

**June 8, 2020**

The meeting is called to order remotely via Zoom by Chairman Abbott at 2:00 p.m. due to technical difficulties. Mr. Abbott recites the Executive Order on Remote Participation. He then tells all that will be participating in the meeting: John Hasenjaeger, William Abbott, Patrick Fasanello, Glenn Maffei, John Spillane, Lisa Sinkus and Marilyn Thompson of the Finance Department, Bernie Marshall, Jim Johnson, Scott Gustafson, Mary Frisbee, Jodi Cuneo and Rick Mattson.

**PUBLIC RATE HEARING**

Chairman Abbott announces: \*Per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A sec. 20 the public will not be allowed to physically access this Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners meeting. Members of the Public will be able to view this meeting on Walpole Media Cable Access the following day. The Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners reserves the right to implement additional remote participation procedures and will notify the public of these procedures as soon as practicable.

**Motion Made** by Glenn Maffei to open the rate hearing. Second by John Hasenjaeger. Spillane –Aye, Fasanello – No, he says he is voting no because he feels we should be doing this in a physical setting and he would rather see it postponed until this could happen, Hasenjaeger – Aye but would like to agree with Mr. Fasanello that no more meetings should be held this way as technology is not up to par, Maffei – Aye, and Abbott – Aye.

Mr. Abbott first wants to give some background and some context to this hearing. He says back in December of 2019 at one of the Board's regular meetings it became clear that they were not going to meet their revenue target and may even be off by a million dollars and at that meeting they learned that they have had this problem that the rates were not delivering the revenue by the rates that had been set. This has been happening in fiscal year 17, 18, 19 and now 20. The shortfalls in fiscal years 17, 18, and 19 had been overcome by the entrance fees which came in much higher than anticipated and from a budget standpoint we did not have a shortfall in these years, it was just not brought in the way they had planned. There was concern that the entrance fees for 2020 might not cover the shortfall for this year. A mid-year rate increase was considered but there was a question as to how much the rates would have to be raised. The other option was to put an article on the spring town meeting seeking authority to use retained earnings to make up for the shortfall and by doing that we would get closer to the end of the fiscal year and also get a closer number. They also learned in calculating the rates for fiscal years 17, 18, 19, and 20 the rates were calculated using 88 million cubic feet and each of these years had used less than the 88 million. In looking at the current consumption it looks like it is going to be 73 million cubic feet so this is the number they are going to use in calculating the FY21 rates. As of this date we will have a shortfall for the water rates and will be adjusting it with water retained earnings. In setting the FY21 rates without retained earnings they were looking at approximately 14% increase which they knew was not going to be acceptable. At their meeting of May 18<sup>th</sup> the Board decided that they had to do something to reduce this. They decided that they would not do any capital projects in FY 21, the work that needed to be done would be postponed for a year. They also decided to use \$300,000 of retained earnings to bring down the rate. Another thing they agreed upon was to increase the commercial rates in tiers 3 and 4 to match the residential rates. In looking at the impact to the commercial accounts they decided it would be too much of a burden so they opted to go half way and increase to the entire amount in a subsequent year. This would be a 7.04% increase. Mr. Abbott then shares the rate sheet provided by administration showing expenses and revenues and goes through them line by line to show how they have come up with the new rate for FY21, including the use of \$300,000 of retained earnings being used. There is very minimal increase in expenses compared to last year mostly due to the fact that they are not doing any capital and is \$260,316 less than last year. Mr. Abbott tells that Mr. Maffei has come up with alternative proposals and asks that he explain. Mr. Maffei expresses his concerns and asks the Board to consider using more retained earnings to lower the rates as he

feels we may be undershooting. He is proposing to use \$400,000 of retained earnings as there is \$2.8 million and this would bring down to only \$2.4 million and give us an increase of 4.79%. He feels this would be an incremental approach and allow us to accumulate additional data and establish a clearer consumption trend. Mr. Abbott says his concern with doing this that in FY22 the plan is to go back and start doing capital work again, we are in the middle of updating the SCADA system which is the control of the whole water operations. We would normally be scheduling the SCADA phase 2 in this next fiscal year and also there is a problem with the filters at the Delaney Plant which Rick and Bernie have recommended that rehab be done to all the other filters at the Delaney. His concern is we are taking out \$300,000 to \$400,000 and will have to do a similar thing in the next fiscal year, plus doing some capital work. Mr. Maffei says his concern is that the 73 million might be artificially low but is not sure that it is. If it is then we could collect more revenue than expected, which we won't know until we have another year of data. He agrees that we do not want to rely heavily on retained earnings but he considers it to be a one-time thing based on this big move with the estimate. Mr. Abbott says another thing to keep in mind is that he just got the May revenue figures and it looks like they may end up with a shortfall between \$600,000 and \$700,000 for this fiscal year. We would be taking out the \$6 or \$700,000 plus the \$400,000 that Mr. Maffei is recommending and this would take the retained earnings down from \$2.8 million to \$1.8 million and this is where we would be starting for the FY22 rates, where we will start to do capital work. Mr. Spillane says with the \$2.8 million in reserve, he will not vote for a rate increase of more than 3%. Mr. Abbott explains that this was a wet year which he shown the production at each meeting and it has been 10% less than past history. If just because of a wet season we would not have seen a reduction in each month. The reduction in the amounts consumed is not just due to the weather. Mr. Spillane asks if we are using less water then why doesn't the production costs go down. Mr. Abbott explains that we need certified and trained technicians for the production and need the same number of people there. The only reductions would be in the electricity and the chemicals. Mr. Marshall says there has not been any reduction of these items and generally costs go up. Mr. Hasenjaeger responds to Mr. Spillane's question and says the production of most utilities are primarily fixed costs. He adds that people are eating out more, using bottled water and have new appliances that use less water which would account for decreased pumping. The staff has an excellent program which motivates people to use low flow items and the restraints on outside sprinklers. He feels the seasonal gap and the additional housing will have an effect on things. In the long term we will have to accept the fact that residents will use less water. He is willing to take some money from the reserve to soften the blow and is opened minded to all ideas. Mr. Fasanello that he is not happy with the technical part of this meeting. He feels we are losing control as he always felt the increase should be 2 ½ % like the taxes. He suggests augmenting the rate by using some of the snow removal money as it did not snow much or taking it off of the indirect costs. Mr. Maffei says no one has mentioned the idea of raising one tier differently than each of the other tiers. He was wondering what it would take to raise the first tier 3% and have tiers 2, 3, and 4 raised 4.79%. Mr. Abbott responds that it could probably be done but it would be very difficult to determine the revenue that would be lost by the reduction. Mr. Johnson says he understands where the board is coming from however he is really frustrated and apologizes for the technical problems with Zoom. He says the budgets for sewer and water have been developed with sound practices. As all know there were many challenges over the past year with the rates and all have tried to navigate the best they could. The rates recommended to the board have been given a lot of thought and a lot of input by all departments that are on this call. They tried to responsibly balance the rate increase to cover the actual costs. At this time they are projecting a deficit for FY20 at \$200,000 for water and at \$500,000 to \$600,000 for sewer which everyone already knows. These deficits will be absorbed through the retained earnings. We have kept the rates artificially low for this fiscal year and the ratepayers will receive the benefits for that. Currently retained earnings for water is at \$2.7 million and sewer is at \$2.1 million. By covering the deficit water retained earnings will drop to \$2.5 million and sewer retained earnings will drop to \$1.5 million. Mr. Johnson says that based on Mr. Abbott's research, he recommends that sewer be increased by 0% and water be increased by 7.04%. He tells Mr. Fasanello that the water rate

is a big jump however sewer and water rates are not bound by the 2 ½ %. He feels there has been a lot of infrastructure done in the past few years and we have kept the rates down and now need to make up for it in some way. He feels if we go any lower we will have to dip in further into the retained earnings for FY21. He says our consultants told us all this and we don't use one time money on the operational side of the budget. He does not think it is very responsible in doing this and would like to get away from it as much as possible. He worries that it will catch up to us and the well will run dry. We are already using \$300,000 on the water side and if we take another \$400,000 it won't cripple us but eventually will catch up to us. Mr. Marshall says that Mr. Johnson is absolutely right. Mr. Abbott adds that he has also done some work this past week just estimating what would happen if we used \$450,000 to \$500,000 to get the rate to a 3% increase or \$400,000 to get to a 4.79% increase the board would have to decide not to do any capital work and would easily be down to \$950,000 for FY22 in water retained earnings. Mr. Abbott then speaks about a bit of trouble they ran into previously when they encountered a bit of contamination at the High Plain Street water tank and the money to correct this problem had to be borrowed because the water retained earnings had gotten so low. Mr. Mattson adds that there were actually 2 appropriations for this project and some retained earnings were used but the entire project cost was close to \$1 million. Mr. Mattson asks Mr. Abbott if he has the dollar value increase for the average user in tier 1. Mr. Maffei says he has \$74.00 and Mr. Abbott adds that this would be for the year. Mr. Abbott then adds that 47% of their customers only use tier 1. At the proposed 7.04% the bill per quarter would increase by \$5.23 if 1500 c.f. were to be used which is the maximum in tier 1. Mr. Mattson does not agree with Mr. Maffei's figure. Mr. Abbott says 47% of our water users use 500 c.f. per month or less. Mr. Mattson says his point is that it is \$15.00 over the course of the entire year for those 47% of people and he doesn't believe people should get caught up on percentages. He feels people understand actual dollars rather than percentages. He feels a \$14.00 annual increase is negligible and to jeopardize retained earnings to an unsafe level is not sound business practice. He would like to caution the board about going there. Mr. Marshall would like to echo Mr. Johnson and Mr. Mattson. He feels 7% is justifiable and to lower retained earnings any more could cause things to spiral out of control and will not be able to do any projects. Mr. Maffei says he did receive a couple of emails about increasing rates given what is going on right now with people losing their jobs and he feels it would be a good idea to hear from anyone else that might be attending. The first question asks if the meeting meets the requirements for a public meeting as there is no public input. Mr. Johnson responds that it does as we are able to interact with the public. The next question is regarding family size and the fact that families are spending much more time at home during this time. Mr. Abbott responds that this was given consideration when setting the blocks and the purpose of the inclining blocks is that if you are irrigating your lawn this is non-essential water use and therefore you would pay a higher price for this. A question is asked if it is possible to refinance debt as the rates go lower. The Finance Director, Ms. Thompson, says the projects she just financed were at 3.25% and previous projects were lower than this. Also there are only certain times that you can refinance and the projects in question cannot be refinanced at this time and their rates are lower anyway. Lastly one says that debt payments are the largest expense item and Mr. Abbott agrees. Ms. Thompson says this due to the water main replacement over the past few years. Mr. Abbott also speaks of the debt incurred by the Willis Treatment Plant. Ms. Thompson adds that there is another project coming up. One of the viewers asks about the water demand due to new units being built in town and Mr. Abbott reviews the number of units and states that this fiscal year will not see a lot of consumption as they are still under construction. Mr. Mattson speaks of the change in the Water Management Policy over the past three years which would also lead to the reduction in pumping and consumption. He then reminds of the looming Water Management Permit which may also reduce consumption. Mr. Abbott reminds of the current Water Management Policy. The next question was if the town has looked at outside sources for billing and collection as it seems the percentage is very high. Mr. Abbott says there was about three years ago a brief thought but the functions will not be eliminated and the bills are already outsource the actual billing. He does not believe they would save any money. There is then a comment that notices are conflicting and ambiguous. Mr. Abbott explains that when posted we did

not have the ability to allow the public to speak and being the first time it took 30 minutes to get it right. Also they have been advised by Town Administration that this is legal. Mr. Johnson tells that everyone had the ability to submit their questions to the secretary and now the chat function is available, so public input has been allowed. Mr. Hasenjaeger asks Mr. Johnson why the board can't have a physical meeting that is spaced 6 feet. Mr. Johnson explains that he is trying to figure the logistics of it and is currently working with the Board of Health to see the best approach to get this done. Mr. Abbott says they will attempt to have their next meeting to be in person. He then gets back to the rates and says there were 2 proposals, one was 7.04% and the other 4.79%. He would like to hear from anyone who would like to comment. Ms. Cuneo, Town Accountant, would like to state that they have been doing this for many years and over the last few years we seem to follow the same pattern and this fiscal year we hit a deficit mark. She says things are concerning in the financial part where if we keep on dipping into retained earnings we are going to be in trouble. In a matter of time if we keep taking to address the deficit there will be nothing left. She would prefer that the less retained earnings used to cover the rates the better. Mr. Hasenjaeger feels that Mr. Maffei makes a compelling point in that these are not normal times and there are many people out of jobs and may not have a job to go back to. Many are not able to pay their mortgages or rents. He feels if there is ever a time to maintain relief it would probably be right now. Mr. Mattson says he shares Ms. Cuneo's concerns and the rest of the team but the proposal of Mr. Maffei to use an additional \$100,000 to bring the rate to 4.7% increase is equitable and will not harm the operations. He agrees that it should not be a standard practice but for this one year and while we figure out exactly what we are doing with the inclining block. Also with the slowdown in construction entrances fees weren't what they expected and he does not expect this will happen again next year. He believes Commissioner Maffei's proposal is a good one. Mr. Abbott then shows a sheet with the different cost scenarios. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to increase the water rate by 7.04% as suggested by Administration. There is no second. **Motion Made** by John Hasenjaeger to increase the water rate by 4.7% as suggested by Commissioner Maffei. Second by Glenn Maffei. Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – Aye, Spillane – No, Fasanello – No, and Abbott – Aye. Vote 3-2-0, Fasanello and Spillane against.

The sewer rate is discussed and Mr. Abbott reviews the worksheet provided by Administration. He says the items on the sheet are basically the same as the water worksheet. Eighty percent of the expenses is due to the MWRA Sewer Assessment which is \$5,147,299. In this case we were not proposing to use any retained earnings and it was proposed to have -2.48% reduction. Mr. Spillane and Mr. Hasenjaeger both says they are good with this. Mr. Maffei asks if this is a proposal to keep the rate flat at 0% or reduce the rate. Mr. Abbott says this is the worksheet from Administration however Mr. Mattson has suggested a 0% increase to the rate. Mr. Maffei likes the idea of lowering the rate while it does not have an effect on our budget. Mr. Fasanello as representative for the Town with the MWRA says it is nice to see a reduction in the sewer rate however infrastructure of Deer Island will need an overhaul and in looking at the MWRA budget, this will probably be the only time we ever see a reduction in our assessment. Mr. Abbott it does not look like we will use retained earnings in the coming year however in the current fiscal year we will probably have to use \$200,000 of retained earnings to balance the FY20 budget. Mr. Hasenjaeger tells that Mr. Moraski is saying that the meeting needs to be closed before we can take a vote. Mr. Johnson says this is the way it has always been done and we have never done it this late in the year but he would really like to get this done. Mr. Abbott says it was advertised as a water and sewer public hearing and also our regulations. The board is informed that once the public hearing is closed the rates have to be voted. The board will take an official vote after the hearing is closed. Mr. Mattson expresses concern over reducing the sewer rate. He says he agrees with Mr. Fasanello in that if anyone knows the inner workings of the MWRA sooner or later they will have to upgrade much of their infrastructure and so comes the bill. What he is fearful of is if we give a decrease in the sewer rate now when the note comes in their will be a significant spike on the sewer side. He would like to see the rate stay as it is. Mr. Abbott adds that we are expected to have a sewer shortfall for the current fiscal year. Mr. Hasenjaeger says Mr. Mattson's statement makes sense. He just wonders if the MWRA is going to have a spike why would they be giving

us a reduction. Mr. Fasanello feels it is the MWRA's intent to show that they are mindful of the economic situation. Mr. Hasenjaeger responds that if we don't pass it on to the consumer then we are not achieving their objective. Mr. Maffei suggests splitting the difference. Mr. Mattson would like to remind that the MWRA did not reduce our assessment, they did not raise it as much. It still went up .7 the projected increase was 4.2%. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to reduce the sewer rate by 2.48%. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – No, Spillane – Aye, Fasanello – Aye, and Abbott – No. Vote 3-2-0, Maffei and Abbott against.

Mr. Abbott says the final item is the I/I fee that is in our regulations. He says now that the lawsuits are settled it is determined that our I/I fee is an unlawful tax. We do have the funding using the MWRA loan/grant phases which town meeting had approved and that would account for \$1.2 million which we only had to pay ¼ of it back and this can be done over 10 years. If we do not change our current policy where for every gallon put in you either have to pay an amount or take out 2.31 gallons of sewage out of the system. That procedure made sense when you had a leaky system but we have been addressing I/I for a very long time. We now have a pretty tight system and the problem now faced with is if you come up with a small connection to sewer we could probably find a manhole or two to repair. When you come up with a large development we can't identify those gallons, so they pay money and the town is responsible for doing the work. It becomes an unlawful tax because there is no specific benefit to the development, it's a maintenance item. We have the MWRA funds which has been going on for many years. The DEP says we must have a program in place which we do, it must have a source of funding however it does not specify what the source must be so the MWRA funds are quite substantial and he suggests we eliminate the I/I fee and amend our regulations. Mr. Abbott asks for comments from the board members. Mr. Hasenjaeger abstains from any comments. Mr. Maffei supports the recommended change and feels it time that the old way is thrown out and only raise revenue if needed. Mr. Fasanello does not think we should be too hasty and feels it should be discussed further. He plans to abstain on this. Mr. Abbott says his concern is that we have already been sued and precedence has been set on that and unless we change things we will be inviting others to sue and will be returning money again. Mr. Hasenjaeger says he had previously asked to Town Counsel for legal recommendation on this. Mr. Johnson recommends that the Board vote this as there are already funds from the MWRA and have also resolved a lot of the problems. Mr. Abbott says he has spoken to Counsel regarding this and although there is no official wording, there were options given. Mr. Johnson says he is not going to tell the board what to do but he also said that what is proposed is fine. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to reduce our current I/I fee to 0 on the fee schedule however continue the I/I program using funds such as the MWRA's loan/grant program. Second by John Hasenjaeger. Mr. Fasanello wishes to comment. He says with the new apartments and projects there will be an increased use of the sewer system which will increase the flow and then you will discover new leaks. He does not believe I/I should be thrown out completely. He thinks it should be looked at through the entrance fees. Mr. Abbott responds that the entrance fee is to address a capacity issue. He agrees increased flow will show new problems in the system however the problem with charging the developer is that they do not receive a benefit that others don't get. We can still address these problems using the MWRA's loan/grant funds. Discussion is held. A straw vote is taken. Vote Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – Aye, Spillane – Aye, Fasanello – Aye, and Abbott – Aye. Vote 5-0-0. Mr. Johnson wants to clarify the vote on the sewer rate as he and the Finance Department were unsure of the vote. There is discussion and a confirmation motion is taken on the sewer rate via straw vote is taken. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to set the sewer rate 2.48% less than what the rate is currently. Second by John Hasenjaeger. Mr. Hasenjaeger then asks to confirm that the motion is the recommendation of Administration and Mr. Johnson says no, their recommendation is 0%. Mr. Abbott replies that this was not what was presented in their package. Mr. Mattson explains that the new worksheet came after packages went out so the board never saw that recommendation. Vote on the motion Fasanello – Aye, Spillane – Aye, Maffei – No, Hasenjaeger – Aye, Abbott – No. Straw vote results 3-2-0 Abbott and Maffei against. Mr. Abbott says we also have an out of town sewer rate which is currently \$134.59 per 1000 cubic feet. He asks if anyone would like to make a

motion to reduce the out of town rate by 2.48% as we did the in town rate. None of the Commissioners are interested in such a motion so the out of town rate will remain at \$134.59 per 1000 cubic feet. Mr. Abbott then refers to the fee schedule and regulation of 2.3:1 ratio for removal of I/I and this will be removed from both. **Motion Made** by John Hasenjaeger to close the public rate hearing. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote Fasanello – Aye, Maffei – Aye, Spillane – Aye, Hasenjaeger – Aye, and Abbott – Aye. Mr. Abbott says we will now take the official votes. **Motion Made** by John Hasenjaeger to increase the water rate for fiscal year 2021 by 4.79% effective July 1, 2020. Second by Glenn Maffei. Vote Fasanello – Abstain, Maffei – Aye, Spillane – No, Hasenjaeger – Aye, and Abbott – Aye. Final vote 3-1-1, Fasanello abstains and Spillane against. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to reduce the in town sewer rate by 2.48% for fiscal year 2021 and effective July 1, 2020. Second by John Hasenjaeger. Vote Fasanello – Aye, Spillane – Aye, Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – No, Abbott – No. Final vote 3-2-0, Maffei and Abbott against. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to make the fee from the current fee schedule for inflow and infiltration \$0 and to continue the Inflow and Infiltration Program using the money from the MWRA Loan/Grant Program to fund it. Second by John Hasenjaeger. Vote Fasanello – Aye, Spillane – No, Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – Aye, Abbott – Aye. Final vote 4-1-0, Spillane against.

Minor corrections are made to the minutes of March 9, 2020. **Motion Made** by John Hasenjaeger to approve the minutes of March 9, 2020 with corrections. Second by William Abbott. Vote Fasanello – Aye, Spillane – Aye, Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – Aye, Abbott – Aye. Vote 5-0-0.

Minor corrections are made to the minutes of May 18, 2020. **Motion Made** by Glenn Maffei to approve the minutes of May 18, 2020 with corrections. Second by John Spillane. Vote Fasanello – Aye, Spillane – Aye, Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – Aye, Abbott – Aye. Vote 5-0-0.

## **SUPERINTENDENT’S STATUS REPORT**

Mr. Marshall reports the residuals have been removed at the Willis and Delaney and the lagoon will be cleaned and will put in a filter curtain once cleaned. Wright Pierce is working on the sludge system design at the Delaney. SCADA RFP bids are due July 9. Weston and Sampson has 90% complete drawings for Chandler and Leonard Rd pump station upgrades. The staff is working on gate maintenance and drain clearing. Since last seen there has been one service leak. Jarvis Farm has been cleaned and all the boards are in for the water level. He is continuing with D.L. Maher well cleanings. Mr. Abbott asks what well is being cleaned now and he responds Washington 3A for a full clean and Washington 3B. Mr. Hasenjaeger asks if there are plans for a swimming program at Jarvis and Mr. Marshall responds no, it was to clean the litter for preventative maintenance.

## **SUMMER ST. 40B INFORMATION**

Mr. Abbott says in looking at the plans he does not see how they are addressing the looping of the water main. Mr. Marshall says right now they have taps that are about 50 feet apart off of Summer Street. He and the Town Engineer looked at it and it is not very practical and they have asked for the Town to have peer review and he was hoping the review would address this. He feels the sewer system looks good. Notes have been sent to the Planning Board which are relative to their drawings and cluster gating. Mr. Abbott says as he understands it they are addressing the looping by having a pipe at the entrance to their property going around and then having another pipe 50 feet away which is the exit. Is this practical? Mr. Marshall responds that it is a loop and will obviously eliminate the dead end inside that property but he does not believe it will solve anything other than that. Mr. Fasanello says it gives you redundancy and the exit can be used later on, it’s not the best solution but is better than having one single line coming in. Mr. Abbott asks if the possibility was discussed of going across the tracks and connecting to Neponset St. Mr. Marshall says he has not seen anything like this. Mr. Abbott says this would be an option for them and Mr. Fasanello says this idea would be much better. Mr. Hasenjaeger says since the start of the project the

applicant has bought property from Baker Hughes and there was water for them on both sides of the track. They could probably get an agreement with Baker Hughes. Mr. Marshall responds that this could be a suggestion to the Planning Board and Mr. Abbott says he believes it should be a requirement and we can let them reject it and tell us why. There is discussion on installing mains under the tracks.

#### **SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST – 8 OLD FISHER LANE**

This was a leak and the homeowner has supplied the plumbing bill which is their responsibility. He is asking for a sewer abatement for a broken water pipe from freezing temperatures. Mr. Abbott says if the water did not go into the sewer if they were on sewer. The water went through the meter so he is responsible for that. Mr. Maffei suggests having all the water billed in the first tier. Mr. Abbott says we have not done this in the past and Mr. Maffei responds that we could set a new precedent. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to issue a sewer abatement for the water that did not enter the sewer. Second by Glenn Maffei. Vote Fasanello – Aye, Spillane – Aye, Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – Aye, Abbott – Aye. Vote 5-0-0.

**Motion Made** by Glenn Maffei to abate an additional amount of \$61.81 which would be the additional savings should it all be billed in tier 1. There is no second.

#### **SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST – 65 FEDERAL STREET**

Mr. Abbott explains that in November there was a significant leak outside where a pipe burst while they were away. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to abate the amount of \$366.59 which would be the sewer charge that did not enter the sewer system due to the leak. Second by John Spillane. Vote Fasanello – Aye, Spillane – Aye, Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – Aye, Abbott – Aye. Vote 5-0-0.

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS UPDATE OF 40B PROJECTS**

This is read and noted.

#### **1087 WASHINGTON STREET – SEWER CONNECTION REQUEST**

Mr. Abbott says there is a request here for sewer and water connection. Mr. Fasanello asks if it is two sewer lines and Mr. Mattson responds that it is one sewer line for two buildings which is just like a previous situation on Common Street. Mr. Abbott says the sewer would be from the garage/shop to the sewer line at the house and there would be one connection to the main and the water would come from the house to the garage/shop using one connection. Mr. Mattson says the question is if the property is ever separated and sold so he would suggest that if this is allowed that the Commission get a deed restriction as was done on Common Street. **Motion Made** by Glenn Maffei to approve the applicants request conditional on a deed restriction being provided that should the property be separated and sold that separate connections would be made prior to this. Second by William Abbott. Vote Fasanello – No, Spillane – Aye, Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – Aye, Abbott – Aye. Vote 4-1-0. Fasanello against.

#### **29 ALBANY ROAD WATER USE**

Mr. Abbott says the homeowners are letting us know the outside meter for irrigation has been installed and inspected. The Board is told that the last meeting with them the Board was looking for information as to whether or not the Water Management Policy was abused so a determination could be made of their request to abate some of their charges. Mr. Abbott says he believes the position of the Board was not to abate any of the charges. The Board agrees that this issue is resolved and nothing will be changed.

#### **REQUEST FOR WATER SERVICE ON DOVER PARCELS**

The Board is told that Town Counsel is reviewing the Legislation and has not yet responded to our request.

**Motion Made** by John Spillane to adjourn. Second by Glenn Maffei. Vote Fasanello – Aye, Spillane – Aye, Hasenjaeger – Aye, Maffei – Aye, Abbott – Aye. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

*Accepted August 10, 2020*