

Water Commission Minutes-DRAFT
2-19-19

Called to Order: 6:00pm

Present: David Sander, Fran Huntoon, Bob Reap, Christy Witters, Josh Arneson, Kendall Chamberlin, Jessica Draper, Connie Bona, Lisa Lavoie

Lavoie Meter Audit:

Kendall Chamberlin announced that the meter testing showed the Lavoie meter to be 100% functional. Lisa Lavoie said that she expected it would read properly because the quarter after the jump in usage showed normal usage. Christy Witters discussed the content of the draft abatement policy from 2016. Kendall explained that the board at the time was apprehensive to adopt said policy. Kendall suggested that possibly the pool had evaporated and been refilled. Lisa contested that she keeps her pool covered. Fran Huntoon asked about other customers with steep spikes. Kendall said there were others. The commission reviewed the content of the policy regarding eligibility for abatement and whether the Lavoie's would have qualified. A suggestion was made to have the cost of only the water portion of the bill paid as opposed to the subsequent sewer rate. There was also discussion of requiring only half payment as suggested in the draft policy. The commission requested more information from Kendall and staff showing other usage spikes in the same quarter before they make any decisions.

Draft Abatement Policy:

Kendall explained that the policy need does not come up very often. He described two instances where it would have been used in the case of the 90,000 gallon and 100,000 gallon over-usage from the past for two other customers. He said that in both of those cases they were given extensions to pay the usage, but have never abated. Christy Witters said she agreed the policy should be for extreme cases. Discussion ensued regarding the draft criteria for eligibility. Fran Huntoon suggested language changes for clarity.

Superintendent's Report: Kendall informed the commission that they had decided to apply for FY2019 money for the bridge street crossing, so that project will happen in later summer. He also discussed the impending new biosolids contract. Kendall provided an update that the school property will be upgrading their system to town standards.

Next Agenda: The commission agreed to discuss the Lavoie case and the abatement policy at their next meeting, which will be March 4th at 6:00pm at Camels Hump Middle School.

Minutes: Christy Witters moved to approve the minutes from 2-4-19. Seconded by Fran Huntoon. All were in favor, so moved.

Fran Huntoon moved to adjourn. Seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor, adjourned 6:54pm.