

Fairhaven Board of Selectmen February 13, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Present: Selectman Chairman Michael Silvia, Selectman Vice Chairman Dr. Brian Bowcock, Selectman Clerk Charles Murphy, Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch and Administrative Assistant Anne Kakley.

Also present: John Nunes, Treasurer, Jamie DeSousa, Planning Board member, Phil Washko, Bill Roth, Mali Lim of the *Fairhaven Neighborhood News*, Peggy Aulisio of *The Advocate*, John Charbonneau, Linda Schick, Carol Murchie, Kathy Tripp, Steve Riley, Vinnie Furtado, Robert Hobson, Jeffrey Lucas, and Edward Fortin.

Chairman Silvia called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

MINUTES

- Board voted to approve the minutes of the **February 6**, 2012 meeting, open session. Dr. Bowcock motioned, Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).
- Board voted to approve the minutes of the **February 6**, 2012 meeting, executive session. Dr. Bowcock motioned, Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

In his report, Mr. Osuch informed the Board about the following upcoming meetings:

February 13, 2012:

- 9:30 a.m. – Meeting at the Council on Aging

February 14, 2012:

- 1:00 p.m. – Economic Summit meeting
- 3:30 p.m. – Mattapoissett River Valley Water Advisory meeting at BPW
- 4:30 p.m. – Mattapoissett River Valley Water District meeting at BPW

February 15, 2012:

- 9:00 a.m. – Buzzard's Bay Action meeting in Wareham
- 5:00 p.m. – Meeting regarding the new school, to be held at Hastings
- 7:00 p.m. – Special Town Meeting at Hastings Middle School

February 16, 2012:

- 7:30-9:00 a.m. – Forum at the Quest Center
- 7:00 p.m. – Finance Committee meeting

February 21, 2012:

- 8:30 a.m. – Retirement Board meeting

February 22, 2012:

- 6:30 p.m. – Selectmen's meeting, Bicentennial of Town.

February 23, 2012:

- 7:00 p.m. – Meeting with Financial Committee

February 24, 2012:

- 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. MMA Breakfast at Middleboro Town Hall

ACTION:

The Board voted to approve the following poll workers for the March 6, 2012 Presidential Primary: Precinct 1 – Mary Lizotte, Jan Lopes, Vivian Lewis, Dorothy Gammans; Precinct 2 – Amy Ryle, Mary Cunha, Lorraine Bachand, Sandra Melanphy; Precinct 3 – Doris Francis, Elizabeth Monk, Mary Grace, Janice Sylvia; Precinct 4 – Margaret Rogers, Donald Brazil, Nancy Perry, Pamela Greene; Precinct 5 – Eleanor Brazil, Vivian Graham, Martha Berg, Diane Rocha; Precinct 6 – Norma Markey, Lillian Horsley, Joan Mello, William Markey. Dr. Bowcock motioned, Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

The Board then voted to authorize Finance Director John Nunes to overspend \$10,000 in the Highway Department Snow and Ice Budget if necessary. Dr. Bowcock motioned, Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

The Board also voted to grant a request from John Nunes to carry over 12 vacation days for Asst. Tax Collector Pamela Bettencourt. Dr. Bowcock motioned, Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

APPOINTMENTS:

In a 6:35 p.m. appointment with members of the BPW, the Board heard an overview of the BPW's proposed Fiscal Year 2013 budgets for the Parks, Highway, Sewer, and Water.

In the Parks department, Mr. Charbonneau said that a lot of the summer weed whacking will not be done due to a decreased budget.

Mr. Charbonneau expressed frustration about the budget being level-funded for another year. He said that the challenge of level funding gets more and more difficult each year, due to increasing costs. For capital outlay, he said that the Highway department would soon need a backhoe bucket and plasma cutter. The Highway department salaries and wages budget is down 2.4 percent due to the hiring of new personnel at lower steps, said Mr. Charbonneau.

In the Sewer budget, the budget showed an increase of \$3,000 in salaries and wages. In the Water budget, utilities were level-funded, but the water district assessment was up 3 percent.

Ms. Schick informed the Board that millions of dollars worth of work needed to be done for the Town's Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) system.

On the topic of road work, Mr. Osuch said that the "Chapter 90" road work total for FY13 was unknown, but would be made available around April 1. The BPW and Board agreed that Wayne Street would be a priority road for the upcoming year.

The Board went through the BPW's proposed articles for the 2012 Annual Town Meeting. Articles included: \$7,363 to complete Macomber Pimental Field fencing; \$240,475 for proposed Road Work; \$12,700 for BPW radios; \$757,000 for Pumping Station Rehabilitation; \$541,000 for Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation; \$75,000 for Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan; \$267,000 for Inflow and Infiltration; \$1,515,000 for the re-design and construction of the Boston Hill Water Tank; and \$15,000 for the Water Management Act.

The Board thanked the BPW for their presentation and asked some of their members to stay behind for Executive Session to discuss contractors Brown and Caldwell.

In a second appointment at 7:32 p.m., the Board met with Wayne Street residents to hear their hardship regarding the condition of their street. On behalf of the children of Wayne Street, resident Jordan Soares read a statement regarding their inability to safely play on their street because of potholes and dirt.

Wayne Street resident Kathy Fitzgerald said that they would be satisfied with a chipped seal surface, which is a less expensive method of paving. Both the Select Board and the BPW assured the residents that Wayne Street would be one of the Town's top priorities for recommendation at the Annual Town Meeting on May 5, 2012.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board read a letter from Philip Mantyla, Paralegal for the Division of Open Government, addressed to residents Ken Pottel, Joyce Pottel, John McGowen, Donna McKenna, Grant Menard and Karen Isherwood. The letter addressed the residents' previously sent Open Meeting Law complaint against the Fairhaven Board of Selectmen. Mr. Mantyla's response indicated that the complaints filed by the aforementioned residents were incomplete and that the file would be closed by March 12, 2012 unless a request for further review was sent.

The Board voted to enter Executive Session at 7:53 p.m., not to reconvene into Open Session. Reasons for entering Executive Session were: Brown and Caldwell, Pending Litigation regarding the UMass Dartmouth estuaries program and Pending Litigation with Tibbetts Engineering. Dr. Bowcock motioned, Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. Roll call vote: Mr. Silvia in favor. Dr. Bowcock in favor. Mr. Murphy in favor. (3-0).

Respectfully,

Anne Kakley

Selectmen's Secretary