

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 15, 2014

REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held at the 438 Granby Road Office on Thursday, June 5, 2014. Chairman John A. Mikuszewski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Chairman	John A. Mikuszewski
Clerk	William L. Schenker
Associate Member	David T. Daly
Superintendent	Jeffrey A. Cyr

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS: The weekly warrants were signed by all Board Members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: William L. Schenker made a motion to approve the minutes of May 15, 2014. This motion was seconded by David T. Daly. Motion Carried

MR. ISSAM KHAYATA OF 302 NORTH MAIN ST.:

Mr. Issam Khayata appealed to the Board to reduce the amount that is owed on his property at 302 North Main Street, South Hadley, MA. Mr. Khayata had a leak of 98,600 c.f. (737,528 gallons of water) for a water bill of \$3,347.54. Mr. Khayata stated that Columbia Gas had turned off the gas to his property after a tenant had moved out in December 2013. As a result of the gas being turned off there was no heat in the home and a pipe froze & burst causing the water to leak. On March 5, 2014 during our meter reading a member of the Maintenance crew discovered water coming out of the basement windows and could hear the meter ticking. The Water Department immediately turned the water off and contacted the Electric Light Department. Mr. Khayata asked the Board to reduce the amount he owes as his insurance company to this date will not reimburse him for the damages done as a result of the leak. John A. Mikuszewski stated our policy is that water has to be billed if it goes through the meter. William L. Schenker told Mr. Khayata that he could take a year to pay the remainder of the bill, so long as monthly good faith payments were made. Mr. Khayata thanked the Board and agreed to take advantage of the monthly payments for a year.

LETTER REGARDING PINE CONE LANE IN LUDLOW, MA:

Jeff Cyr updated the Board that he received a letter from Ellie Villano, Town Administrator for the Town of Ludlow, MA. (See Note 1). The letter is asking Jeff to put together a list of parameters and terms under which the residents would be responsible to utilize the services of the Water Department Fire District No. 1. On August 22, 2013 three residents from Pine Cone Lane, Ludlow, MA came to a Board meeting seeking approval & help to get water service to their homes. One resident stated he no longer had water, as his well had dried up and another resident only had ½ gallon of water per minute. The Board responded that with the Legislation that was approved for emergency situations we would be able to help them if it met the emergency guidelines. Jeff stated that in speaking with The Developer , he said that originally 22 residents has signed a petition to be a part of the new water main project but 17 of those residents have backed away. Jeff has also contacted Chicopee and Wilbraham Water Departments for approval as well as Pam Heidell the project Manager at the MWRA. Jeff noted that the

water pressure in that area is low and if they move forward the homes may need booster pumps to increase pressure. Jeff shared with the Board an outline of the main requirements he will put into the letter (See Note 2). Jeff will put together a letter for Ellie Villano at the Town of Ludlow, MA outlining the requirements for receiving this special Legislation as well as our Water Department requirements for approval. Jeff will update the Board if any new finding arises.

**JUDD AVENUE WATER MAIN
REPLACEMENT PROJECT:**

Jeff Cyr updated the Board that tomorrow the Maintenance Crew will be connecting the new 8" water main to the existing water main coming off Lathrop Street. Jeff noted that there are only 2 fire hydrants on the street, so we will install 2 more hydrants during the construction. The Hydrant location have been approved by Fire Chief Robert Authier. Jeff will keep the Board updated as things progress.

**REQUEST FROM VERIZON
WIRELESS AT
INDUSTRIAL DRIVE:**

Jeff Cyr informed the Board that he has received a request from Verizon Wireless to house 2 ATV's on site at the Industrial Drive tank. Jeff noted that Verizon has been very cooperative in the past and they are always considerate when they need access to their equipment at the tanks. Jeff also noted that there is sufficient room for them to store the 2 ATV's.

**BRAD COUTURE
TREATMENT TEST:**

Jeff Cyr informed the Board the Brad Couture has completed and passed his T1 treatment test. Jeff noted that we will pay for the cost of Brad's test, as we have in the past for other Maintenance employees. Jeff stated that as of July 6th Brad will qualify to be able to carry the on-call cell phone.

RATES DISCUSSION:

Jeff Cyr opened the discussion and presented the Board with a spreadsheet of the past consumptions for the different quarters. Jeff reminded the Board about the amount of rain we have received lately (April 4", May 7.5" of rain) and how it impacts our budget. Jeff also noted that the readings for June so far are looking like they are very low. The Board discussed waiting to see how low the actual figures for the July 1 bills and asked Jennifer Fernandes if she could calculate the bills early so they could have an accurate figure. The Board will revisit the issue at the next meeting on June 19, 2014 after they have accurate usage.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

William L. Schenker made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by John A. Mikuszewski. Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

William L. Schenker, Clerk