**JOHNSTOWN WATER BOARD**

**Meeting Minutes**

**october 13, 2020 6:00 pm**

The meeting will be held in the City of Johnstown Council Chambers located on the second floor of City Hall.

Due to COVID-19, the meeting is closed to the public, but will be broadcast using Facebook Live. The public can

view the meeting live on the “Johnstown Water Department” Facebook page.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board President Capparello called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDEES

Michael Capparello, Board President Susan Miller, Water Department Typist

Brandon Lyon, Board Vice President Michael Poulin, City of Johnstown Attorney

Ralph Marotta, Board Member Bradley Hayner, Common Council Liaison

Mark Empie, Board Member

George DiMarco, Board Member

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF CLERK**

Board President Capparello advised that Water Board Clerk Barbara Koehler submitted her resignation letter on September 22, 2020 with her last day being September 23, 2020 at the close of the day**. Motion** to accept the resignation of the Water Board Clerk was made by Board President Capparello; seconded by Board Vice President Lyon.

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0**

**REVIEW OF GRIEVANCE APPLICATIONS**

Property Owner: John Warner Meter location: 218 W. Second Avenue Bill grieved: August/2020

G-J Joint Wastewater reviewed the grievance application and determined “that there is not sufficient evidence provided to determine that the excess water did not enter the sewer system and had to be treated during the mentioned billing period. Due to this lack of evidence, your request has been denied.”

Board President Capparello recommended to Board Members a one-time reduction in the water portion of the August 2020 bill from $99.27 to the minimum use charge of $55.60; thus resulting in a proposed credit of $43.60.

Board Member DiMarco suggested a flow test could be done by the Gloversville Water Department to determine if the meter was faulty.

Water Department Typist Miller advised that the meter had been changed out and sent back to the manufacturer under the ongoing meter warranty change out program.

**Motion to Table** the grievance request until the 11/09/20 meeting was made by Board Member Empie; seconded by Board Vice President Lyon.

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0**

Property Owner: Hani Alikhan Meter Location: 3 Knox Avenue Bill grieved: August 2020

G-J Joint Wastewater reviewed the grievance application and determined “that the extreme water usage during this period was for a condition beyond your control.” A credit of $300.06 was issued.

Board President Capparello recommended to Board Members a one-time reduction in the water portion of the August 2020 bill from $668.45 to $368.45, noting that the high water bill was related to a water leak in the basement from a shower hookup that has since been repaired.

After discussion, the full board was in consensus that the water was in fact used and a precedent should not be set by issuing credit.

**Motion** to deny issuing credit for the water portion of the August 2020 bill made by Board Member DiMarco; seconded by Board Vice President Lyon.

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0**

Property Owner: Michelle Marotta Kilmartin Meter location: 4 PA Ave Bill grieved: August/2020

G-J Joint Wastewater reviewed the grievance application and originally denied the grievance; however, were open to re-visiting this issue at their 10/14/20 meeting based on additional information being submitted by the property owner.

Board President Capparello recommended to Board Members a one-time reduction of half of the water portion of the August 2020 bill from $448.22 to $224.11 based on information submitted.

**Motion** made by Board President Capparello to issue a credit of $224.11 for the August/2020 bill; seconded by Board Member Empie.

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0**

**WATER LINE LOCATOR PURCHASE**

Board Member DiMarco advised the Board that he had a discussion with Senior Water Plant Operator John Denmark today on the urgent need to purchase a water line locator. He added that in years past, the department had two locators; however both were now inoperable. He suggested a Motion be made to move forward with this purchase from USA Blue Book not to exceed $3,000.

All Board Members were in agreement to move forward with the necessary purchase.

**Motion** made by Water Board Member DiMarco to purchase a water line locator from US Blue Book not to exceed $3,000; seconded by Board President Capparello.

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** to accept the meeting minutes of September 14, 2020 was made by Water Board President Capparello; seconded by Water Board Member DiMarco.

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0**

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next regular Water Board meeting will be Monday, November 9, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 6:20pm was made by Water Board President Capparello and seconded by Water Board Vice President Lyon.

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0**

Submitted by

Susan Miller, Water Department Typist