

Town of Newton Utility Advisory Board
December 20, 2016

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

Chairman Lawler opened the meeting and began with approval of the minutes from the October 18, 2016 meeting. Mr. Vrahnos motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Mr. Lockwood. The minutes were unanimously approved with an "aye" vote.

The first order of new business was for Daniel Varghese of 9 Trenton Place. Mr. Varghese was requesting waiver of penalty for his third quarter bill because it was received on October 3, 2016. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed that in order to be consistent with past practices, the request would be denied. Chairman Lawler motioned to deny the request and was seconded by Mr. Vrahnos. The motion was unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

Mrs. Shackleton then began a discussion about the ordinance regarding multiple units with one shut-off valve. Chairman Lawler did not feel that it was something that should be addressed with Council.

Mr. Carr reported that Morris Lake is 50 inches below the spillway, having picked up 6 inches with the recent precipitation. Mr. Vrahnos asked how much water was lost during the Thanksgiving water main break and Mr. Carr stated that 6 or 7 hundred thousand gallons were lost. Mr. Carr then went on to say that the bioassay test had failed in the fall. It was established that the samples need to be taken from inside the plant so that there would be no outside contamination such as rocks.

Regarding the wastewater treatment plant, Mr. Carr stated that the RBC unit will be repaired in the spring. Chairman Lawler asked if one or two units would be serviced. Mr. Carr stated that they are only servicing the one that is not working

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at all. Chairman Lawler asked if they planned to revisit the Sparta Avenue repair and Mr. Carr stated that it will be revisited in the spring.

In his engineer's report, Mr. Simmons stated that RPM had received the water allocation permit and the Town received the fees to hook up to the water and sewer system. He stated that Dunkin Donuts also got their taps done and retired the previous taps. A brief discussion then took place about the previous gas tanks which were on the property. Mr. Simmons stated that the Style Shop also recently tapped in off of Adams Street.

He then reviewed different methods being considered to bring the level of Morris lake up via the Pine Swamp diversion. He went on to say that work was halted at Fox Hollow because of freezing conditions. The beach has been cleared however, and he passed around photographs reflecting the progress.

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
Jacki Shackleton