tested.

Mr. Lasso reported that they recently conducted leak detection and four hydrants had to be shut off. He explained that they heard noise on the corner of Merriam Ave. and Paterson Ave. that turned out to be a leaky toilet on Merriam. He stressed the sensitivity of the leak detection process. A brief discussion took place between Mr. Lasso and Chairman Lawler concerning leak detection and hydrants. They agreed that monthly leak detection is a good thing.

There being no other business to discuss, Ms. Unhoch motioned to close the meeting and was seconded by Mr. Pham.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jacki Shackleton