



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER UTILITIES COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: 271 Mast Road, Dover, NH
Meeting Date: **Monday, January 22, 2024**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

Members Present: Chairman Bret Carmichael, Vice-Chair Jay Stephens, Dennis Munson, Mark Moeller, Bill Davis

Staff Present: Michael Nadeau, Utilities Superintendent; Amelia DeGrace, Asst. City Engineer; Nancy Usbelger, Recording Secretary; Bill Purpura, Meter Backflow Foreman; Mike Banester, Working Foreman

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. User's Forum

3. Approval of Minutes of December 18, 2023

Motion: Munson made the motion to approve the minutes with the change to Section 5.B. adding the verbiage none after discussion., Davis seconded.

Vote: U/a

Mark Moeller arrived at 6:05 pm

4. Abatement Requests

A. Georgette Kostis – 9 Lisa Beth Circle

Nadeau called Ms. Georgette Kostis and put her on speaker so she could join the meeting.

Carmichael explained over the phone how the meeting worked and for her to please share why she feels entitled for the abatement.

Kostis shared that she normally uses about three units except for the summer, because her kids have a garden which they water. The question she has about the amount that was indicated that she used was during the winter, and she explained that she hadn't gone away and was home all the time. She said two guys came from the City to check if there were any issues and they said everything looked normal. So, she doesn't understand why she has tripled the usage during those winter months.

Nadeau explained that from January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023 and looking at the account through Beacon, it was the highest in the month of March. It does appear to be consistent with a leaking toilet, it shows about a 24-hour leakage.

Kostis said she feels that was not the case, she also had in addition to our City guys, a plumber come in to give an estimate on updating her bathroom. At that time, she had him double check that everything was working fine. She also shared that since she was a kid she has always waited till after she flushed for the toilet to stop running.



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Carmichael explained that the challenge that we have with running toilets is that it will run for a period of time then the next time you flush it won't run.

Nadeau stated the meter crew went in to her house in May to see if there was anything leaking, but that's not always fool proof.

Kostis is asking for the difference between what she normally uses to what the bill states.

Nadeau stated she does have one of the new meters.

Carmichael stated that these newer meters when they due error, they tend to favor the residents, and it does show that water was consumed during that time.

Stephens stated that our water meters can print out how much is used by day and that's what we're looking at. It does show every day that it was higher than normal, and since it occurred on multiple days, it seems like it wasn't just a one-time issue. It's hard to say there was a problem with the meter because it's a fairly consistent stretch.

Kostis stated she is extremely careful with running water and has been since she was a kid. She also stated that she didn't have any company nor was she away for the possible cause of high usage.

Munson asked how old her toilets were.

Kostis stated her toilets were probably about 10 years old and explained what type of toilet she has.

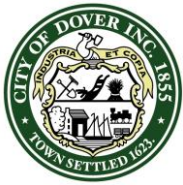
Munson said it is possible for that type of set up.

Kostis stated she washes the toilet about three times a week so she really doesn't think it was running.

Davis suggested maybe she would be interested in "Eye on Water".

Carmichael explained how "Eye on Water" works.

Nadeau stated he could help set her up for it tomorrow.



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Motion: Munson made the motion to abate half the amount requested if she signs up with Eye on Water, Moeller seconded.

Vote: U/a

5. Reports

A. Abatement Review Team Report

None

B. Utilities Report

The report was reviewed and discussed by staff.

C. Finance Report

The report was reviewed and discussed by staff.

Motion: Munson made the motion to approve the reports, Stephens seconded.

Vote: U/a

Amelia DeGrace arrived at 6:35 pm.

6. Old Business

None

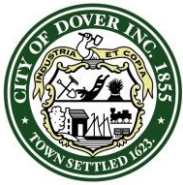
7. New Business

Nadeau shared that the Beacon mailer will be going out with this coming up billing. The EPA has mandated the City to have a record of service lines owned by the City and by the residents. We need to know the material type of the service lines. We need to have an inventory to meet federal and state requirements and in doing so we will need the public's help. There will be a link in the bill for residents to take a picture of their water service to inform us. We are still working on the details for what will need to be replaced.

Carmichael asked about the cost.

Nadeau informed everyone that the City is getting money from the State, such as grants.

DeGrace explained that the end goal is that all lead service lines will be required to be replaced. The City doesn't foresee a huge issue nor do we think we will find a lot of lead. There is a grant that the City has received for this. We have to have an inventory in place by October 16, 2024. If we have any unknowns we would have to treat them like they were lead and also notify the residents. We want as much information as possible so that we are not alarming people needlessly.



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Nadeau explained the lead comes from the lead goose neck, which comes from the water main. The City of Dover wasn't using lead Goose Necks by the late 40's & 50's. Whenever we have found one we have removed them.

DeGrace stated over the next couple of years Mike Nadeau will be going out to investigate high risk areas to double check for lead or high iron surfaces.

Carmichael asked if a resident receives a notice for it to be tested will there be any more information.

Nadeau said there will be literature that will go out to explain the testing going on. He also shared about the ongoing testing with water.

DeGrace said if we get any info that there could possibly be lead we will be replacing it. We plan to get information to residents to educate them.

8. Areas of Concern

9. Next Meeting Date

March 18, 2024

10. Adjournment

Motion: Munson made a motion to adjourn at 6:50 p.m., Davis seconded.

Vote: U/a