

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MEETING ON June 9, 2009

Present: Chairman Donald Bates, Vice Chairman George Cavanaugh, Clerk Danette Gonsalves, Superintendent Craig Wiegand, Secretary Kelly Springer

Chairman Bates called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

The Board began the meeting with a review of the items from the previous agenda for May 12, 2009. (May 12th meeting was void due to non posting of notice at Town Hall)

The minutes for the meeting held on April 28, 2009 were approved with a motion by Vice Chairman Cavanaugh and seconded by Clerk Gonsalves; 3-0-0.

The Board reviewed the submitted letter from Brian Hart of Circadia Bistro on Sisson Rd. Mr. Hart had a previous payment plan set up for his account which he failed to maintain. He requested a second payment plan be put in place. His business is up for sale and is currently closed. After some discussion, the board agreed to a second payment plan once the first plans payment requirements are paid in full. A letter will be sent to Mr. Hart with the Board's decision. The second payment plan was approved with a motion by Vice Chairman Cavanaugh and seconded by Clerk Gonsalves; 3-0-0.

The Board next reviewed the meeting with Mr. Alex Thompson and Mr. Mike McGuire, both of Pine Knoll Rd. Mr. Thompson and Mr. McGuire recently installed a new 8" water main on the private road, Pine Knoll. The road has previously been serviced with an existing 2" water main. Mr. Thompson and Mr. McGuire were requesting that they be relieved from the responsibility of connecting the other existing 12 services on Pine Knoll to the new 8" main at their own expense. The Board addressed the reasoning for requesting the other services be connected to the new main. With only two properties using the new water main, the quality of the water would be affected due to lack of water movement. Upon discussion with the board, it was decided that Mr. Thompson and Mr. McGuire would loop the new 8" main onto the existing 2" main in order to ensure proper water flow and quality. They are also relieved of the obligation of connecting the other services onto the new main. The Board voted to approve the looping of the two water mains; 2-0-0. A letter will be sent to both Mr. Thompson and Mr. McGuire detailing the work to be done as well as requiring signatures from all parties involved. The board voted in favor of approving the looping of the water mains on a vote of 3-0-0.

The Board next reviewed the account of Virginia Doyle at 48 North Road. Mrs. Doyle sustained a leak at her property in late April 2009. A new water service was required at this time. We received a phone call from Mrs. Doyle expressing her displeasure with the department for not enrolling her in the Service Tight Plan before this happened. All customers are responsible for maintaining and updating the department with correct and current contact information so that we are able to inform them of any news from the water department. Chairman Bates will be following up with a phone call to Mrs. Doyle addressing the necessity of her maintaining her contact information with the department. A letter will also be sent to her in regards to the Boards discussion on this day as well as the information on Service Tight should she wish to enroll. The board felt satisfied that all attempts to maintain current and up to date contact information were made by the department; 3-0-0.

The following six (6) abatements were reviewed by the Board:

1. Account # 1563 G.M. Schick of 35 Pleasant Street
Abatement denied; 3-0-0.
2. Account # 8992 Russell Francis of 8 Morgan Circle
Abatement denied; 3-0-0.
3. Account # 1332 Brian Callahan of 34 Willow Street
Abatement denied; 3-0-0.
4. Account # 8473 Mary Kaldis-Thompson of 14 Tupelo Dr
Abatement denied; 3-0-0.
5. Account # 369 George Neddermann of 10 Zylpha Rd
Abatement denied; 3-0-0.
6. Account # 209 Sally Mahoney of 74 Birch Dr
Abatement denied; 3-0-0.

The Board officially opened the public hearing on fees at 8:30a.m.

The Board also had the chance to review a letter submitted from Mr. Brian McCusker of 42 Archibald Circle regarding the denied abatement for his account. Mr. McCusker will be proceeding with an appeal of the Board's decision.

Superintendent Wiegand reviewed with the board the \$36,000 grant for leak detection which was then signed by the Board on a vote of 3-0-0.

Superintendent Wiegand also reviewed the letters to Mr. Lach regarding the matter of vernal pools on town land.

The Board also reviewed and signed a letter to Mr. Paul Doane regarding an agreement to run an 8" main from Lovers Lane up Grist Mill Road. Mr. Doane picked up his signed letter from the board after the meeting.

Superintendent Wiegand also reviewed the letter to the Town Administrator, James Merriam, regarding the hiring of two new laborers for the department in place of a new Assistant Superintendent. The Board reviewed and signed the letter; 3-0-0.

The request for Flex Time for Superintendent Wiegand's work week was discussed and agreed upon by the Board; 3-0-0.

The Board officially closed the public hearing on fees at 8:35a.m. There were no public attendees to the hearing. A motion to approve the fees was made by Vice Chairman Cavanaugh and seconded by Clerk Gonsalves; 3-0-0.

Superintendent Wiegand briefly updated the Board on a letter sent to Mr. David Coupal of 12 Kent Road. There was a report of water damage to the homeowner's basement after the seasonal turn on had been performed. Our department received the turn on request from Mr. Coupal's plumber, Woelfel Plumbing, on 3/16/09. The water was turned on by our department on 3/27/09 with no signs of any problems at the property. Woelfel Plumbing did not complete their portion of the turn on until 5/7/09. It was after Woelfel's work that a problem was discovered. Currently the insurance companies are in talks regarding the restoration of the basement.

Superintendent Wiegand also brought to the Board's attention the case of a reversal of tampering fee's from Mr. John Sager's account. The Board had previously reviewed Mr. Sager's case and had voted to apply a meter tampering fee as well as labor costs to his account. Upon further inspection at a future date, Superintendent Wiegand believed there to be an internal error in the application of fees and made the decision to reverse the charges. Superintendent Wiegand and the Board of Water Commissioners will be discussing in depth the process for a department reversal of Board voted decisions at the next meeting.

In conclusion to the meeting, the Board was updated on the hiring of two part time summer employees as well as the ad in the newspaper for the hiring of two full time laborers.

The next BOWC meetings will be held on Tuesday June 23, July 7 and July 21.

The meeting was officially adjourned at 8:40 a.m. with a motion by Vice Chairman Cavanaugh, seconded by Clerk Gonsalves; 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald T Bates, Chairman

Craig Wiegand, Superintendent

George Cavanaugh, Vice Chairman

Kelly Springer, Secretary

Danette Gonsalves, Clerk