

Town of Newton Utility Advisory Board  
April 15, 2025

A regular meeting of the Newton Utility Advisory Board was held on April 15, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. via zoom. The meeting was called to order and the following members were present: Chairman Vrahnos, Mr. Terantino, and, Mr. Carchia. Mr. David Simmons, Engineer, Mr. Mike Awertschenko, licensed water operator, Mr. Joseph White, sewer foreman, and Mrs. Jacki Shackleton, Utility Collector, were present.

The first order of business was for approval of March 18, 2025, minutes. Mr. Carchia motioned to approve the minutes, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Terantino. The minutes were unanimously approved with an “aye” vote.

The first order of new business was for Bellarosa Realty on Trinity, requesting waiver of excess sewer charges due to a leak. After a brief discussion, it was decided that just like in past practices, the excess sewer would be waived. Chairman Vrahnos motioned to approve the decision and was seconded by Mr. Carchia. The motion was unanimously approved with an “aye” vote.

The next order of business was for Ruby Sy who had the same request as Bellarosa Realty. Again, Chairman Vrahnos motioned to approve the request and was seconded by Mr. Carchia. The motion was unanimously approved with an “aye” vote.

The final order of new business was for Newton Housing Authority, requesting waiver of penalty for a payment not received on time. After a brief discussion, it was decided that just as in past practices, the request would be denied. Mr. Carchia motioned to deny the request and was seconded by Chairman Vrahnos. The request was unanimously denied with an “aye” vote.

Under old business regarding the water filtration plant, Mr. Awertschenko reported that they should be done with the projects in May. Everything else is running smoothly. He said that the lake is minus 34 inches. Regarding the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Mr. White stated that work is completed on all RBC's, and they are all running right now. Everything else is status quo.

Town of Newton Utility Advisory Board  
April 15, 2025

In his engineer's report, Mr. Simmons stated that there was a preconstruction meeting with the Gas Company and both Newton and Sparta water departments. The work will be starting at night and they have decided to work closer to the 8" Sparta water main, rather than the 16" Newton water main. The Morris Lake Gatehouse will be dewatered in May of 2025. He reported that the water department is continuing new lines on Mason Avenue, two services per day, weather permitting. They are also working on hydrant flushing and leak detection. Regarding the EJ Brooks building, they are migrating into the phase one building and will tear down the old building in July or August. They are putting an addition on the 280 Spring Street building and continuing the work on the bike path. Lastly, Mr. Simmons stated that there is a "pho" water tank on top of the Merriam Gateway building which is a camouflage for antennas. There being no further matters to discuss, Mr. Carchia motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Terantino. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
Jacki Shackleton