

WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The Board of Water Commissioners met in open session on Tuesday February 1, 2022. The meeting convened at 7:00 P.M. via teleconference.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 1, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the City of Westfield Water Commission & Board of Public Works will be conducted via remote participation. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the City of Westfield website at www.cityofwestfield.org. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so by tuning into Channel 15 or online at westfieldtv.org. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the City's website an audio recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

The meeting was recorded via teleconference on the City of Westfield Community Program YouTube.

WATER ABATEMENT APPLICATIONS:

Office Manager Hannah Larkham presented three utility lien abatements to the Board. The first abatement was for 6 Union St. This property had a meter installed but uses very little water each quarter. When they finally used a substantial amount of water, it was found that the meter was installed backwards.

Unfortunately, the bill went unpaid and was lien towards the property. Hannah is looking to have the water consumption that was charged in clerical error removed from the lien.

Motion made by Commissioner Cole to approve utility lien abatement for 6 Union St in the amount of \$4,708.76. Motion seconded by Commissioner Niedzielski. Motion approved.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Cole- YES

Commissioner Niedzielski- YES

Commissioner Popielarczyk- YES

The second abatement Hannah presented to the Board was for 501 Southampton Rd. City Collector/Treasurer Matt Barnes received a visit from the owner of this property stating that they were being charged double for Stormwater. Hannah looked at the account and found that there are four water accounts associated with this property and two of them were being charged the Stormwater. She confirmed that they did indeed pay at least one of the rates, so they should not be charged the amount that is being lien. Hannah and Matt are looking to have the Stormwater charge be removed from the lien.

Motion made by Commissioner Niedzielski to approve the utility lien abatement for 501 Southampton Rd in the amount of \$836.00. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cole. Motion approved.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Cole- YES

Commissioner Niedzielski- YES

Commissioner Popielarczyk- YES

The third abatement Hannah presented to the Board was for 34-36 West School St. This property was charged two quarters with extremely high consumption. After an investigation done by the Department, it was found that the meter did not show any signs of leak or any internal issues with plumbing. The owner was not satisfied, so the Sensus meter was sent out for testing. The meter did come back faulty, so Hannah is looking to have the consumption that was over-charged removed from the lien.

Motion made by Commissioner Niedzielski to approve utility lien abatement for 34-36 West School St in the amount of 19,021.90. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cole. Motion approved.

Roll call vote:

- Commissioner Cole- YES
- Commissioner Niedzielski- YES
- Commissioner Popielarczyk- YES

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Commissioner Cole to approve the minutes as written for January 4, 2022 meeting of the Board of Water Commission. Motion seconded by Commissioner Niedzielski. Motion approved.

Roll Call Vote:

- Commissioner Cole- YES
- Commissioner Niedzielski- YES
- Commissioner Popielarczyk-YES

Project Updates

Water Systems Engineer spoke to the Board about some of the department updates. Wells 7 & 8 have been running with no issues. Well 2 is still on offline and on stand-by. Wells 3 & 4 carbon change out has been completed on half of the vessels. Both wells are running. Wells 5 & 6 are not being used at this time. The reservoir is full. Tank repairs have been put on hold for the winter and will pick up again in the spring. Provin Tank has been approved to be filled. The contracts for the new water service and building construction for the new Dry Bridge Treatment plant have been sent out for signature. The State Revolving Fund (SRF) has been squared away and ready to go. There are delays anticipated with materials so the City and vendors will work together on those issues as they come.

Adjourn

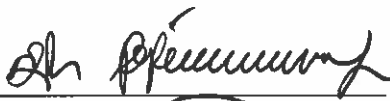
The next scheduled commission meeting will be held on March 2, 2022.

Motion made by Commissioner Cole to adjourn; Motion seconded by Commissioner Niedzielski, Motion approved.

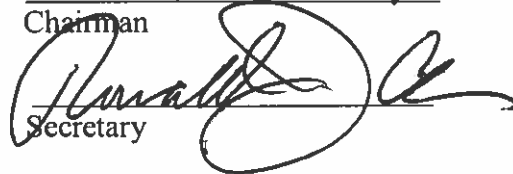
Roll Call Vote:

- Commissioner Cole- YES
- Commissioner Niedzielski- YES
- Commissioner Popielarczyk- YES

ADJOURN: 7:29 P.M.



Chairman



Secretary

Member