

Town of Newton Utility Advisory Board
October 16, 2018

The regular meeting of the Newton Utility Advisory Board was held on October 16, 2018 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 and Mr. Carchia. Chairman Lawler was present via speaker phone. Mr. David Simmons, Engineer, Mrs. Jacki Shackleton, Utility Collector, and Mrs. Chris Butto of Family Promise of Sussex County were also present.

Chairman Lawler opened the meeting and began with approval of the August 21, 2018 minutes. Chairman Lawler motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Mr. Carchia. They were unanimously approved with an "aye" vote.

The first order of new business was for Family Promise of Sussex County. Mrs. Butto explained that they had an elevated water bill due to a faulty hose valve. She explained that they are a nonprofit organization, with their only income from grants and donations. In following common practice, Mr. Carchia motioned to waive the excess sewer charges and Mr. Vrahnos seconded. The motion was unanimously approved with an "aye" vote.

The second order of business was for Amanda Perigo at 13 Manor Drive who had a hose explode from the water being left on while on vacation. Ms. Perigo does not have public sewer, therefore having no sewer charges to waive. Chairman Lawler stated that it is important to take preventative measures prior to going on vacation. Mr. Vrahnos motioned to deny the request and was seconded by Mr. Carchia. The request was denied with an "aye" vote.

The third order of business was for Kelly Tomlinson for waiver of the delinquent penalty charged to her 3rd quarter bill. She stated that it was mailed on September 23rd and should have arrived on time. Chairman Lawler stated the Board does not make concessions for inconsistencies of the U.S. Postal Service and motioned to deny the request. He was seconded by Mr. Vrahnos. Chairman Lawler suggested she use the lock box to insure timely delivery. The motion was

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unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

The fourth order of business was for Swartswood/Stonewood Apartments, requesting waiver of delinquent penalties as a one-time courtesy. For the sake of consistency, Mr. Vrahnos motioned to deny the request and was seconded by Mr. Carchia. The request was unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

Regarding the Water Plant and Sewer Treatment Plant, Mrs. Shackleton reported in Mr. Carr's absence. She stated that Morris Lake is two inches above the spillway. She explained that on Monday, October 22, 2018. The DEP will be performing a complete inspection of the filtration plant & distribution system. Chairman Lawler asked if this is standard procedure, and Mr. Simmons and Mr. Carchia stated that it is done every few years. Mrs. Shackleton stated that Mr. Carr reported the sewer plant as being status quo.

In his engineer report, Mr. Simmons stated that in Sparta, the Wawa and Captiva apartments were denied by the Sparta Zoning Board. Mr. Simmons stated that he was surprised about the denial. A brief discussion about the possibility of two Wawa convenience stores and gas stations in Hampton Township being constructed took place. Mr. Simmons went on to say that dam site #2 is complete, except for soiling and seeding some ruts which were made during the repair. The Newton Ambulance garage building is going in the proposed site. There is a great deal of rock there but they are going to continue as planned with the building location. They are working together with 222 High Street to tie into their line and have both lines tie into the pump station.

He reported that Bridge Q6 on Main Street in Sparta is going faster than expected. He continued on stating that RPM received their water main extension permit but the certificate was not submitted. Mr. Simmons followed through with getting their engineer to sign it, and submitted same. With regard to the water accountability, Mr. Simmons was informed that all hydrants need to be labeled with the name of the Town and the phone number. Mr. Carchia stated that he had gotten rings to place on the hydrants in Randolph, and they were

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inexpensive. He told Mr. Simmons that he would get him the name of the company that sells the rings. Mr. Simmons also stated that there may be two applicants coming before the Board for 132 Spring Street and also the old Moose Lodge site. He concluded with a brief conversation about parking for Thorlabs now that they have purchased 280 Spring Street.

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jacki Shackleton