

Town of Newton Utility Advisory Board
October 18, 2016

The regular meeting of the Newton Utility Advisory Board was held on October 18, 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. Carchia, Mr. Vrahnos, and Chairman Lawler. Mr. David Simmons, Engineer, Mr. Joseph Carr, Licensed Operator and Mrs. Jacki Shackleton, Utility Collector, were also in attendance.

Chairman Lawler moved to the first order of business which was for Ronald Chesik of 58 Swartswood Road who was requesting waiver of late fees. He claimed to have used bill pay for multiple bills at the same time, and the others arrived at their destination prior to the Town receiving the water bill. Chairman Lawler motioned to deny the request, as the Utility Advisory Board does not waive penalty due to inconsistencies of the Post Office. Mr. Carchia seconded the motion and it was unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

The second order of business was for Kumar Construction at 55 Mill Street who also requested waiver of penalty because the bills did not arrive prior to the due date. For the reasons stated above, Chairman Lawler motioned to deny the request and was seconded by Mr. Carchia. The motion was unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

The third order of business was for Samina Chaudney of 23 Liberty Street who was requesting waiver of penalty because he was out of town. Chairman Lawler pointed out that his usage has been higher than usual the last three quarters, and suggested that we schedule an appointment to compare the inside and outside meters. Chairman Lawler motioned to deny the request and was seconded by Mr. Carchia. The motion was unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

The fourth order of business was for Jeanette Crowell of 52 Plainfield Avenue who was requesting credit for high usage which was discovered upon changing the meter in August. Ms. Crowell felt that the meter was defective. Mrs. Shackleton explained that apparently the readout had been slowing down over

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time and when the meter was changed, there was usage on the inside that had not been recorded on the readout. Chairman Lawler stated that because the water was indeed used and recorded on the actual meter, there should be no credit given. He motioned to deny the request and was seconded by Mr. Carchia. The motion was unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

The final order of new business was for Galina and Mikhail Mazuryk of 34 Douma Drive who were requesting waiver of penalty because their bill-pay check did not arrive prior to the due date. Based on the reason for denial of the first two orders of business, Chairman Lawler motioned to deny the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carchia and unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

There being no more new business, Chairman Lawler asked about the water filtration plant. Mr. Carr replied that the lake is 50 inches below the spillway, and they are lining up procedures with Pumping Services to draw water from the lower level with a pump. He further stated that the Sewer Treatment plant is running smoothly.

In his engineer's report, Mr. Simmons stated that the proposed Dunkin Donuts has removed the existing building from the lot and wrapped up its final site plan with the County. He stated that the County has a road-opening moratorium of November first, putting serious time restraints on retirement of the existing water main and tapping of the new main.

Regarding 19 Merriam Avenue, it was ascertained that no sprinklers were necessary, but since they had already been proposed, Mr. Simmons suggested they put something in writing in the file, stating they are not necessary. Chairman Lawler asked if the Planning Board needed to rescind the requirement and Mr. Simmons stated that he would know for sure after the Planning Board meeting the following evening. Mr. Vrahnos asked if there would be five units and Mr. Simmons replied that there would be six units.

Mr. Simmons then went on to say that the Auto Zone is progressing but not yet completed. They are working to clean up prior easements on the property. A

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brief discussion then took place regarding the repairs to Fox Hollow.

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jacki Shackleton