

Advisory Board of Public Works, June 1, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

Item 1 | Call to Order:

Chair Chris Tarr called the meeting to order at 5:00. Present: Vice Chair Maria Palomino, Board Member Elena Proakis-Ellis, Director Joe Conway, Business Manager Ann Waitt and Clerk Anna Amatucci

Item 2 | Public Participation: None

Item 3 | New Business:

Per the last meeting, Matt Abrahams of The Abrahams Group took the advice and recommendations from Board to update some options for rate plans with a focus on whether or not to increase service charge.

Chair Tarr said he is leaning towards no service charge due to pandemic and future uncertainty. He expressed the fact that we can revisit this next year. Ms. Palomino feels similarly as it was a tough year for most people so to do the least increase we can and not set us back in terms of objective to have enough reserves should we need it. Ms. Proakis made a motion to recommend option 3a for water fund (increase water rate to \$7.56) and 1b for sewer fund (increase sewer rate to \$11.44) as represented tonight for fiscal 22 rates Chair Tarr seconded the motion. Chair Tarr also made a motion for sewer flat fee (\$377.44) as presented and Ms. Proakis seconded the motion. Chair Tarr made a motion to maintain the \$50 manual meter fee for public works for this year. Ms. Proakis seconded the motion. Mr. Conway recommended a vote for the Septic disposal rate, which is unchanged from FY21. Ms. Proakis questioned where the disposal was to which Mr. Conway responded on Foundry St. Ms. Palomino made a motion to accept septic disposal formula as presented. Chair Tarr seconded the motion. Ms. Proakis asked Mr. Conway if this was only for Wakefield residents, and Mr. Conway said yes, there's one contractor with a manifest for one resident that has a camper. Ms. Proakis then asked if it is formally stated that it's only for Wakefield to which Mr. Conway responded yes, the contractor has manifest number.

Mr. Conway will take Board recommendations and present a package to the Town Council on June 1st. Ms. Palomino mentioned she did not see any quarterly service charges on our website, and if so, can we update it.

Ms. Proakis asked if there were upgrades to filtration plant and Mr. Conway said yes, it is up to date as much as possible.

Item 4 | Next Meeting:

Members will check their calendars for a date in August to reconvene for the next meeting.

Item 5 | Adjournment:

Chair Tarr made a motion for adjournment at 6:13. Ms. Proakis seconded. Motion carries 3-0.