

Town of Newton Utility Advisory Board  
November 19, 2019

The regular meeting of the Newton Utility Advisory Board was held on November 19, 2019 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: Chairman Lawler, Mr. Vrahnos and Mr. Lockwood. Mr. David Simmons, Engineer, Mrs. Jacki Shackleton, Utility Collector, and Mr. Joseph Carr, Licensed Operator were also present.

Chairman Lawler opened the meeting and began with approval of the September 17, 2019 minutes. Chairman Lawler motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Mr. Vrahnos. They were unanimously approved with an "aye" vote.

The first order of new business was for 100 Swartswood Road, an eleven-building apartment complex requesting waiver of penalties for payments that were received late. After a brief discussion, it was decided that for the sake of consistency, the request would be denied. Chairman Lawler motioned to deny the request and was seconded by Mr. Lockwood. The request was unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

The next order of business was for Nancy Arnold of 19 Liberty Street who was requesting credit for four quarters that the meter was stuck. Mrs. Shackleton explained that although she tries to be proactive with accounts that have no usage, this particular account had been overlooked. In keeping with consistency, Chairman Lawler motioned to credit Ms. Arnold 4000 gallons for each of the four quarters the meter was stuck.

Regarding the Water Plant and Sewer Treatment Plant, Mr. Carr reported that Morris Lake was 13 inches below the spillway and everything else was status quo.

In his engineer report, Mr. Simmons stated that the Thorlabs parking lot at the corner of Diller and Sparta Avenue is coming along. He explained that there are numerous utility lines running through that property and that a parking lot was really the only feasible use for the land. It would be useful for the workers during

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the construction of the other, more involved, Thorlabs project at the old Moose Lodge property. Regarding the project located on Lower Spring, there was originally a water main expansion permit required which would take time, but the team devised an alternative, more practical solution for the plan.

Mr. Simmons also spoke about Bride Q6 in Sparta. He stated that the water lines would need to be dry for the construction and they attempted to divert to the smaller line and combine Newton and Sparta water to make up for the smaller Newton line. The pressure from the Sparta water was too strong, creating a back flow, so they needed another alternative. It was decided to install a valve on each end of the bridge and construct a by pass pipe on the overpass. This will take place in warmer weather.

Finally, there was a brief discussion about the Montana crossing and the G & H property in Newton. There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
Jacki Shackleton