

MINUTES

Dover Utilities Commission

Public Works Facility Conference Room - 271 Mast Road

Monday, May 16, 2005 @ 4:15 p.m.

Chairperson: Jay Stephens
Vice Chairperson: Vacant
Members Present: Roland Hofemann, Arthur Hoffman, Dan Ayer,
Roland Belhumeur, Jay Stephens
Members Absent:
Staff Present: Doug Steele - Superintendent, Bill Boulanger -
Utilities Supervisor, Denise Taschereau -
Clerk/Typist

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 24, 2005

Motion: Stephens made a motion to approve the minutes. Hofemann seconded the motion. Vote U/A.

2. ABATEMENTS

A. **Ann Kelly - 41 Nelson Street** - Ms. Kelly stated she had a sewer back up in her basement. After she was unable to hire an outside contractor, she hired the City of Dover to complete the repair. She said that the reason that her sewer backed up was because there was a blockage in the pipe due to tree roots from a City Tree. She wanted to reach an agreement with the City regarding that cost of the repair and additional landscaping/lumber expenses. Boulanger explained that the City rearranged their work schedule to complete the repair at Ms. Kelly's property. He said that the sewer pipe was approximately 80 years old. The collapse of the pipe was under the stairs, which is why the stairs needed to be removed to complete the repair. Boulanger stated that he did not feel that the roots were the cause of the collapse. Steele stated that the stairs were in rough condition before the City moved them to complete the repair.

He also stated that the tree is in the City Right-Of-Way. Hofemann asked why the Agreement for Water/Sewer Repair Services Form that Ms. Kelly signed did not have a dollar amount on it. Boulanger responded that due to time constraints he did not calculate a formal estimate. He gave Ms. Kelly a verbal estimate. Stephens asked for clarification regarding the tree. Ayer asked "what part of the service are you unhappy with"? Kelly responded that she was unhappy with the delay in her abatement request and that the asphalt patch is falling apart. Ayer stated that the patch was probably a temporary patch. Hofemann asked if the sewer pipe that the City replaced was original. Boulanger responded that it probably was. He also stated that the section of pipe that was replaced was from the house to the road edge. Stephens asked where the tree was located. Boulanger responded that the tree was located off to the side of the sewer pipe location.

Motion: Ayer made the motion to deny the abatement. Seconded by Belhumeur. Vote U/A to deny abatement request.

Stephens then explained to Ms. Kelly that the Sewer Department is not responsible for the tree. He suggested that she could possibly speak to Paul Chalue at Facilities & Grounds, and speak to the finance department regarding payment options.

Ayer left meeting at 5:00 p.m.

B. James Reale - 22-24 Sixth Street - Mr. Reale stated that he requested the he receive a monthly water bill instead of a quarterly bill. He said that he was told that was not possible for residential customers, only commercial customers. Mr. Reale stated that his December bill was high, and had he received a monthly bill, he would have caught the high usage. He stated that this is a rental property, and that one of the tenants must have left the water on. Ayer asked if he thought that the water was not consumed. Mr. Reale responded that the water was consumed, but he is not sure how. Stephens suggested that Mr. Reale read the meter himself once a month.

Motion: Hoffman made a motion to deny the abatement request. Seconded by Ayer with an amendment request for monthly Billing for all of Mr. Reale's properties. Vote U/A to deny abatement request.

3. NEW BUSINESS

Andrea Kenter from GeoInsight requested permission to extend the City owned water line on Portland Avenue into Rollinsford. The extension would be approximately 800 - 900 feet. The reason for the request is that there has been detection of MtBE in two private wells that are adjacent to the Mr. Mike's Gas Station. There has been some sort of underground leak of gasoline, which has contaminated these wells. Stephens commented that the boundaries of the PUC would need to be extended. Stephens asked who would do that work. Ms. Kenter replied that she thought that Dean had already started that process.

Motion: Hoffman made a motion to give permission to extend the water line to lot #18, if needed. Seconded by Belhumeur. Vote U/A.

Hoffman asked Steele if anyone from the state had approached him to see if Dover would become a regional septage receptor. Steele responded no, and he does not think it would be a good idea. Hoffman commented that the state may force some municipalities to do it.

4. REPORTS

A. Utilities Report

Sewer: No violations at the WWTP. The new UV system is now complete. Charles Street Pump Station upgrade is scheduled to start in December. Test borings are being done for the Varney Brook Force Main. The City is working on getting an easement on Middle Road. The design for the Ela and Pearl Street Sewers is ongoing. The Durham Road Sewer Project is being evaluated.

Water: No bacteria problems. Preliminary design of the Bouchard Well is ongoing. Modeling is continuing on the mutual aid water project. Spring hydrant flushing has been completed.

B. Abatement Review Team

Steele reported that the City has not heard from any of the three residents that were discussed at the January 2005 Abatement Review Meeting.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Stephens asked Steele if there was any new information regarding abatement request of Lee Hunsaker which had been tabled at the last meeting. Steele responded that he will follow up on that request.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Belhumeur made the motion to adjourn at 5:45 pm. Seconded by Hoffman. Vote U/A.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Taschereau
Community Services Clerk/Typist