



TOWN OF HUDSON

Water Utility Committee



Jeff Rider, Chairman

Nancy Brucker, Selectman Liaison

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Meeting minutes of March 21, 2012

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was opened by Chairman Jeff Rider at 5:00 PM in the Board of Selectman's conference room at Hudson Town Hall.

II. ATTENDANCE

Committee Members present

Chairman Jeff Rider
Vice -Chairman Bernie Manor
Member David Jelley
Member Leo Bernard
Recorder David Shaw

Absent:

Selectman liaison Ben Nadeau
Alternate Member Derrick Chaisson

Excused

Town Engineer Gary Webster

Staff present:

Water Utility Clerk Valerie Marquez

III. PUBLIC INPUT – No input from the public was received

IV CONSENT ITEMS

A. Acceptance of Minutes

1.) Minutes of Water Utility Committee from January 18, 2012

Removed from agenda as January 2012 minutes were previously updated and approved.
No further discussion.

2.) Minutes of Water Utility Committee from February 15, 2012

Motion to accept February 2012 WUC meeting minutes by David Jelley.
Motion seconded by Bernie Manor. Motion passed unanimously (5-0)

B. Financial Status

- 1.) Treasure's Report and cash flow, January 2012
- 2.) Treasure's Report and cash flow, February 2012
- 3.) Expenditure report, February 2012
- 4.) Check register for February 2012

Motion to accept all above financial status consent items by Bernie Manor.
Motion seconded by David Jelley. Motion passed unanimously (5-0)

C. Operations Report (PWW)

1.) January 2012

Motion to accept January2012 operations report by Leo Bernard.

Motion seconded by Bernie Manor . Motion passed unanimously (5-0)

V. OLD BUSINESS

Account number 03-3402-4391-000-000 (Rental fee – Public Hydrant):

An issue was raised at last month’s meeting due to only 36% of the rental fees being collected (vs. 60% for most other fees in the report, including private hydrant fees)

Valerie Marquez explained that the disparity is due to the public hydrant account being twice the revenue of the private hydrant account, so revenue received is weighted. The average collected for total hydrants is 54%.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Letter requesting permission to shut-off 22 Greely Street

Item pulled by Kathy Carpentier due to issues related to new selectman. No further discussion.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Committee member Leo Bernard raised an issue with hydrant painting that had been brought to his attention by Selectman Luszey. A town resident had approached selectman Luszey at the public voting session and complained about a hydrant on his street that had not been painted for some time. Information regarding the location of the hydrant was not provided to the selectman. Chairman Rider and member Bernard then enlightened the committee on the hydrant color coding standard, developed by the American Water Works Association (AWWA):

Class:	Flow (GPM)	Color:
AA	1,500 +	Blue
AA	1,000 +	Green
B	500 - 1,000	Orange
C	< 500	Red

VIII. REMARKS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Chairman Jeff Rider: None
- Recorder David Shaw: None
- Member David Jelley: None
- Member Leo Bernard:

Leo informed the committee that Derrick Chaisson had submitted his resignation to the BOS, leaving the committee with an alternate member vacancy.

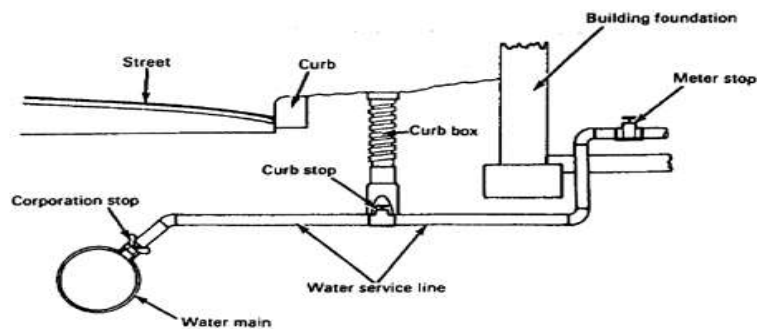
- Vice-Chairman Bernie Manor:

Bernie stated that last year Chairman Bernard asked the BOS for water ban signage. Jeff Rider stated the WUC needs to request the BOS implement the annual water ban, with Leo clarifying the BOS need to activate the ban. Members of the committee expressed concern with the water supply potential for the upcoming summer, due to the reduced rain / snowfall experienced during the past winter which would reduce the level of natural groundwater recharge. Chairman Rider believes the BOS did not implement the ban in recent years as they felt it was not needed.

Motion by David Jelley to request the BOS activate the annual water ban and notify water users. Motion seconded by Bernie Manor. Motion passed unanimously (5-0). The chairman charged the WUC recorder with researching the above request and drafting a letter to the selectman.

IX. REMARKS BY SELECTMAN & STAFF

Valerie Marquez is still working on changing the WUC rules so shut-offs can be performed all year long (instead of just between April and November) to avoid delinquency account build-up. Valerie also noted that some renters move in the spring thereby defaulting on their water bill payment simply by vacating their residence prior to the April shut-off deadline. Another requested change is to the past due billing period, changing from 90 days to 45 days.



Chairman Rider stated that since the rules were being changed, the committee should consider changing the town responsibility from the main to the foundation instead of just to the curb-stop. The reasoning behind this recommendation is that there is no incentive for a customer with a leak between the curb-stop and meter to make repairs as they are not billed for the lost water.

Valerie closed the discussion by summarizing the water utility policy regarding customer- responsible repairs and highlighted the Pennichuck *Water-tight* program that covers customer repair costs for work that falls outside the towns responsibility: http://www.pennichuck.com/water_tight.php

X. NEXT MEETING April 18st, 2012 in the BOS meeting room @ 5PM

XI. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Motion by David Jelleyfor adjournment. Motion seconded by David Shaw.
Motion passed unanimously (5-0). Meeting adjourned at 5:34 PM.