



**CITY OF NEW BEDFORD**  
**JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR**

September 4, 2018

City Council President Linda M. Morad and  
Honorable Members of the City Council  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council President Morad and Honorable Members of the City Council:

I am submitting for your approval a **SEWER ABATEMENT** for 370 Valley Road, New Bedford, MA, in the amount of \$141.21.

I have attached correspondence for your review on this sewer abatement request from Jamie Ponte, Commissioner of the Department of Public Infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Jonathan F. Mitchell  
Mayor

JFM/sds  
Attachments

cc: Gil & Deborah Martin  
DPI



## Department of Public Infrastructure

Jamie Ponte  
Commissioner

Water  
Wastewater  
Highways  
Engineering  
Cemeteries  
Park Maintenance  
Forestry  
Energy

## CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

### MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR JONATHAN F. MITCHELL

FROM: Jamie Ponte, Commissioner-DPI

DATE: August 16, 2018

RE: SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST

Gil & Deborah Martin  
370 Valley Rd  
Account# 1026775

Attached, for your review, is correspondence related to the above referenced sewer abatement request.

The circumstances associated with this request have been investigated by the Department of Public Infrastructure, Wastewater Division. As a result of the investigation, the hose hideaway on the outside of the house became defective and started leaking water unbeknownst to the residents. This water seeped into the ground until it became saturated enough for it to leak through the foundation and into the basement. None of this water made its way back into the collection system. I would recommend that a credit of \$141.21 be allowed.

Should you be in agreement, I would ask that you communicate the abatement recommendation to the City Council.

Enc: 6

Dear Mr. Ponte,

Last month my husband discovered some water in our basement coming from the front wall of our home. We panicked and called a contractor thinking we had a crack in our foundation. After careful inspection of the source of the leak he informed us it was coming from our water hose in the front of the house. We did not notice the hose was leaking because the leak was on the inside of the hose hideaway we have and was not visible to the eye. (see attached photo). There was no puddling of water near or around the hose hideaway at all. It sits on an area of thick mulch which must have absorbed any water visible but it apparently was leaking underneath into the basement. It had to be leaking for a month! Imagine my surprise when my water bill arrived at \$317.63 cents! Our usual water bill is between \$71.00 to \$92.00 monthly. All previous bills prior to July are paid in full. We only owe current charges of \$317.63 cents. My husband and I are both disabled and living on a fixed income. We have become responsible for raising our 3 teenaged grandchildren (8 yrs., now). You can imagine how every penny is stretched to make ends meet.

I'm asking for your understanding about this water bill situation, I am just sick over it. Is there any way you could consider an abatement or reduce this bill to our usual amount we pay monthly? I wouldn't even ask if there were any way we were able to work to make extra money. We would be grateful if you could as we are facing school clothes and supplies in the next few months which will deplete a lot of money from our budget and is always a rough time for us. Thank You for your time to read this long letter of explanation and for your consideration about this matter.

Sincerely,

Deborah & Gil Martin

Phone # (508) 742-5277 - Gil's Cell

~~800~~ 774-305-4927 Home

**Department of Public Infrastructure**

1105 Shawmut Ave.  
New Bedford, MA 02746  
508-979-1550 Ext 67302

**Water and Sewer Invoice  
REMIT PORTION**

Service Address	Bill Number	Account # - Customer #	Due Date	Amount Due
370 VALLEY RD	1715242	1026775 - 416695	08/13/2018	\$417.61

ALL CHARGES SUBJECT TO SHUT OFF AFTER 45 DAYS WITHOUT ADDITIONAL NOTICE

To ensure accurate payment processing, please include your bill number on your check.



MARTIN JR GIL F  
DEBRA F MARTIN  
370 VALLEY RD  
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02745-1914

00013232

20146042019801715242200000417618

✂ Detach and return the portion above with your payment ✂

**Department of Public Infrastructure**

1105 Shawmut Ave.  
New Bedford, MA 02746  
508-979-1550 Ext 67302  
Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

**Water and Sewer Invoice**

Keep this portion for your records

Customer Name				Service Address																
MARTIN JR GIL F DEBRA F MARTIN				370 VALLEY RD																
Bill Number	Bill Date	Account # - Customer #				Due Date														
1715242	07/15/2018	1026775 - 416695				08/13/2018														
Description	Meter	Previous Read Date	Current Read Date	Previous Meter Reading	Current Meter Reading	Read Code	Usage (100 cu. ft.)	Charge												
WATER BASE RATE								7.45												
NB RES WATER USE	51827461	06/01/2018	07/01/2018	379	415	A	36	112.68												
SEWER BASE RATE								7.36												
SEWER RESIDENTIAL USAGE								188.28												
METER RENTAL WATER								0.93												
METER RENTAL SEWER								0.93												
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>HISTORY PERIOD</p> <p>CURR 36</p> <p>06/18 10</p> <p>05/18 9</p> <p>04/18 9</p> <p>03/18 9</p> <p>02/18 9</p> <p>01/18 9</p> <p>12/17 9</p> <p>11/17 10</p> <p>10/17 9</p> <p>09/17 10</p> <p>08/17 9</p> <p>07/17 10</p> </div> <div> <p>100 cu. ft. equals 748 gallons</p> <p>MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF NEW BEDFORD PO BOX 844551, BOSTON, MA 02284-4551</p> <p>GO TO WWW.NEWBEDFORD-MA.GOV AND CLICK ON "PAY ONLINE" TO REGISTER FOR ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS</p> <p>***IMPORTANT: If you receive an ESTIMATED bill call 508-979-1550*** *****To make a PAYMENT by PHONE please call 855-295-9709***** "ONLINE BANKING CUSTOMERS: Please note that you need to update your BILL NUMBER on your payment monthly"</p> </div> <div> <p>READ CODE: A = Actual E = Estimate F = Final</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Current Charges</td> <td>317.63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Previous Balance</td> <td>175.53</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Late Fee</td> <td>.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adjustments</td> <td>8.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Payments Received</td> <td>-\$83.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total Amount Due</b></td> <td><b>\$417.61</b></td> </tr> </table> </div> </div>									Current Charges	317.63	Previous Balance	175.53	Late Fee	.00	Adjustments	8.39	Payments Received	-\$83.94	<b>Total Amount Due</b>	<b>\$417.61</b>
Current Charges	317.63																			
Previous Balance	175.53																			
Late Fee	.00																			
Adjustments	8.39																			
Payments Received	-\$83.94																			
<b>Total Amount Due</b>	<b>\$417.61</b>																			

Bill Number  
1715242

Account # - Customer #  
1026775 - 416695

**CONSUMPTION FORM**

ACCOUNT #	1026775		
CONSUMER:	GIL & DEBORAH MARTIN		
ADDRESS:	370 VALLEY RD		
ITEM	BILLING DATE	CCF'S	READ TYPE
1	November 15, 2016	9	A
2	December 15, 2016	9	A
3	January 15, 2017	10	A
4	February 15, 2017	8	A
5	March 15, 2017	7	A
6	April 15, 2017	9	A
7	May 15, 2017	8	A
8	June 15, 2017	9	A
9	July 15, 2017	10	A
10	August 15, 2017	9	A
11	September 15, 2017	10	A
12	October 15, 2017	9	A
13	November 15, 2017	10	A
14	December 15, 2017	9	A
15	January 15, 2018	9	A
16	February 15, 2018	9	A
17	March 15, 2018	9	A
18	April 15, 2018	9	A
19	May 15, 2018	9	A
20	June 15, 2018	10	A
	TOTAL CONSUMPTION	181	
AVERAGE (= TOTAL CONSUMPTION / 20 MONTHS)		9	
		CCF TO ABATE (= BILLED - AVERAGE)	
July 15, 2018	Billed @ 36 CCF's	27	
Total CCF to abate		27	
Sewer Rate		\$5.23	
Total \$ to abate		\$141.21	





