

Meeting of the Public Works Commission – April 11th, 2023

Present: William Coleman, Chairman

Diego Barricelli, Commissioner (Absent from this meeting)

Erica Lotz, Commissioner, Commissioner



DISCUSSIONS: (2)- Outdoor Seating Approval

- 1) Request with description layout from **3 Amigo's Bar and Grille, 375 Main St.**, proposing to occupy the sidewalk in front of their Restaurant and along the side of their Restaurant on Irving Street for Outdoor seating for Summer 2023. Certificate of Liability Insurance is also enclosed.
Commission votes to approve this. All in favor.

- 2) Request with description layout from **Tenoch Mexican Restaurant, 13 Pleasant Street**, proposing to occupy the sidewalk in front of their Restaurant for outdoor seating for the Summer of 2023. Certificate of Liability is also enclosed.
Commission votes to approve this. All in favor.

CURB CUTS: (3)

Miriam & Kuran Sheikh, appear before the Commissioners to submit their application for a Curb Cut at their address at **99 Fairmont Street**. Ken Minasian, of the Inspectional Services Department inspected the proposed area at their address and gave his approval, commissioners review paperwork and photos submitted with application and also approve said curb cut.

Commissioners vote to approve curb cut. All in favor.

Kim Leung, appears before the Commissioners to submit their application for a Curb Cut at her address at **53 Greenleaf Street**. Dan Riordan of the Inspectional Services Department inspected the proposed area at her address and gave his approval. Commissioners review paperwork and photos submitted with the application and approve said curb cut.

Commissioners vote to approve curb cut. All in favor.

Ben & Harriet Kasozi, appear before the Commissioners to submit their application for a Curb Cut at their address at **164 Webster St**. Dan Riordan of the Inspectional Services Department inspected the proposed area at this address and gave his approval. Commissioners review paperwork and photos submitted with the application and approve said curb cut.

Commissioners vote to approve said curb cut. All in favor.

CONFERENCES:

Nicolo Salerno, 977 Eastern Avenue. Seeking abatement on his March 2023 water and sewer bill. There are three bathrooms on the property, and they are still not sure exactly what occurred but said that perhaps it was a toilet was the issue because bills are now back to normal. This account was granted abatement for the following reason: No evidence of a defective meter, abatement based on hearing testimony.

Commission voted to grant adjustment of \$149.81. All in favor

SEE VOTE

Sharmin Ahmed, 27 Ridge Hill Avenue. Seeking abatement on her March 2023 water and sewer bill. They found that the outside spigot had been running for a few weeks, they replaced it and now bills are back to normal. This account was granted abatement for the following reason: No evidence of a defective meter, abatement based on hearing testimony.

Commission voted to grant adjustment of \$381.35. All in favor

SEE VOTE

Maryann Duffin, 25-27 Julia Street. Seeking abatement on her January, February and March 2023 water and sewer bills. Bills were slightly higher than normal. She wasn't sure what was happening on the property to increase usage, she thought maybe it could've been a toilet. Next bill is back to normal usage. This account was granted abatement for the following reason: No evidence of a defective meter, abatement based on hearing testimony.

Commission voted to grant adjustment of \$127.44. All in favor

SEE VOTE

Simon Deng, 45 Swan Street. Seeking abatement on his April water and sewer bill. He had a pipe break on the property (he doesn't live there its rental property) the leak was fixed a week ago before this hearing. This account was granted abatement for the following reason: No evidence of a defective meter, abatement based on hearing testimony.

Commission voted to grant adjustment of \$1,016.03. All in favor

SEE VOTE

Michael Lydon, 24-26 Prospect St. Seeking abatement on several of his water and sewer bills they were estimated for about 3 years. Shavaun Callahan went there back in 2019 to “repair” the issue but decided when she was there that she didn’t want to touch the valve she asked him to call to make an appointment after a plumber came to change it and he did, but then it was during Covid, and the Meter Department wasn’t making appointments, so it went all that time as Estimated. Ronnie finally went there to change the meter in January 2023. This account was granted abatement for the following reason: No evidence of a defective meter, abatement based on hearing testimony.

Commission voted to grant adjustment of \$196.38 on Oct/Nov & Dec 2022. All in favor

SEE VOTE

Susan Nadile, 34 Marshall Avenue. Seeking abatement on her March 2023 water and sewer bill. When she called to be put on the list, she was given instructions by Karen to try the food coloring test in the toilets. She did find that one of the toilets was in fact leaking, she got a new part for it and now her bills are way down. This account was granted abatement for the following reason: No evidence of a defective meter, abatement based on hearing testimony.

Commission voted to grant adjustment of \$168.41. All in favor

SEE VOTE

Alphon Surette, 300 Bainbridge St. Seeking abatement on his March and April 2023 water and sewer bills. He was instructed by Karen to do dye/food coloring test in the toilets because he wasn’t sure why the bills spiked up suddenly and on the Billed Usage Report it shows a continuous leak code. At the hearing he still wasn’t sure why the bills were high but was issued an abatement. This account was granted abatement for the following reason: No evidence of a defective meter, abatement based on hearing testimony.

Commission voted to grant adjustment of \$570.21. All in favor

SEE VOTE

Paul Stasio, 40 Belmont St. Seeking abatement on several of his water and sewer bills. This is rental property 7 people total live on the property. He claims he had a Plumber in to test the toilets back in October or November and had a pipe break on the property. This account was granted abatement for the following reason: No evidence of a defective meter, abatement based on hearing testimony.

Commission voted to grant adjustment of \$700.51 on Oct. 2022 bill. All in favor

SEE VOTE

926 Eastern Avenue, LLC, 926 Eastern Ave. Seeking abatement on a Fire Service charge that they have been receiving since 2019 and have paid the bill every year. Gina in Water Billing asked Bryan Sanderson from the City Engineers Office to go by to check and see if they had an active sprinkler system. Bryan confirmed that they do not. Request is for Commission to abate the charges of 530.00 for both 2022 and 2023.

Commission voted to grant adjustment of \$1060.00 for 3/2022 & 3/2023 charges. All in favor

SEE VOTE

Eric Lung, 203 Summer ST. – Seeking abatement on several Estimated water charges on his account. Commissioners asked why was he appearing before the Commission at this point when his bills had been being estimated since 2019? He claims he lives out of the city and never received notification that the meter department sends when they can't get an actual read on a meter. He said he has a property management company that takes care of the property for him, so Bill Coleman asked that if he in had someone taking care of his property for him why wasn't he forwarded the Blue door notices that the meter department leaves on the door or the letters that are sent after the blue notice isn't acted upon by the homeowner, he said he didn't know why, also, they wanted to know why according to the notes on the account from the Treasurer's office, why he closed and sold this property without following the City Ordinance and having an inspection done to see the material of the pipe at the meter and also without getting this done and the Lead Certification which he pays 25.00 for before he receives his final water bill. He said he had \$17,517.61 held in escrow by his attorney for this closing and is now looking to receive this amount back in an abatement. He claimed when asked at one point that he no longer owns this property, but also said it's now part of an LLC that he is part of, 203 Summer Street LLC. Commissioner Coleman told him to go pay the final water bill amount of \$17,517.61 and then he could come back to another hearing in May or June and possibly get an abatement on this account.

Commission voted to table this until this Final bill is paid. All in Favor

SEE VOTE

92 Oliver Street- Commissioners had requested more information for this meeting regarding an abatement request from March 2023 in which Jayden Ddhir of 92 Oliver St., was questioning why he had a miscellaneous charge of \$111.00 on his water bill, and wanted it abated. It was determined by photos and an email from Ronnie Tom, Water meter Technician and Foreman, that the R900 Radio box that reads the meter remotely was tampered with and a hole was drilled in the bottom of the box so the wire to read the meter could be disconnected. Mr. Ddhir claims he does not know how that happened and he had no idea who could have done that. Ronnie Tom claims that this is the second time this has occurred at this residence, in 2019 they had to be charged the same because of a cut wire.

Commissioners vote to deny this abatement. All in Favor

SEE VOTE

No action Taken (1):

654 Main Street – She is looking for abatement on 3 bills she claims she paid for new owner. She Recently sold the property but never followed the ordinance and had pipe inspected and paid for Lead Certification or had name changed on Water bill.

Commission votes to take no action on this until she does what she is supposed to do to get inspection of pipe and pay bills that are in her name. All in favor.

SEE VOTE

DRAINLAYERS REQUEST (1):

James T. Lynch Construction Co., 77 Lowell Junction Road, Andover, MA 978-664-3164. Submits Application and three references which were checked by Bryan in Engineering. References are good.

Commissioners vote to approve said drain-layers request. All in favor

NO SHOWS (3):

- 1) Phil Wallace – 129-131 Columbia St.
- 2) Malden Housing Authority – 84-90 Wescott St.
- 3) Bahadir Chandra Budha- 68-70 Highland Ave.

DENIALS (2):

203 Summer Street - Lung

92 Oliver Street - Ddhir

VOTES:

To grant abatement of \$149.81 to 977 Eastern Ave.

To grant abatement of \$381.35 to 27 Ridge Hill Ave.

To grant abatement of \$127.44 to 25-27 Julia St.

To grant abatement of \$1016.03 to 45 Swan St.

To grant abatement of \$196.38 to 24-26 Prospect St.

To grant abatement of \$168.41 to 34 Marshall Ave.

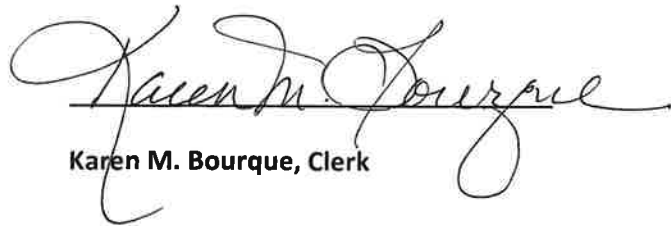
To grant abatement of \$570.21 to 300 Bainbridge St.

To grant abatement of \$700.51 to 40 Belmont St.

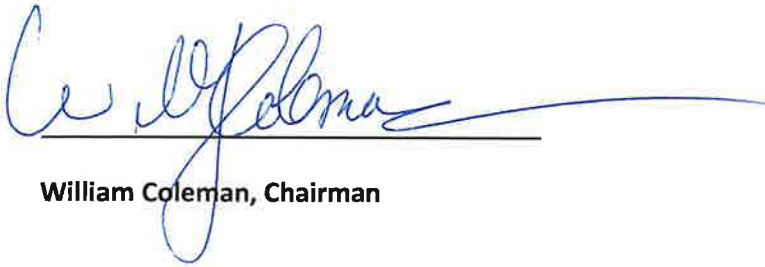
To grant abatement of \$1060.00 to 926 Eastern Ave., LLC.

Meeting Adjourned at: 5:32 pm

Next Meeting: May 9th, 2023



Karen M. Bourque, Clerk



William Coleman, Chairman

Diego Barricelli, Commissioner



Erica Lotz, Commissioner