

WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The Board of Water Commissioners met for a special meeting on Wednesday, July 27, 2022. The meeting convened at 4:00 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:

54 Pontoosic Rd- At last month's meeting, David Ronayne, the estate representative, claimed that the property has been vacant for the past 5 years and the consumption charged to the two bills was inaccurate and does not seem feasible. Deputy Superintendent Steve Fernandes let the Board know that one of the Water Foreman were out near the property and heard the running water from inside the house so turned the water off at the curb. At this time there is believed to be a break within the property but it has not been fixed. The Board agrees that the amount charged does seem to be high but are concerned that if the curb was to be turned back on, the issue would not be resolved. The suggested abated amount presented to the Board last month was questioned for accuracy, resulting in the special meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Niedzielski to approve the utility lien abatement in the amount of \$2,445.67. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cole, motion approved.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Cole- YES

Commissioner Niedzielski- YES

Motion made by Commissioner Niedzielski to approve the abatement for bill number 739630 in the amount of \$515.81. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cole, motion approved.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner Cole- YES

Commissioner Niedzielski- YES

395 Western Ave- At last month's meeting, Jason Florek represented Westfield State University in regards to an abatement submitted for 395 Western Ave. In 2020, Westfield State had received a bill for water consumed over 2 million gallons. This building is an administration building so they believe there is no way they could have used the water. The Department sent out a technician to verify the meter and read and came back with no faults. The water consumption has gone back to normal with like quarters. The suggested abated amount presented to the Board last month was questioned for accuracy, resulting in the special meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Niedzielski to approve the abatement for bill number 730467 in the amount of \$14,670.53. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cole. Motion approved.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner Cole- YES

Commissioner Niedzielski- YES

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

Roll call vote:

Commissioner Cole- YES

Commissioner Niedzielski- YES

ADJOURN: 4:07 P.M.

Chairman



Secretary

Member

