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SEP 21 2016

Town of Ayer

WATER AND SEWER RATE REVIEW COMMITTEE

TOWN OF AYER

Meeting Minutes for June 6, 2016, 3pm

10:30am  
Sharon G. P. L. W.

Attendance: Jannice Livingston; Mary Spinner; Rick Skoczylas; Mark Wetzel; Pam Martin; Robert Pontbriand

Meeting was called to order at 3pm in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Ayer Town Hall.

SIU (Significant Industrial User) Rep Vacancy on Committee:

R. Pontbriand advised that with the impending closing of Cains, Rick Guerro has resigned as the SIU rep on the Committee. He thanked Rick for his service and advised the Committee that Mark Wetzel and he would be looking for a new SIU representative to recommend to the Board of Selectmen for appointment.

Review/Discussion of FY 2017 Water and Sewer Rates:

With the new rates approved by the Board of Selectmen back in April 2016, the new rates as recommended by the committee are set to go into effect on July 1, 2016.

Status of Senior Discount Program:

The Committee reviewed and discussed the proposed Senior Discount Program as presented by M. Wetzel and P. Martin. The income qualifications for the program would be \$50,000 adjusted gross income based on similar income qualifications used by the Assessor's for other discount programs. Proof of ownership of the residence would be required. The applicant would need to be current on all taxes including their water and sewer bill. The program would be offered annually with a deadline of September 15<sup>th</sup> for the first year. The program would be subject to annual review and adjustment by the Rate Review Committee and Board of Selectmen.

Status of Rate Model Update:

The Committee discussed the need to professionally review and update the rate model specifically consumption rates. M. Wetzel and DPW will work with the consultant to update the rate model and report back to the Committee.

Sewer Connection Fee:

The Committee reviewed and discussed increasing the current sewer connection fee of \$1,500 and increasing it to \$4,800 based on analysis provided by M. Wetzel and the DPW. The fee has not been increased for some time.

Sewer Inflow and Infiltration Removal Policy:

The Committee discussed the proposal of recommending a sewer inflow and infiltration removal policy which would collect funding for further study and remediation of the inflow/infiltration system. The policy needs to be further studied and developed. To be discussed further at a future meeting.

Next meeting scheduled for September 19, 2016, at 3:30pm.

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by: Robert A. Pontbriand, Town Administrator

Date Minutes Approved: September 19, 2016

Signed: Robert A. Pontbriand 9/19/2016  
Robert A. Pontbriand  
Town Administrator