

UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
May 11, 2015
CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Daniel Peterson
Shawn Libby
Tom Willis
Arthur Hoffman

OTHERS PRESENT

Deputy City Manager Cox

MINUTES

1. Call to Order.

Daniel Peterson called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. All Board members were present.

2. Acceptance of April 20, 2015 Minutes

Tom Willis **MOVED** to accept the April 20, 2015 minutes as written. The motion was **ADOPTED**.

3. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

4. Appeals

4.1 Vargas Appeal

Napoleon Vargas (appellant) appeared before the UAB to present his abatement request. Mr. Vargas requests an abatement of 65 units of water and sewer fees due to possible theft of water from an outside spigot.

Deputy City Manager Cox's recommendation is that no abatement be granted on this request.

The above recommendation is based upon the following findings:

1. The appellant does not dispute the meter readings.
2. The appellant does not claim that his plumbing failed causing a system leak.
3. The appellant is responsible for damages and fees incurred at his property due to theft and/or vandalism.

Arthur Hoffman **MOVED** to abate 65.50 units of sewer fees valued at \$408.72. The motion was **ADOPTED**.

4.2 Tebbetts Appeal

Diane Tebbetts (appellant) appeared before the UAB to present her abatement request. She seeks an abatement of 36 units of water and sewer fees

Deputy City Manager Cox's recommendation is to abate 16.75 units of sewer fees valued at \$104.52.

The above recommendation is based upon the following findings:

1. The meter readings are not deemed to be inaccurate and therefore no abatement of water fees are warranted.
2. Two minor leaks were found. The location of these indicate that one most likely did not leak into the sewer collection system (sink sprayer) and the other most likely did leak into the sewer collection system (toilet). It is impossible to determine the allocation between these so I have split these 50% each. The calculation is as follows:

a. Current billed usage	48.0 units
b. Estimated average usage	- <u>14.5</u> units
c. Estimated leaked usage	33.5 units

At 50% -16.75 units are assigned to the sink sprayer
 $16.75 \text{ units sewer fees} \times \$6.24/\text{unit} = \$104.52.$

3. The customer has supplied documentation of repairs.

Shawn Libby **MOVED** to abate 16.75 units of sewer fees valued at \$104.52 plus the amount of expenses associated with the installation of the backflow device totaling \$246.11, for a total abatement of \$350.63. The motion was **ADOPTED**.

The UAB requested that the Utility Billing Office provide an explanation as to why the water department recommended the installation of a backflow device at the Tebbetts service location. The UAB suggested that department personnel be counseled against providing advice to customers regarding the repair and/or maintenance of the system under the care and responsibility of the customer, i.e. city staff should simply encourage customer to seek their own independent counsel.

5. Financial Reports

There was no discussion on the Monthly Financial Statements.

6. Other

Deputy City Manager Cox informed the UAB that the Utility Billing staff was being tasked with creating the UAB meeting packets and recording minutes.

7. Adjournment

Arthur Hoffman **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. The motion was **ADOPTED** and the meeting adjourned at 6:06 P.M.

Respectfully,

Blaine M. Cox
Deputy City Manager