



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER UTILITIES COMMISSION - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: 271 Mast Road, Dover, NH
Meeting Date: **Monday, February 26, 2018**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

Members Present: Chairman Otis Perry, Vice Chairman Jay Stephens, Robert Berry, Mark Moeller, Norman Allie

Members Absent: Bret Carmichael

Alternate Member Present: Ron Lanton

Staff Present: Bill Boulanger, Deputy Director Community Services, Jennifer Bretz, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. User's Forum - None

3. Approval of Minutes of November 27, 2017

Motion: Munson made the motion to approve the minutes, Berry seconded.

Vote: u/a

4. Abatement Requests

A. 1 Samuel Hanson Avenue - David & Marybeth Mattingly

(11/27/2017 meeting referred to next meeting pending meter test)

Applicant was not present

Motion: Munson made the motion to refer to the next meeting, Moeller seconded.

Vote: U/a

B. 25 Reyners Brook Drive - Joseph Covert

Applicant stated that he and his spouse built their home in 1990 and raised two children. When he received the invoice in question, he was shocked at the amount. He filed an abatement. In the course of the abatement process, two City of Dover employees came to his home to check for leaks and found none. They also tested the meter. The Water & Sewer billing office was able to provide his billing records to him. Their average usage was 25.6 units. Their average bill was \$96.29. For the past seven years, it has only been himself and his wife living in the home. They installed an irrigation system in 2016. This past summer, the irrigation system ran three times per week. When he received the bill reflecting the summer usage, he didn't understand how the bill could be \$437.71. When they ran the irrigation system every day in the summer of 2016, their bill was lower. He doesn't understand how it could possibly be correct.

Moeller arrived at 6:15 p.m.

Boulanger stated that the meter tested out at 99.7%. There is no sewer usage at this home it is strictly water. Staff replaced their Badger meter with a Galaxy meter so that they would be able to see the current usage. He ran a report of their usage from 10/29/2017-12/20/2017. There are spikes in their report showing high usage.

Stephens stated that the report shows definite spikes in the usage. He's wondering if the spikes in usage were there before the new meter was installed.



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Covert stated that if there was some sort of leak he would be able to hear it. His wife still works but he is retired and home throughout the day. He washes the clothes. He runs the dishwasher every third day. They take showers in the morning. That is the extent of the water usage. With their most recent bill, the charge was \$25.00.

Perry stated that if there is a dispute, the City tests the meter. If the meter is testing accurately then that is what they have to go with.

Covert asked where would the water be going?

Perry stated he is unsure. There could be a leak in the irrigation system and it's just going onto the ground.

Discussion ensued regarding the unexplained usage.

Motion: Stephens made the motion to deny the abatement, Moeller seconded.

Vote: U/a

5. Reports

A. Abatement Review Team Report

The report was reviewed and discussed by Staff.

B. Utilities Report

The report was reviewed and discussed by Staff.

C. Finance Report

The report was reviewed and discussed by Staff.

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

Vote: U/a

6. New Business-None

7. Old Business

A. Lawn Watering Ban (tabled 11/27/2017)

8. Areas of Concern

Perry stated that he would like to introduce everyone to the new Alternate Member, Robert Lanten.

9. Next Meeting Date

March 19, 2018

10. Adjourn

Motion: Munson made the motion to adjourn at 6:58 pm, Moeller seconded.

Vote: U/a