

Utility Advisory Board
October 5, 2015 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT

Daniel Peterson, Chairman
Shawn Libby
Thomas H. Willis, Jr

MEMBERS ABSENT

Arthur Hoffman

OTHERS PRESENT

John B. Storer, PE, Director City Services
Blaine M. Cox, Deputy City Manager
Lisa J. Clark, Office Manager
Gary Mohr, 15 Regency Court
Amy Lavoie, 59 Ten Rod Road
David Gagnon, 16 Dewey Street
Mr. & Mrs. Doyle, 8 Blair Drive
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Ferullo, 19 Dodge St.

MINUTES

1. Call to order:

Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order at 5:31PM. Board member Arthur Hoffman was absent.

2. Appeals

2.1 Gary M. Mohrs, #15 Regency Court

The appellant was present at the meeting. Mr. Mohrs stated that his toddler had found the outside spicket nozzle and had turned it on. He stated that he is unsure how long it had been left running but he was hoping that the City could abate the sewer portion of his bill for above average use. He stated that he was sure it ran into the ground and not into the sewer system.

Mr. Willis made a motion to abate 40 units of sewer at \$6.24 each, for a total of \$249.60, plus all accrued interest. Mr. Libby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.2 Amy Lavoie, #59 Ten Rod Road

The appellant was present at the meeting. She stated that she had been watering her lawn but did not think that watering would use this much water. She stated that the Water Dept technician had come out to check the meter and it is working properly. Ms. Lavoie did ask about the process of installing a sewer deduct meter and was referred to the billing office for possible installation and additional information.

Mr. Willis made a motion to abate the 42 units of sewer valued at \$6.24 each, for a total of \$262.08, plus all accrued interest. Mr. Libby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.3 David Gagnon, #16 Dewey Street

The appellant was present at the meeting. He stated that he had a problem with a tenant that did not report a leaking toilet. He stated that he had repaired the toilet and he was seeking a water and sewer credit on the above average use. Mr. Peterson empathized with Mr. Gagnon and stated that unfortunately the water was used and it did get sent to the sewer system for treatment so the charges must stand.

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

2.4 Mr. & Mrs Doyle, #8 Blair

The appellants were present at the meeting. Mr. & Mrs. Doyle explained that they are only 2 people and the invoice received was for 47 units. Mrs. Doyle did say that she used a soaker hose for her gardens around the house but that she had limited the use and does not believe they could have used 47 units. This property is a new home and there is no history establishing normal usage. They have requested an abatement of 23.5 of the 47 units used.

Mr. Willis made a motion to table the appeal until the March 2016 UAB meeting. He stated that this would allow for two more cycles in order to establish normal use. Chairman Libby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.5 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Ferullo, #19 Dodge Street

The appellants were present at the meeting. Mr. Ferullo stated that he had filled his pool and received a pool credit of 7 units. He went on to say that he had done some watering of his lawn but he did not believe that he would have used more than 40 additional units of water. He also stated that he had checked for leaks and that the meter appeared to be working properly as nothing was spinning when the water was turned off. Mr. Ferullo's request is to abate 47 units of water & sewer.

Mr. Willis made a motion to table the appeal until November 2015 UAB meeting in order to see that the usage had dropped back to normal. Chairman Libby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.6 Jim & Michel Dumas, #38 Pine Street

The appellant was not present at the meeting. The appeal stated that they had a problem with a tenant that did not report faucet leaking. It also stated that they had repaired it immediately and that they are seeking a water and sewer credit on the above average use. Mr. Willis stated that unfortunately the water was used and it did get sent to the sewer system for treatment so the charges must stand.

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

2.7 Gregory Ward, #10 Moose Lane

The appellant was not present at the meeting. This was a tabled appeal from the June 8, 2015 UAB meeting. The UAB had tabled the appeal to see if the usage had dropped back to normal after repairs and it has.

Mr. Willis made a motion to abatement 14 units of sewer at \$6.24 each, for at total of \$87.36, plus all accrued interest. Chairman Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.8 Stephen Patti, #21 Sheridan

The appellant was not present at the meeting. The board reviewed the appeal which stated that he had filled his pool and had not called begin and end reads into the billing office staff.

Mr. Willis made a motion to abatement 28 units of sewer at \$6.24 each, for at total of \$174.72, plus all accrued interest. Mr. Libby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.9 Poulin Realty, #47 Farmington Road

The appellant was not present at the meeting. Mr. Storer stated that he would like the board to table this appeal until November's meeting. He stated that he had planned to meet with Mr. Poulin to go over this issue prior to making a recommendation to the board and he has not done that yet.

Mr. Willis made a motion to table the appeal until the November 2015 Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Libby. The motion passed unanimously.

2.10 Joseph & Rebecca Stevens, 86 Eastern Ave

The appellants were not present at the meeting. Mr. Storer stated that he and the Water Meter Technician had gone out and met with the home owners. He stated that the meter was functioning properly and that there were no leaks noted while they were there. He stated that Mrs. Stevens did say that they had replace the toilet and Mr. Storer stated that the toilet feed line appeared new as well. Mr. Storer stated that Mrs. Stevens said she was going to be at this meeting and that it is possible that there may have been confusion over the meeting date as it had been changed to accommodate the Columbus Day Holiday. The board stated they could table the issue if the billing office would reach out and let them know the date of next months meeting.

Mr. Willis made a motion to table this appeal until the November 2015 Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Libby. The motion passed unanimously.

2.11 Irene Laurion, #8 Elizabeth Street

The appellant was not present at the meeting. This appeal had been tabled from last meeting to have the Water Meter Technician go out and inspect for leaks. None were found and based on the reading taken; the usage has gone back to normal.

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

3. Approve Minutes for September 14, 2015.

Chairman Peterson asked for a recommendation on last month's meeting minutes.

Mr. Willis made a motion to approve minutes for the September 14, 2015 minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Libby. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Water & Sewer Uncollected Accounts Receivables

Ms. Clark stated that the attached listing of uncollected receivables are for invoices dated from 1993 through 2007. She stated that these amounts require reconciliation each year and should be written off and accounts should be closed as uncollectible. This action will require a motion from the Utility Advisory Board.

Mr. Libby made a motion to credit all applicable invoices and accrued interest as presented, and any additional interest or charges accrued on all of the water and sewer accounts listed. Chairman Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Financial Reports

The board reviewed all financial reports

6. Adjournment:

Mr. Willis made a motion to adjourn at 6:47PM. The motion was seconded by Chairman Peterson. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Clark, City of Rochester Office Manager.