

January 20, 2009

The regular meeting of the Newton Utility Advisory Board was held on January 20, 2009 at 7:30pm at the Newton Municipal Building, 39 Trinity Street, Newton. Chairman Baldini called the meeting to order and the following members were present: Mr. Baldini, Mr. Caffrey, Mrs. Unhoch, Mr. Vrahnos and Mr. Lawler. Mr. William Grennille, Utility Superintendent, Mr. David Simmons, PE, Water Operator, and Mrs. Debra Millikin, Deputy Town Manager were also in attendance.

Mr. Baldini read the Open Public Meetings Act statement and then moved on to the Annual Reorganization. Mrs. Unhoch made a motion to appoint Mr. Vrahnos as Chairman and was seconded by Mr. Lawler. Mr. Vrahnos appreciated the confidence in being Chairman, however, with his current work schedule requested that someone else be appointed. Mr. Vrahnos made a motion to appoint Mr. Lawler as Chairman and was seconded by Mr. Caffrey. Mr. Lawler was approved by a unanimous "aye" vote. Chairman Lawler moved to the appointment of Vice Chairman. Mr. Baldini made a motion to appoint Mrs. Unhoch and was seconded by Mr. Vrahnos. Mrs. Unhoch was approved by unanimous "aye" vote. Chairman Lawler moved to the final item under reorganization appointment of Secretary. Mrs. Unhoch made a motion to appoint Debra Millikin and was seconded by Mr. Caffrey. Mrs. Millikin was approved by a unanimous "aye" vote.

Next item on the agenda was approval of minutes from the December 2, 2008 meeting. Mrs. Unhoch made a motion to approve the December 2, 2008 minutes and was seconded by Mr. Caffrey. The minutes were unanimously approved by an "aye" vote.

Chairman Lawler moved to New Business. First request was from Ann Crane requesting a waiver of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter water charge. Mr. Grennille explained that the outside meter was stuck. In the normal check of the bills the zero slipped through on the check. Mr. Grennille suggested that 0 to 4,000 gallons charge be used subtracting the usage. Discussion ensued. Mr. Lawler made a motion to reduce the bill from \$616.25 to \$225 and was seconded by Mr. Baldini. The reduction of the bill to \$225.00 was unanimously approved by an "aye" vote.

Chairman Lawler moved to the next request from Project Self Sufficiency. Mr.

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Grenville stated PSS slipped through on construction water and a bill was not generated for this usage. Mr. Grenville stated that the cost for construction water went up from \$75 to \$100 and most likely did not go to the sewer. Mr. Baldini stated he had a problem with not going through the sewer and charging for the sewer. Discussion ensued. Mr. Lawler suggested that the final reading of the meter be check from when PSS purchased the parcel to the date of CO for PSS. This will determine the exact amount of construction water. Mr. Lawler made a motion to table this matter to the February Meeting and was seconded by Mrs. Unhoch. The PSS matter was unanimously approved by an "aye" vote to be tabled to February 17, 2009.

The final request under New Business was from William Moran, MMH BT, LLC, requesting a reduction in the sewer charge. Discussion ensued on this matter. Mr. Simmons brought the Board's attention that this might be related to Brookside Terrace's connection to the 12 inch watermain. It was suggested that this item be tabled to gather some more information on the date the main was connected. Mr. Caffrey made a motion to table this matter and was seconded by Mrs. Unhoch. The William Moran matter was unanimously approved by an "aye" vote to table to February 17, 2009.

Chairman Lawler moved to Old Business.

Richard and Irene Kerr – the meter was tested and found to be working. It was suggested that this matter be tabled until the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter reading can be provided to the Utility Board. Mr. Lawler made a motion to table this matter and was seconded by Mr. Caffrey. The Kerr matter was unanimously approved to be tabled to the February 17, 2009 meeting.

Daniela Monticello – the new information was submitted to the Utility Board. Mr. Lawler made a motion to deny the waiver of the penalty and was seconded by Mr. Caffrey. The Monticello matter was unanimously denied by an "aye" vote.

Iliff Realty Co, Camp Iliff – Mr. Grenville stated he did not see anything related to the sewer issue. This is strictly for the sewer portion only. Mr. Baldini stated he did not agree in setting another precedent by getting a breakdown. Mr. Baldini made a motion to deny the

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request of Iliff Realty Co. and was seconded by Mrs. Unhoch. The Iliff Realty matter was unanimously denied by an “aye” vote.

Water Filtration Plan Update Mr. Grennille indicated Morris Lake is 1 inch above spill. The water on the lake is pretty frozen and will most likely be open for ice fishing sometime next week. An area around the eagles will be required to not allow fishing. Mr. Grennille indicated the plant is running well and just completed a CIP. The big project he is currently working on with the help of Mr. Simmons and Mrs. Millikin is unaccounted for water. Mr. Grennille explained that water is being lost once it is into Newton. A strap meter was placed on the PR chamber to confirm that the same amount of water was coming from Morris Lake to the PR Chamber. This was verified that yes the same amount of water is going through the PR chamber from Morris Lake. Working on leak detection and the purchase of some new leak detection devices. Mrs. Millikin stated this will be an ongoing matter that the Utility Board will be updated on. Mr. Lawler questioned the effect on allocation of this unaccounted for water has. Mr. Simmons explained that this water needs to be accounted for in order for the Town to apply for an increase in allocation. Mr. Simmons explained the entire process for filing a water allocation permit and discussion ensued. Mrs. Millikin explained that the allocation required per the current planning is to be projected out over 20 years.

Chairman Lawler moved to the next item under Town Engineer’s Report. Mr. Simmons indicated that the revised plans for the Morris Lake Dame have been submitted to NJDEP. Mr. Simmons indicated he discussed the water allocation already and had nothing else to report. Mr. Lawler moved to the public portion. None coming forward this portion of the meeting was closed.

Mr. Lawler questioned Mr. Simmons on the status of the Stop and Shop Supermarket in Sparta. Mr. Simmons indicated this project is on hold. Mr. Lawler questioned the status of the Starbucks and Kings for Sparta. Mr. Simmons indicated he would have to get back to the Board on this question.

Mr. Baldini provided a list of information to Mrs. Millikin to obtain answers for him

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regarding the Town Council's policy on pesticides on lawns, sewer charges should be assessed to everyone, recycling of water for new construction for irrigation purposes, break down of the salary allocation related to the water and sewer utility, would like the rates for the utility reduced, and questioned the status of shut-off notices. Mrs. Millikin indicated she would provide some of the information she can obtain for Mr. Baldini.

Mr. Lawler stated he was disappointed that Ms. Babcock was not present for the meeting tonight to provide an update on the shut-off letters. Mr. Caffrey made a recommendation to the Utility Board that they should pick packets up at the Police Station the Friday prior to the meeting. The packet is e-mailed out and this way the hard copy is not mailed to provide a cost savings. Mr. Vranhos requested that a hard copy be provided at the meeting for him since he can review on the computer. Mr. Baldini requested that his still be mailed.

There being no other business to discuss upon motion of Mr. Vranhos and seconded by Mr. Caffrey, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Debra J. Millikin  
Secretary