

Town of Wilmington
Water & Sewer Commission
December 16, 2021 Meeting

The Water and Sewer Commission met on December 16, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM. Present were Chairman George Allan, Commissioner Robert LaVita, Commissioner Michael Camoscio, Utility & Business Manager Joseph Lobao, and Recording Secretary Diane Forest.

Approval of Minutes September 16, 2021 Meeting – ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2021 MEETING.

Billing Adjustments & Corrections

William Robinson 18 Salem Street Residential Sewer T-On \$ 16.13

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

97 Lake Street – Pro-Rate Billing Adjustment

James Pearce, the owner of 97 Lake Street, Tewksbury was present to discuss his water meter. The Commission was presented with a billing adjustment for 97 Lake Street, Tewksbury, Map 3T, Parcel 38, Service ID 000458. The meter in place was installed on February 19, 2003, complete with a new electronic ERT. Water Department personnel retrieved a visual meter reading on October 22, 2021. At that time, it was discovered that the original ERT, installed in 2003 was not keeping up with the actual meter register, therefore under-registering usage. On October 22, 2021, a new ERT & meter register were installed and tested in line on the meter base. This test indicated that the meter base itself was working properly.

Given that unbilled usage to be charged on the upcoming February 1, 2022, water bill would be calculated in full on the current water rates, yet the usage was spread out over an unspecified period of nearly 18 years, the Water & Sewer Commission agreed that it would be fair and reasonable to pro-rate the bill going back to the first bill calculated on this meter installation.

ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJUST THE FEBRUARY 1, 2022, BILL BASED ON THE PRESENTED SPREADSHEET, ADJUSTING \$1,055.67 OFF OF THE WHAT WOULD BE \$1,980.45 BILL, CREATING A PRO-RATED BILL OF \$924.78 AND ALLOWING MR. PEARCE TO PAY THE NEW BILL AMOUNT OVER A PERIOD OF FOUR (4) BILLING CYCLES FREE OF ANY LATE FEES OR PENALTIES. The Commission stated that they would revisit the payment schedule should Mr. Pearce need additional time.

52 Roosevelt Road – Abatement/Payment Plan Request

Patricia Richard of 52 Roosevelt Road filed an abatement with the Water & Sewer Commission. She stated in her abatement form that she had a leak that she was unaware of causing her November 2021 bill to significantly increase. Ms. Richard explained that she is on a fixed income, she has fallen behind in payments and can't seem to catch up. Ms. Richard is requesting to be placed on a payment plan and to have the late fees abated and to waive further late fees or lien. ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER CAMOSCIO SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA IT WAS UNIMOUSLY VOTED TO ALLOW PATRICIA RICHARD TO ENTER INTO A PAYMENT PLAN FOR WATER CHARGES ASSESSED TO HER HOME AT 52 ROOSEVELT ROAD FREE OF ANY LATE FEES OR PENALTIES, AND TO ABATE THE PENALTY FEE OF \$6.22 FROM THE AUGUST 2021 BILL AND \$14.82 FROM THE NOVEMBER 2021 BILL. The Commission stated that they would revisit the payment schedule should Ms. Richard need additional time.

Monthly Report

The November 2021 monthly report was submitted to the Commission for review.

Bid Opening – Middlesex Avenue/Jefferson Road Sewer Project

On December 8, 2021, a public bid opening was held and the following companies bid on the contract for the Middlesex Avenue /Jefferson Road Pump Station, Sanitary Sewer Extension and Force Main.

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Revoli Construction Co. Inc. | \$2.5 Million Dollars |
| 2. N. Granese & Sons, Inc. | 2.9 Million Dollars |
| 3. Joseph P. Cardillo & Son, Inc. | 4.2 Million Dollars |

All the bid prices received were substantially above the budget amount for the project. It has been determined to be in the best interest of the Town of Wilmington to reject all bids for this project. The scope of the project will be revised and the project will be rebid.

This was to be funded by a portion of the MassWorks Grant money. The sewer project had been estimated to cost approximately \$1.43 million dollars. The Town's Engineer is reaching out to MassWorks to discuss options as to what we can do to fund the overage. The Town is also reaching out to the developer, Princeton. This development proposed will not be able to move forward without the sewer installation and the sewer installation can not move forward with the culvert replacement.

PFAS – UPDATE

Public notification has gone out via a letter saturation. The office has only received 2-3 phone calls from residents. Samples continue to come back yielding non-detection for PFAS. The Town will continue to monitor sample results to determine when to replace the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC). Regular updates will be given to the Board of Selectmen.

Other Business

- Owl Camera – As an alternative to in person WCTV personnel, an unattended, smart camera to capture more meetings may be used for future meetings. The camera will be set up and connected to a laptop. The laptop sends the camera and audio feed back to

WCTV through the internet to broadcast on air. A recording is also saved locally to the laptop.

- Meeting Format –There was a brief discussion relative to upcoming meeting possibly being held remotely due to absence of Commission members.

Public Comment Period - No public comments

Next Meeting -The next meeting is scheduled to be held on January 20, 2022.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn carries at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:


Diane Forest, Recording Secretary

