

UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
October 15, 2013
CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
5:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

George Lewis
Shawn Libby
Arthur Hoffman
Sharon Parshley
Daniel Peterson

STAFF PRESENT

Blaine Cox, Deputy City Manager

OTHERS PRESENT

Candace Curran, Appellant

MINUTES

I. Call to Order.

George Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. All Board members were present.

II. Acceptance of September 9, 2013 Minutes

Arthur Hoffman noted that the September minutes failed to indicate the amendment he had made to the August 12, 2013 minutes. As a result Mr. Hoffman **MOVED** to **TABLE** action upon the September 9, 2013 minutes pending inclusion of August 12, 2013 amendment. The motion was seconded and the **MOTION PASSED** on a unanimous voice vote.

III. Appeals

A. Curran Appeal

The customer seeks an abatement of \$526.14 in sewer fees due to a leak in an exterior fixture.

The recommendation of Deputy City Manager Cox is to abate 83 units of sewer fees valued at \$517.92, contingent upon providing detailed proof of the nature of the leak.

The above recommendation is based upon the following findings:

1. The current usage of 104 units is 83 units above the previous four billing periods average of 21 units.
2. Customer claims an exterior fixture experienced a leak, however, no photographs have been provided and no invoices from a plumber have been provided.

Ms. Curran was present and explained her abatement request. Through questioning from the Board, it was determined that Ms. Curran had not repaired or replaced the leaking fixture but had simply bought and installed a cap on the fixture to stop the leak.

Sharon Parshley **MOVED** to grant an abatement of 83 units valued at \$517.92 pending submittal of proof of repair, such as a photo. The motion was seconded and the **MOTION PASSED** on a unanimous voice vote.

IV. Financial Statements

There was no discussion on the Financial Statements.

V. Septage Fees

After a brief discussion, Chairman Lewis determined the consensus of the Board was to accept DPW Director Nourse's recommendation (made at the last meeting) to not recommend any changes to the Septage Fee rates.

VI. Water and Sewer Rates

Deputy City Manager Cox reviewed the PowerPoint slides he created that summarize the Board's rate recommendations to the City Council. The Board requested that Mr. Cox transmit their recommendation to the Finance Committee on November 12, 2013.

VII. Ordinance Change

Deputy City Manager Cox reviewed the Codes and Ordinances Committee draft ordinance language created in response to the Board's request for a clearer definition of the meaning of "well failure" in the proposed ordinance.

Arthur Hoffman expressed his general disagreement with the ordinance.

George Lewis **MOVED** express support of the proposed ordinance as amended by the Codes and Ordinances Committee. The motion received a second and the **MOTION PASSED** on a voice vote of 3 yes and 2 no. (Members Hoffman and Parshley voted no).

VIII. Other

Chairman Lewis polled the Board to determine support for sending a letter to the City Manager requesting a change in how Mobile Home Parks with sub-metering are billed. Mr. Lewis determined the Board consensus was to send the letter which he then signed.

Arthur Hoffman asked Deputy City Manager Cox if there was any response from the Greenwood Inn regarding the Board's action on their abatement request in September. Mr. Cox stated that the Greenwood Inn had not submitted any response.

Mr. Hoffman **MOVED** to remove the Greenwood Inn abatement request from the table. The motion received a second and the **MOTION PASSED** on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Hoffman **MOVED** to deny the Greenwood Inn abatement request. The motion received a second and the **MOTION PASSED** on a unanimous voice vote.

IX. Adjournment

George Lewis **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and the **MOTION PASSED** on a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 5:35 P.M.

Respectfully,

Blaine M. Cox
Deputy City Manager

BMC: sam