

Town of Wilmington
Water & Sewer Commission
January 21, 2021 Meeting

The Water and Sewer Commission met via ZOOM on January 21, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM. Roll Call: Commissioner George Allan, Commissioner Robert LaVita, Commissioner Michael Camoscio, Utility & Business Manager Joseph Lobao, and Recording Secretary Diane Forest.

ZOOM Meeting

Read Into Record by Commissioner George Allan: Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c 30A, section 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, the meeting of the Water & Sewer Commission will be conducted via remote participation. Members of the public who wish to watch and listen to the meeting may do so in the following manner: WCTV. **No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted**, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. Members of the public who wish to listen to this meeting while in progress may also do so via telephone by dialing **(312) 626-6799** and entering meeting ID 831 9953 9193 then press # and press # again at the next voice prompt.

Members of the public attending this meeting virtually will be allowed to make comments if they wish to do so, during the portion of the hearing designated for public comment, by following the steps previously noted then press *9 on their telephone keypad. This will notify the meeting host that the caller wishes to speak. All callers using this feature will be placed in queue in the order they entered the prompt. In the event that despite our best efforts, we are not able to provide real-time access, we will post a record of this meeting on the Town's website as soon as we are able.

Introduction of New Commission Member

Mr. Lobao announced that long time Board Member, Chairman Joseph Balliro has resigned. Chairman Balliro was recognized and thanked for his dedication serving the Town of Wilmington in his capacity as a member of the Water and Sewer Commission since 2002. Mr. Lobao introduced Michael A. Camoscio as the new Water & Sewer Commission Member. Commissioner Camoscio is a 10-year resident of Wilmington and is looking forward to serving on the Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners.

Reorganization of Commission

Commissioner LaVita nominated Commissioner George Allan as the new Chairman of the Board. ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER ALLAN AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WATER & SEWER COMMISSION.

Approval of Minutes – November 19, 2020 ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ALLAN IT WAS VOTED TO APPROVE THE WATER & SEWER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF November 19, 2020. Commissioner Camoscio abstained.

Billing Adjustments & Corrections

Ann Carideo	24 Freeport Drive	Residential	W&S Comm	\$ 726.04
Prithvi Maddi	28 Murray Hill Circle	Residential	Bill Error/SW	\$1,000.57
Michael Scurto	418 Main Street	Residential	Sewer Chg	\$ 127.46
Chase Bushey	65 Glen Road	Residential	ServBrk Hose	\$ -11.95
Son Lam	67 Glen Road	Residential	ServBrk Hose	\$ 11.95

ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO, IT WAS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO RATIFY THE BILLING ADJUSTMENT AND CORRECTIONS AS PRESENTED.

Monthly Reports

The November and December monthly reports were presented to and reviewed by the Commission members. As discussed at the last meeting, it was reiterated that the total amount of water distributed to the Town and the amount of water purchased by the MWRA is significantly higher in comparison to prior years. Mr. Lobao stated that other Towns across the region are reporting high numbers as well. There was discussion relative to the recent drought conditions and many residents being home due to Covid19.

Abatement Request – 26 Towpath Drive

Robert DiGuardia of 26 Towpath Drive was present to discuss his request for an abatement submitted for a reduction in water charges reflected on the November 2, 2020 water bill. The resident stated that he felt the consumption exceeded any past use & there was no explanation for this increase and could not explain why. The meter was tested, and results indicated that the meter is registering usage within the 2% allowable by MGL Chapter 40, Section 39I. There being no grounds to grant an abatement, the following motion was made. ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO DENY THE ABATEMENT REQUEST SUBMITTED BY ROBERT DIGUARDIA OF 26 TOWPATH DRIVE.

Abatement Request – 45 West Street

Andrew Roketenetz of 45 West Street was present to discuss his abatement request for water charges reflected on the November 2, 2020 water bill. Mr. Roketenetz stated that previous consumption is far lower, and the November 2020 invoice was based on 15,844 cubic feet. He did not believe that there were any leaks in the home. Following a lengthy discussion, it was recommended that the meter be pulled and tested to rule out a faulty meter. Arrangements will be made to schedule an appointment for a meter test. ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO TABLE THE ABATEMENT REQUEST FOR 45 WEST STREET.

Abatement Request – 209 Wildwood Street

Resident was not present. ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO TABLE THE ABATEMENT REQUEST FOR 209 WILDWOOD STREET.

Abatement Request – 27 Kenwood Avenue

Resident was not present. ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO TABLE THE ABATEMENT REQUEST FOR 27 KENWOOD AVENUE.

24 Freeport Drive – Adjustment

The owner of 24 Freeport Drive has submitted in writing that the abatement request for her August 1, 2020 water bill be extended to include her November 2, 2020 water bill, as the meter was in place for

a portion of that billing cycle. The Commission discussed using the same method in calculating the abatement used for the August bill. The Commission recommended reaching out to the owner to see if that would be agreeable. ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO, SECONDED CHAIRMAN ALLAN IT WAS VOTED TO TABLE THE ABATEMENT REQUEST EXTENSION FOR 24 FREEPORT DRIVE. Commissioner LaVita abstained.

Lowell Street Sewer Pump Station Acceptance

A copy of the Grant of Sewer Easement and Agreement between the Town of Wilmington and 168 Lowell Street LLC was presented to the Commission. Mr. Lobao informed the Commission members that the pump station is complete and the Easement Document has been reviewed by the Town's Legal Counsel. Mr. Lobao recommended that the Commission accept the Easement and Agreement as presented. ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ACCEPT THE GRANT OF SEWER EASEMENT AND AGREEMENT AS PRESENTED TO THE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION. Each member of the Commission will need to sign the original document.

Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project

There was a brief discussion relative to the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project. Mr. Lobao stated that the project is near completion. Overall, the project went well, and the sewer system is in good shape.

Salem Street Well Field Cleaning Contract

Mr. Lobao stated that a public bid opening was held for the cleaning of two wells at the Salem Street Wellfield. Maher Services is the low bidder at a cost of \$32,540. The cleaning should begin within the next couple of weeks. Mr. Lobao will keep the Commission updated.

Conflict of Interest

The Conflict of Interest documents have all been signed and submitted to the Town Clerk.

Correspondence

Letter dated November 18, 2020 from Kim Nelson

Other Business

The Finance Committee Meeting will be held on February 2, 2021 @ 7:00PM via Zoom.

Public Comment Period – There were no requests for public comment.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on February 18, 2021 via ZOOM.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn carries at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Diane Forest", written over a horizontal line.

Diane Forest, Recording Secretary