

**Town of Millbury
Minutes of
Sewer Commission Meeting
April 13, 2021
Small Conference Room
ZOOM MEETING ID# 976 3271 1990**

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MILLBURY, MASS.

“Welcome to the April 13, 2021 meeting of the Sewer Commission. This meeting is being recorded and streamed by Millbury Public Access Cable Television. This Meeting is also available through Zoom.us/download. Anyone who is participating through Zoom.us/download should state their name and address when speaking.”

Attendees: Gary Nelson, Lisa Allain, Happy Erickson
Keith Caruso-DPW Director was absent
Guest speaker: Michael Stalzer - Singletary Arms

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Gary Nelson called the meeting to order at 4:41 pm.

ITEM TWO – MINUTES:

March 9, 2021 Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to approve the minutes Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor.

ITEM THREE – INVOICES:

All invoices were approved and signed. Lisa Allain asked if any Weston & Sampson bill were to be paid by the developer of Singletary Arms. There were 2 bills that needed to be invoiced to Singletary Arms which secretary will take care of.

Guest speaker: Michael Stalzer - Singletary Arms

Chairman Nelson spoke about good news from speaking to Weston & Sampson that the pipe will handle capacity of the project but Singletary Arms needs to TV the syphons to make sure that they are ok and do not need any upgrades. Weston & Sampson will do up a task order but he is looking at \$15,000, looking to have Mr. Backman to pick up the tab. There will be 2 invoices send to Singletary Arms for the project from Weston & Sampson. Mike Stalzer asked if the \$15,000 – 25,000 thousand was to scope the two syphons. Chairman Nelson stated yes. Betterment fees can not be changed but the I & I can be broken down for some sort of relief. Chairman Nelson will be in touch with Mike at a later date.

Once the Chairman asked for Mr. Clifford to come into the meeting the board granted his abatement. Discussion took place about setting a policy about the meter deduction program. The following is the policy was accepted by all members of the Board of Sewer Commissioners.

Happy Erickson asked if we could make a policy to have this as a one time grant for missing forms.

To All Meter Users:

The Board of Sewer Commissioners had their regular meeting on April 13, 2021. In that meeting they discussed the meter deduction program. The following policy was put into place and made effective as of 4/13/2021.

POLICY

METER DEDUCTION PROGRAM

The meter deduction program is the responsibility of the homeowner, it is also the homeowners' responsibility to make sure that their meter is working properly at all times. It is up to the homeowner to remember when the forms are due back. Any late forms will result in no deduction for that billing cycle. If for some reason something happens and your form is received late it is entirely the decision of the board on whether an abatement will be issued. The board has decided that a user will be allowed an abatement for a late form only once.

The meter deduction form goes out by mail twice a year, (last week of June and are due back the end of July) and (the end of December and are due back the end of January). Again, this is the responsibility of the homeowner to return the forms to the Sewer Department before the due date for processing.

The meter deduction program was set up as a consideration to residents for water usage outside of the home that does not enter the sewer system. Participation in this program does not guarantee a deduction or the right to an abatement.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Sewer Department at 508-865-9143.

Sincerely,
Sewer Commissioners

Gary Nelson
Lisa Allain
Happy Erickson

ITEM FOUR – OPERATIONS:

Keith Caruso was absent tonight

All abatements that are approved at tonight's meeting will fall under the one-time grace period for all the people who did not receive their meter deduction form.

ITEM FIVE – ABATEMENTS:

1: Suzanne Whitmarsh – 14 Autumn Gate Cir: Purchased home in 2019 was never told about the meter deduction program. Looking for any help they can get.

Billed: \$1,239.36 Abatement Request: \$645.50

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to **Deny abatement** of \$593.86, Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of Denial.

2: Tina Prockette - 16 Autumn Gate Cir – Mrs. Prockette had a contractor come to the home to install a water meter. Contractor told her that they would contact sewer department and let them know they installed a new meter. However, this was never done and homeowner is looking to had any help from very high bill.

Billed: \$2,788.56 Abatement Request: \$Any Help

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to **Deny abatement**, Chairman Nelson stated that this abatement was denied. The board was in favor of Denial.

3: Christopher Brothers – 22 Autumn Gate Cir – Clerical error. Clerk misplaced meter deduction form. Should have been billed for 35,000 thousand gallons.

Billed: \$1,097.35 Abatement Request: \$645.50 Abated to: \$451.85

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$645.50 Happy Erickson made the motion Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

4: William Bellerose – 24 Autumn Gate Cir – Homeowner stated they never received meter deduction form. Looking to have his bill reduced by **84,000** thousand gallons.

Billed: \$1,691.21 Abatement Request: \$1,084.44 Abated to: \$606.77 **One-time Grant.** Check to see what the past abatement was for. Approved based on what happened last abatement.

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$606.77. Happy Erickson made the motion Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

5: William Marchetta – 31 Beach St – Installed a new lawn. Did not know that watering lawn would affect sewer bill. Looking for any help with bill.

Billed: \$852.06 Abatement Request: any help

Chairman Nelson made the motion to **Deny abatement**, Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of Denial.

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Abatements Continued:

6: Steven Nozzolillo – 3 Bill Graham Ln – Homeowner stated that they never received meter deduction form. Looking to have his bill reduced by **3,000** thousand gallons.

Billed: \$955.34 Abatement Request: \$38.73 Abated to: \$916.61

One-time Grace.

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$38.73. Happy Erickson made the motion Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

7: Lynne Bordeaux – 7 Cyndy Ln – Homeowner stated that they never received their meter deduction form. Looking to have bill reduced by **9,000** thousand gallons.

Billed: \$335.66 Abatement Request: \$116.19 Abated to: \$219.47

One-time Grace.

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$116.19. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

8: Scott Johnson – 9 Diana Hill Dr – Looking for a 15,000-thousand-gallon deduction had a **leak in his pool** and looking for a pool deduction. Will be approved if we receive a receipt one week. 7 days from April 13, 2021. Due back by April 22, 2021.

Billed: \$1,097.35 Abatement Request: \$193.65 Abated to: \$903.70

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$193.65. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

9: Ben Pearson – 15 A-F Dorothy Rd – This is a metered account. Homeowner stated he never received his meter deduction form so he was billed for 6 units and should have only been billed for 5 family plus he is looking to be billed for **26,000** thousand gallons because he never received his form. **One-time Grace**

Billed: \$2,013.96 Abatement Request: \$335.66 Abated to: \$1,678.30

Billed: \$2,013.96 Abatement Request: \$1,678.30 Abated to: \$335.66

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$335.66. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

Chairman Nelson stated to check his last abatement and make sure that it was not for a meter deduction and if not then the second abatement would take place.

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$1,678.30. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

10: William Young – 37 Dorothy Rd - Homeowner stated that they never received meter deduction form looking to have a **12,000**-thousand-gallon deduction.

Billed: \$335.66 Abatement Request: \$154.92 Abated to: \$180.74

One-time Grace

Had an abatement in 2014 but not sure if we can find paperwork.

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$154.92. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

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Abatements Continued:

11: Gloria Boire – 4 Elm Ct - Received a leak adjustment from Aquarion looking for the same from the board. Aquarion gave a **45,000**-thousand-gallon deduction.

Billed: \$800.42 Abatement Request: \$580.95 Abated to: \$219.47

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$580.95. Happy Erickson made the motion Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

12: Ronald Bourdeau – 118 Grafton St - **This account should have been inactive.**

Home was sold in July 2019 and was torn down. New home is being built but not complete yet.

Billed: \$700.65 Abatement Request: \$671.32 Abated to: \$29.33

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$671.32. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

13: Daniel Gifford – 135 Grafton St - Homeowner stated that they did not receive meter deduction form. Looking for a **59,000**-thousand-gallon deduction.

Billed: \$1,782.09 Abatement Request: \$491.09 Abated to: \$1,291.00

One-time Grace.

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$491.09. Happy Erickson made the motion Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

14: James Walsh – 77 Horne Way - Should have been billed for **4,000** thousand gallons the read from 2.2021 was pulled into this bill and it should not have been.

Billed: \$142.01 Abatement Request: \$90.37 Abated to: \$51.64

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$90.37. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

15: Carrie Lindberg – 11 Irene Court - **Clerk error. Misplaced meter deduction form.**

Should have received a **44,000**-thousand-gallon deduction.

Billed: \$1,291.00 Abatement Request: \$722.96 Abated to: \$568.04

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$722.96. Happy Erickson made the motion Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

16: James Scott – 7 Jackie Drive - Resident stated that he never received meter deduction form. Looking for a **4,000**-gallon deduction. **One-time Grace.**

Billed: \$232.38 Abatement Request: \$57.64 Abated to: \$180.74

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$57.64. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

17: Jorge Duque – 24 Knollwood Cir - Homeowner filled pool in July 2020 did not know that he could file for a **pool deduction**. He is looking to have **13,000** thousand gallons deducted from his bill.

Billed: \$671.32 Abatement Request: \$167.83 Abated to: \$503.49

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$167.83. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

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Abatements Continued:

18: Richard Allard – 34 MacArthur Dr - Homeowner filled pool in July 2020 did not know that he could file for a **pool deduction**. He is looking to have **13,000** thousand gallons deducted from his bill.

Billed: \$335.66 Abatement Request: \$245.29 Abated to: \$90.37

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$245.29. Happy Erickson made the motion Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

19: Mike Novick – 38 MacArthur Dr - Homeowner stated that they did not receive meter deduction form. Looking for a **13,000**-thousand-gallon bill. This is a well account and they usually report what they use to us. **One-time Grace**.

Billed: \$348.57 Abatement Request: \$180.74 Abated to: \$167.83

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$180.74. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

20: Gail Walker – 54 A & B MacArthur Dr - Homeowner is stating no one lives in the apartment provided electric bills as proof. Looking for 1/2 taken off bill. Homeowner provided copies of electric bills for second apartment.

Billed: \$671.32 Abatement Request: \$335.66 Abated to: \$335.66

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$335.66. Happy Erickson made the motion Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

21: Stanley Swenson - 125 A-C Main St - Had a major **water leak**. Aquarion gave a **56,000**-thousand-gallon abatement looking for the same from the board.

Billed: \$2,104.33 Abatement Request: \$722.96 Abated to: \$1,381.37

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$722.96. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

22: Mark Martocci – 140 Main St - **This is the clerk's error**. Account should have been made inactive has been vacant for 3 or 4 years.

Billed: \$438.94 Abatement Request: \$438.94 Abated to: \$ 0

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$438.94. Happy Erickson made the motion and Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

23: Jeff Hall – 292 Millbury Ave - **This account had a fire in March 2020. Account should have been made inactive.**

Billed: \$51.64 Abatement Request: \$51.64 Abated to: \$0

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$51.64. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

24: Dennis Capurso – 2 Montgomery Dr - **Was a town owned property**. This property should have been made **inactive** in 2019 sold in Sept 2020 but home is under construction and there are no toilets currently in home.

Billed: \$335.66 Abatement Request: \$335.66 Abated to: \$0

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$335.66. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement

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Abatements Continued:

25: Ivana Popovac & Jared Beland – 10 Overlook Ave - Homeowner is stating that they purchased home in December 2020 and that it was vacant for a year before they purchased home. Looking for a 5-month abatement.

Chairman Nelson asked that this be checked with the Assessors to see when it was purchased. If purchased in December then abatement goes through.

Billed: \$35.66 Abatement Request: \$279.72 Abated to: \$55.94

Chairman Nelson made the motion and Lisa Allain seconded the motion. All were in favor of the abatement for \$279.72.

26: William Johnson – 3 Pinehurst Cir - Clerk misplaced meter deduction form. Should have been billed for **15,000** thousand gallons and not 103 thousand gallons.

Billed: \$1,329.73 Abatement Request: \$1,136.08 Abated to: \$193.65

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$1,136.08. Happy Erickson made the motion and Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

27: Karen Gagliardi – 6 Rayburn Dr - Clerk error. Misplaced meter deduction form. Looking for a **14,000**-thousand-gallon deduction.

Billed: \$464.76 Abatement Request: \$180.74 Abated to: \$284.02

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$180.74. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

28: William Bachand – 7 Rayburn Dr - Had a water leak in August. Received a 49,000-thousand-gallon deduction from Aquarion, looking for the same deduction from the board.

Billed: \$1,729.84 Abatement Request: \$632.49 Abated to: \$1,097.35

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$632.49. Happy Erickson made the motion and Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

29: Heidi Woll – 27 Rayburn Dr - Homeowner was not home when the meter was shut off and did not have a chance to take a photo before it as shut off and it is now turned back on and is looking for an 8,000-thousand-gallon deduction. One-time Grace.

Billed: \$890.79 Abatement Request: \$103.28 Abated to: \$787.51

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$103.28. Happy Erickson made the motion and Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

30: Jill Muller – 52 Rayburn Dr - May 12, 2020 meeting they were given an abatement because the meter was not working. They received a 40,000-thousand-gallon deduction. Homeowner found out that the meter was not working again and is looking for any help that the board can give.

Billed: \$1,988.14 Abatement Request: any help

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to **Deny abatement**. Happy Erickson made the motion and Lisa Allain seconded the motion to deny abatement. All were in favor of Denial.

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Abatements Continued:

31: Laurie Savoy – 8 Riverlin Pkwy - Well dried out in September 2020 did not have new well installed until December 2020. Looking to have 3 months taken off bill.

Billed: \$335.66 Abatement Request: \$111.90 Abated to: \$223.76

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$111.90. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

32: Jim Clifford – 92 S. Main St - Homeowner stated that they did not receive meter deduction form. This is a well account they usually self-report. He is looking to have a **13,000**-thousand-gallon bill instead of 26,000-thousand-gallon bill. This is a well account. **One-time Grace.**

Billed: \$335.66 Abatement Request: \$167.83 Abated to: \$167.83

Chairman Nelson wants clerk to check to see what his previous abatement was for and if it was not for the same thing than this abatement will hold.

Chairman Nelson made the motion to abate \$167.83 and Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

33: Susan & Joseph Fortunato – 27 Sullivan Pl - Clerk error. Misplaced meter deduction form. Looking for a **12,000**-thousand-gallon deduction.

Billed: \$219.47 Abatement Request: \$64.55 Abated to: \$154.92

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$64.55. Happy Erickson made the motion and Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

34: Peter Raymond – 6 A & B Waters St - Homeowner stated that this water was used on the outside of home. Mr. Raymond has a meter for outside use but has never used it. He did not think his bill would be this high from outside water usage. He is looking to see if he can have 1/3 taken off bill.

Billed: \$1,252.27 Abatement Request: looking for 1/3 off bill

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to **Deny abatement**. Lisa Allain made the motion to deny abatement and Happy Erickson seconded the motion to deny abatement. All were in favor of Denial.

35: Glen Zona – 8 Mildred Ave - Homeowner stated that he did not received his meter deduction form this is a well account and he usually self-reports. He is looking for a **14,000**-thousand-gallon deduction. He would have been billed for **12,000** thousand gallons and not the **26,000** thousand gallons. **One-time Grace.**

Billed: \$335.66 Abatement Request: \$180.74 Abated to: \$154.92

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$180.74. Happy Erickson made the motion and Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

36: Michael & Laurie Corkey – 15 Irene Court – Homeowner stated that they did not receive meter deduction form. They are looking for a **32,000**-thousand-gallon deduction. Billed: \$981.16 Abatement Request: \$413.12 Abated to: \$568.04

One-time Grace.

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$413.12. Happy Erickson made the motion and Lisa Allain seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

37: Sakar Bhasin – 4 Taft Cir - Had a **major water leak**. Aquarion gave them an 82 hundred cubic feet deduction. Looking for the same from the board which equals **143.5** thousand gallons. Chairman Nelson stated that the calculation for this is incorrect it should be for **61,000 thousand gallons**.

Billed: \$3,214.59 Abatement Request: \$787.51 Abated to: \$2,427.02

Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to abate \$787.51. Lisa Allain made the motion and Happy Erickson seconded the motion all were in favor of abatement.

ITEM SIX – BETTERMENTS:

Nothing at this time

ITEM SEVEN – SEWER EXTENSION/CONNECTIONS:

Nothing at this time

ITEM EIGHT – ADDITIONAL TOPICS:

Don Obuchowski from Sutton Superintendent wants to come to our next meeting. He is upset because we have not sent Sutton sewer bills.

Chairman Nelson does not want to send out these bills because they are not correct. He would like to wait until the new Finance Director starts and he will speak to her about these bills.

Town of Sutton sewer Invoices

1st July 2020 through September 2020 bill for \$55,000

2nd October 2020 through December 2020 bill for \$55,000

Plus, with the intermunicipal agreement Sutton is liable for 18% of the sewer break we had on Canal Street.

Chairman Nelson asked if the board had a chance to go up to Clearview and see the progress.

American Alarm sent letters to upgrade 13 pump stations. The 3G is going silent. The board agreed to have the pump stations upgraded as soon as possible.

ITEM NINE – FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next regular scheduled meetings will be held on May 11, 2021 and May 25, 2021. Meetings will be held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month unless otherwise posted and/or cancelled.

ITEM FIVE – ADJOURNMENT

At 6:20 p.m. Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to adjourn, Happy Erickson made the motion to adjourn and seconded by Lisa Allain all were in favor.


Roll Call Vote: Lisa Allain; yes, Gary Nelson; yes.

(More information about this meeting can be found on the VOD Millbury Public Access channel)

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Billington
Clerk-Sewer Department



Gary Nelson



Lisa Allain



Happy Erickson