

Town of Newton Utility Advisory Board
March 15, 2016

The regular meeting of the Newton Utility Advisory Board was held on March 15, 2016 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: Mr. Vrahnos, Mr. Lockwood, Mr. Carchia and Chairman Lawler. Mr. David Simmons, Engineer, Mr. Joe Carr, Senior Water Repair, and Mrs. Jacki Shackleton, Utility Collector, were also present.

Chairman Lawler read the Open Public Meetings Act statement and moved to approval of the minutes from the February 16, 2016 meeting. Mr. Vrahnos motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Mr. Lockwood. The minutes were unanimously approved with an "aye" vote.

Chairman Lawler then moved to the first order of new business which was for Mr. and Mrs. Woods of 37 Linwood Avenue. Mrs. Shackleton explained that they were issued a credit in December for sewer charges due to a leak. Because of the timing of the leak and the repair, their first quarter 2016 bill was elevated also. Mr. Vrahnos suggested another adjustment and Chairman Lawler stated that a benchmark was needed. After a brief discussion it was decided to use the average of the last three first-quarter bills as a benchmark for normal usage. Mr. Lockwood motioned to approve the waiver and was seconded by Mr. Vrahnos. It was unanimously approved with an "aye" vote.

Chairman Lawler asked about the Water Filtration Plant and Mr. Carr said all is going well. Chairman Lawler then asked about the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Mr. Carr stated that it is all good and the roof is completed. He went on to say that they will be replacing the first two RBC units. Mr. Carr then went on to explain the new information he received from the meter company regarding Mrs. Snellen's meter that had been running fast. A brief discussion took place about any future applications she submits regarding the matter.

In his engineer's report, Mr. Simmons reported that Dam #2 by Glen Terrace would not have to be lifted. He said that the only way there would be an issue is if it rained 34 inches in 24 hours, which is very unlikely.

Regarding Fox Hollow, the trees have been cut well within the deadline of March 30, 2016. A brief discussion then occurred about the recent correspondence from the Sparta Mountain Woodland Area. Mr. Simmons stated that the forester is involved and

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everything is in order.

Regarding the water allocation, he went on to say that the DEP has asked for more time. He further stated that he obtained a waiver for the Delaware River Base water audit, as the Town no longer has a water supply going to the Delaware.

Mr. Simmons then spoke about RPM Development, who is building at the corner of Spring Street and Union Place. He said they will be coming to the Board in either May or June. Chairman Lawler asked how many units and Mr. Simmons said 62. He said that there will be retail on the first floor, as well as a community center. Mr. Vrahnos asked if they would be buying the adjacent lot and Mr. Simmons replied that they did and will be taking down the existing building.

Mr. Simmons moved on to speak about Townsquare Gardens on Mill Street. They have been planning an expansion for quite some time, and the Town has been carrying the commitment since 2009. Mr. Vrahnos asked how we can stop this from happening in the future and Mr. Simmons replied that the Town has to get to the Developer's Agreement sooner.

Mr. Simmons then moved to Pizza Hut and said that they did not renew their lease and will be replaced with an Auto Zone. He also said that Krogh's will be opening a brewery on Paterson Avenue. He said that Paterson Avenue already has an eight-inch main so they are ready.

Chairman Lawler then asked about lead in the water and there was a brief discussion. Both Mr. Carr and Mr. Simmons stated that they are not aware of any lead or copper pipes in the Town.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
Jacki Shackleton