

Town of Newton Utility Advisory Board
September 20, 2016

The regular meeting of the Newton Utility Advisory Board was held on September 20, 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. Lockwood, Mr. Vrahnos, and Chairman Lawler. Mr. David Simmons, Engineer, and Mrs. Jacki Shackleton, Utility Collector, were also in attendance.

Chairman Lawler moved to the first order of business which was for John McChesney who owns 19 Merriam Avenue. He is requesting approval to upgrade the existing line from $\frac{3}{4}$ " to $1\frac{1}{2}$ ". Mr. Simmons gave the Board some background on the property, explaining that it is a six-unit dwelling that has been unoccupied and abandoned for years. Mr. McChesney purchased the property and went before the Planning Board to rehab the property. His engineer recommended increasing the service line. Mr. McChesney then entered the meeting, and Mr. Simmons explained that the fees would be \$8400 per dwelling unit, totaling \$50,400. Mr. Simmons continued on to suggest that the Board credit him for the existing $\frac{3}{4}$ " line that would adequately cover two units at \$8400 per dwelling, for a revised total of \$33,600. Mr. Simmons also informed him that there are no initial fees for setting up the fire line, but an annual charge of \$200 per inch of diameter. Mr. McChesney stated that the construction official informed him earlier that day that there was no need for a fire line. Mr. Simmons stated that he would check the resolution from the Planning Board. Regarding the fees, Mr. McChesney stated that he was not prepared for fees in that amount, and Chairman Lawler suggested that he think it over before making a decision and come back to a future meeting. Mr. McChesney agreed and exited the meeting.

The next order of business was for Erik Pedersen of 12 Knox Road who was requesting waiver of delinquent charges because the Post Office did not deliver his bill in a timely manner. Mr. Vrahnos motioned to deny the request as similar cases have also been denied. The motion was seconded by Chairman Lawler and unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

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The final order of business was for Richelle Vanluvender of 15 Linmor Avenue, who was requesting waiver of her first quarter delinquent penalty. Ms. Vanluvender maintains that she placed her payment in the box on April 1, 2016, just before 8 a.m. and the payment was not posted until April 5, 2016. Mrs. Shackleton stated that the box is checked each morning and payments are immediately posted. Chairman Lawler asked Mrs. Shackleton to inquire with the Police Department as to whether they still have video footage from that time period to ascertain when the payment was made. If no footage is available, Chairman Lawler motioned to approve the request due to lack of proof. It was seconded by Mr. Vrahnos and unanimously approved with an "aye" vote.

There being no more new business, Chairman Lawler asked about the water filtration plant. In Mr. Carr's absence, Mrs. Shackleton stated that the lake is 43 inches below the spillway.

In his engineer's report, Mr. Simmons stated that there would be a meeting with Pumping Services regarding placement of a pump below the ledge in order to bring more water up since the lake is low. He said that they are trying to be proactive before the situation becomes an emergency. He also reported that there was a preconstruction meeting regarding Fox Hollow and the bid was awarded to Montana Construction. They are hoping to begin the project on October 10, 2016 and complete it by November 15, 2016, provided they are able to obtain the materials prior to that time period. He again reviewed that Dam #2 did not need to be raised, but that they are required to install a sill. Plans were submitted for same and a permit was issued. The project will be included in next year's budget. Lastly, he briefly discussed the situation on Union Place which presented as a leak but was actually caused by the wearing out of bolts.

There being no other business to discuss, Chairman Lawler motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Mr. Lockwood.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jacki Shackleton