

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
MINUTES OF MEETING – May 10, 2016

Members Present: Dave Forrest, Don Zukowski, Roger Scheurer, & Pete Scolforo.

Others Present: Chris Pompei, Bob Nason, Bill Enser, Susan Biasin, Margaret Curtain, Ron Robataille, Michael Langlais, and Dick Lindsay.

Acting Chairman Forrest called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Commitments

None.

Abatements

The Board signed the cover sheet for misc billing corrections.

The first application reviewed by the Board was for 100 Mtn. View Tr. They had just purchased the property in the first week of April and were mistakenly sent a minimum utility bill. Roger Scheurer made a motion to abate the minimum bill. Pete Scolforo seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Second was an application for 66 Railroad St. The application sought consideration for an unusually large bill in the Jan-Apr time period. The meter had been checked and usage had slowed back to normal. Based on overall average and no further explanation of where the usage was incurred Pete Scolforo made a motion to deny the application. Roger Scheurer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Third was an application for 5 William Parkway. Very similar to the previous one they had a higher than normal quarter but no insight as to the usage. Don Zukowski made a motion to deny the application. Roger Scheurer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Next, and present, was Susan Biasin from Theresa Terrace. Susan stated that they had received a large bill this quarter resulting from being estimated previously. She commented on not being happy with Town water and being a conservative user. Dave Forrest agreed that the length of time this account had been estimated was too long, however the end result on the meter is billable usage. The Board agreed that it was a matter of collection at this point and urged the customer to reach out to Heather and come to an agreement on payment.

Also present was Margaret Curtain. She felt her situation was similar to the Biasins and would work with the Collector.

Next was Ron Robitaille. He also had been estimated and received a large bill. This account had been estimated 5 quarters. Mr. Robitaille stated that the end usage didn't seem feasible as some of the time the property had been empty. The Board looked at the history and determined the estimates began around the time the house became occupied. The Board felt the resulting number was lower than an average of previous actual quarters. Roger Scheurer made a motion to deny the request. Don Zukowski seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Next was Michael Langlais for Union St. He had been estimated for 8 quarters without realizing it. He questioned that the meters are in good working order if the radios are failing. He was unhappy with the principal of hitting customers with a large bill after the fact and felt he should receive an abatement. Roger Scheurer made a motion to deny the request. Pete Scolforo seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Bob Nason stated that customers need to pay attention to the information on their utility bills and should call if they are being estimated and have concerns.

The last application was for Natalie Shiras. Her account had been estimated for 12 quarters. She was willing to pay 4 quarters of the back amount but requested 8 quarters to be abated. Staying in line with the Board's previous decisions Roger Scheurer made a motion to deny the application. Don Zukowski seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Water Dept

We have 75 accounts that were estimated on this last billing quarter. Every cycle this list needs to be updated and provided to the water department and the Board.

Discussion about rates was tabled until the next BPW meeting which will be after Town Meeting.

Waste Water Dept

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Highway/Cemetery Dept

A sample of steel is being taken from the West Park St Bridge Thursday the 12th. When results are back we will know if a repair or rebuild is in order.

The non-binding 5,000,000 request to borrow for paving is on the ballot for next week.

Roger Scheurer asked for an update on the Bruce driveway on Tyringham Road. Chris stated the State had made a repair but it was not resolved with the homeowner at this point.

Pete Scolforo asked if Touponce had his two curb cuts on Tyringham Rd as requested. Chris said they are both there.

Other

None.

Executive Session

None.

Minutes

Roger Scheurer made a motion to approve the minutes from Mar 08 as written. Pete Scolforo seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor. Pete Scolforo made a motion to approve the minutes from Apr 26 as written. Member Scheurer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

The next BPW meeting will be Tuesday May 24th @ 4:30pm at the Airoidi Building.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Brandi Page

cc: Clerk, & Website