

Town of Newton Utility Advisory Board  
September 15, 2020

The regular meeting of the Newton Utility Advisory Board was held via teleconference on September 15, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. Chairman Lockwood called the meeting to order and the following members were connected: Mr. Carchia, and Mr. Vrahnos. Mr. David Simmons, Engineer, Mr. Joseph Carr, Licensed Operator, and Mrs. Jacki Shackleton, Utility Collector, were also connected.

The first order of business was for approval of the July 21, 2020 minutes. Mr. Vrahnos motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Mr. Carchia. They were unanimously approved with an "aye" vote.

The first order of new business was for Mr. & Mrs. Denne of 24 Park Avenue who were requesting waiver of penalty for the second quarter bill that they overlooked paying prior to the due date. In order to be consistent with similar requests in the past and based upon Town Ordinance, Mr. Vrahnos motioned to deny the request. Mr. Carchia seconded the motion, and the matter was unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

The next order of new business was for Mr. Varghese who was requesting waiver of penalty for the second quarter bill which he claimed to have not received. Mr. Varghese stated that because of Covid-19, the bill was either not sent to him or not delivered by the Post Office. He claims to have called about the bill on May 7 or May 8 and there was no answer in the office. The office is always open and all calls are returned in a timely matter. At the time Mr. Varghese stated that he called, meters were still being read, and the bills were not yet generated. Mr. Carchia motioned to deny the request and was seconded by Mr. Vrahnos. The matter was unanimously denied with an "aye" vote.

The final order of new business was for Merriam Avenue School for additional water usage for modular classrooms. The school had not yet provided the Board with the amount of gallonage, so it was tabled until the next meeting. Mr. Simmons explained that the school is planning to reorient the modular classrooms and for that reason will have to return to the Planning Board at a later

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date.

Chairman Lockwood then moved to the Water Treatment Plant and the Sewer Treatment plant. Mr. Carr stated that the lake is 11 inches below the spillway, and that everything at the Sewer Treatment Plant is status quo.

In his engineer report, Mr. Simmons stated that the Q6 bridge on the Ogdensburg side will be done in the spring or the fall of 2021. He is hoping it will be done in the fall. A brief discussion took place regarding the recent boil water order in Branchville and the DEP. Mr. Simmons briefly named several possible applications that may be coming by year end.

There being no other business to discuss, Mr. Lockwood motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Mr. Carchia. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jacki Shackleton