

**Utility Advisory Board
October 11, 2016 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Conference Room**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Peterson, Chairman

Shawn Libby

Thomas H. Willis, Jr

OTHERS PRESENT

John B. Storer, PE Director of City Services

Lisa Clark, Admin & Utility Billing Supervisor

Norbert Hamann, 189 North Main St.

Peter Burell, 776B Salmon Falls Rd.

James & Barbara Graham, 17 Brookfield Dr.

Kent Marzoli, 34 South Main St.

Joanne Crawford, Fieldstone Village

MINUTES

1. Call to order:

Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

2. Fieldstone Village Flat Rate W&S

Members of the Fieldstone Village Co-op were present. Ms. Crawford expressed frustration with the DPW regarding the project that will include installing a meter for this Co-op Mobile Home Park. She stated that she estimates \$157,796.01 overpayment during the time period of June 2014- September 2016. Mr. Storer stated that while he understands the frustration this project will not begin until spring of 2017. Ms. Crawford stated that she would like abatement in the amount of the estimated overpayment or at least a reduction in "Flat Rate Fees" that they are paying for both water and sewer. Mr. Willis stated that an ordinance is in place for the flat rate fee and must be followed. Mr. Libby stated that he does not agree with recommending abatement as the City is paying for the project as it is. The board discussed the project and understood the frustration but stated that this would be a City Council decision or action. Mr. Storer stated that he would bring the matter to the Public Works Committee for the October 20 meeting.

Chairman Peterson made a motion to recommend the matter to be reviewed at the Public Works Committee. Mr. Libby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Appeals -

3.1 34 South Main St. First Methodist Church – Kent Marzoli

The appellant, Kent Marzoli, was present. Mr. Storer recommended no abatement. Mr. Marzoli stated that the water heater was leaking into the basement and did not enter the sewer system.

Mr. Willis made a motion to abate 47 units of sewer at \$6.24 each for a total of \$293.28 plus all accrued interest. Mr. Libby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.2 17 Brookfield Drive – James & Barbara Graham

The appellants, Mr. & Mrs. Graham, were present. Mr. Graham explained that there was a small toilet leak in the upstairs bathroom. He also stated that there was a small leak from the water tank that was fixed and there were people temporarily living there for a couple weeks. Usage is back to normal now. There was also discussion about the Water and Sewer Adjustment Policy and that this appeal does not meet the level of usage stated in the policy.

Chairman Peterson made a motion to deny the requested abatement. Mr. Willis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.3 776 Salmon Falls Road – Peter Burrell

The appellant, Mr. Burrell, was present. The abatement requested was for \$60 for on/off charges for non-payment. Mr. Burrell stated he typically pays his bills online and may not have seen this bill and the late notice come in. He is away at a summer home most of the summer and it was probably misplaced when sorting through the pile of junk mail that comes in. Chairman Peterson referenced the City Ordinance and that the sixty dollars was for services rendered.

Chairman Peterson made a motion to deny the requested abatement. Mr. Willis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.4 83 Brock Street – Norbert Hammon

The appellant, Norbert Hammon, was present for the meeting. Mr. Storer's written recommendation was for an abatement based on the Water & Sewer Adjustment policy.

Mr. Libby made a motion to abate 50% of the above average water & sewer use per the policy. The motion stipulated that the abatement is for 40.5 units of water at \$4.81 each for a water credit of \$194.81 and 40.5 units of sewer a \$6.24 each for sewer credit of \$252.72. The total credit to equal \$447.53 plus all accrued interest. Mr. Willis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.5 13 Moores Court – Cheng Kam Chu

The appellant was not present for the meeting. This appeal was tabled in July

pending Council approval of the new Water & Sewer Adjustment policy.

Chairman Peterson made a motion to abate 50% of the above average water & sewer use per the policy. The motion stipulated that the abatement is for 74 units of water at \$4.81 each for a water credit of \$355.94 and 74 units of sewer a \$6.24 each for sewer credit of \$461.76. The total credit to equal \$817.70, plus all accrued interest. Mr. Libby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.6 3 Gloria Street – Dorothy Osgood

The appellant was not present for the meeting. This appeal was tabled in July pending Council approval of the new Water & Sewer Adjustment Policy.

Mr. Willis made a motion to abate 50% of the above average water & sewer use per the new policy. The motion stipulated that the abatement is for 27 units of water at \$4.81 each for a water credit of \$129.87 and 27 units of sewer at 6.24 for a sewer credit of \$168.48. The total credit to equal \$298.35 plus all accrued interest. Chairman Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.7 4 Westview Drive – Susan Hussey

The appellant was not present for the meeting. No leaks were found on the property and the meter is working properly. There was discussion and the Board found that the increase in usage did not meet the level stated in the Water & Sewer leak adjustment policy.

Mr. Willis made a motion to deny the appeal. Chairman Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.8 84 Flagg Road – Jean Glidden

The appellant was not present for the meeting. A fridge was found leaking and repaired. This property is water only. There was discussion and the Board found that the increase in usage did not meet the level stated in the Water & Sewer leak adjustment policy.

Mr. Willis made a motion to deny the appeal. Mr. Libby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.9 59 Ten Rod Road – Amy Lavoie

The appellant was not present for the meeting. The appellant requested a sewer abatement for water used for irrigation. Mr. Storer stated that the appellant made this same appeal last fall stating that she was unaware of the cost associated with irrigating. At the time the Board granted the appeal and advised the appellant to install a sewer deduct meter. That advice was not followed and the Board stated they did not feel abatement should be granted as the homeowner is aware of the consequences of watering.

Mr. Willis made a motion to deny the appeal. Chairman Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.10, 3.11 &-3.12 312 Salmon Falls, 325 Salmon Falls & 364 Salmon Falls Road

The appellants were not present for the meeting. Mr. Storer stated that these three appeals are for a group of homeowners within the construction project area on Salmon Falls Road. He stated that there may have been minimal use by the construction company. As that is not a measurable amount, the board has decided they will credit up to 11 units of water and/or sewer use for appellants stating that construction may have cause increase usage.

Mr. Willis made a motion to abate 11 units of water at \$4.81 each for a total of \$52.91 and 11 units of sewer at \$6.24 each for a total of \$68.64, plus all accrued interest for all three Salmon Falls Road properties. Chairman Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of the September 12, 2016 Minutes

Mr. Willis made a motion to accept the September 12, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Libby. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Adjournment:

Mr. Willis made a motion to adjourn at 7:06PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Libby. The motion passed unanimously.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Samantha Juneau,
City of Rochester Utility Billing Administrator*