

# Fairhaven Board of Selectmen

# June 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes

**Present**: Select Board Chairman Charles K. Murphy, Sr., Vice Chairman Robert J. Espindola, and Clerk Daniel Freitas; Town Administrator Mark Rees, and Administrative Assistant Anne O'Brien.

Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order in the West Island Community Building at 6:46 p.m. The meeting was audio recorded by the Selectmen's Office and video recorded by the Government Access channel.

#### **MINUTES**

- Mr. Espindola motioned to approve the minutes of the **June 6, 2016** meeting, **open** session. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).
- Mr. Espindola motioned to approve the minutes of the **June 6, 2016** meeting, **executive** session. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

# TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

In his report, Mr. Rees updated the Board to plans to have a shed placed adjacent to the Town Hall for maintenance equipment. He also gave some explanation to the scheduled insurance rate increases for employees subscribing to PPO and HMO. He said that consultants with Blue Cross/Blue Shield have indicated that claim increases are likely to trend in the upcoming year, which will cut into the trust fund surplus. The trust fund currently stands at about \$2,600,000 with a recommended minimum of \$1,600,000. Mr. Rees said that he would prefer issuing insurance holidays as needed instead of creating "artificially decreased rates".

Mr. Freitas asked Mr. Rees to look into how long the last insurance holiday lasted and its impact on the trust fund.

Mr. Rees also informed the Board that the Fairhaven Improvement Association had submitted a request to hold the annual summer concerts on the Town Hall steps (with the Town Hall auditorium as a back-up) for the following dates: July 21, July 28, August 4, and August 11. Mr. Espindola motioned to approve the request from the FIA. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

### **BOARD OF APPEALS VACANCY**

The Board reviewed three applicant letters for an associate vacancy on the Board of Appeals. The three applicants are: Rene Fleurent, Keith Silvia, and Ruy daSilva.

After reviewing the applicants' letters of interest, all three board members preferred Mr. Silvia for his knowledge of construction and community involvement. Mr. Espindola motioned to appoint Mr. Silvia to a three year term as an associate member of the Board of Appeals. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

#### **BELL COMMITTEE**

The Board reviewed a letter from Doug Brady of the Bell Committee, requesting that alternate Bell Committee member Helena Oliveira be given full voting member status, due to a vacancy on the board. Mr. Espindola motioned to appoint Helena Oliveira to a full member of the Bell Committee. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

#### **FORT PHOENIX 5K**

The Board reviewed a letter from Kathy Lopes requesting to hold the annual Fort Phoenix 5K on September 11, 2016. Mr. Espindola motioned to approve. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

# **OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT**

The Board read a request from Vicki Paquette and Wayne Oliveira to hold the annual Outdoor Movie Night on July 23, 2016 at Livesey Park. The program is hosted by most of the civic groups in Fairhaven. Mr. Espindola motioned to approve the event. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

#### **JUNE 30 STM VOTES**

The Board voted their recommendations for the June 30, 2016 Special Town Meeting articles as follows:

- Article 1 "Sale of Oxford School" Mr. Espindola motioned to recommend Adoption. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote carried (2-1) with Mr. Murphy opposed.
- Article 2 "Fire Station #3 Sewer Tie In" Mr. Espindola motioned to recommend Adoption. Mr. Freitas said that while he knew it was a municipal building, he felt the expenditure of \$25,000 would not be universally beneficial. He said he would not support the article. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion to recommend Adoption. Motioned carried 2-1 with Mr. Freitas opposing.
- Article 3 "Funding Labor Contracts FY17" Mr. Espindola motioned to recommend a Pass Over, as negotiations are not complete yet. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).
- Article 4 "Roadwork Welcome Street South" Mr. Rees said that he spoke with BPW Superintendent Vincent Furtado, who said that the request to pave Welcome Street south of Route 6, if approved, would circumvent the paving plan in place. Mr. Espindola

motioned to Indefinitely Postpone. Mr. Murphy called for a second. There was none. The motion died for lack of second.

Mr. Freitas motioned to recommend Adoption. Mr. Murphy called for a second. There was none. The motion died for lack of second.

Mr. Murphy motioned to Yield to Petitioner. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote carried 2-1 with Mr. Espindola in opposition.

# ONE-DAY ALL-ALCOHOL LICENSE

The Board reviewed an application from John Haaland for a one-day all-alcohol license at Down the Hatch for a "Committee to Re-Elect Charles Murphy" fundraiser. Mr. Murphy recused himself at 7:19 p.m.

Mr. Rees said that all servers were TIPS certified and that the office had the certificate of liability from Down the Hatch, a diagram of where the event will be held on the premises. Mr. Freitas motioned to approve the one-day, all-alcohol license for John Haaland on July 10, 2016. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote carried with one abstention from Mr. Murphy. (2-0-1).

Mr. Murphy returned to the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

# SRPEDD ENERGY AGGREGATION PROGRAM UPDATE

At 7:22 p.m., the Board met with John O'Rourke from Good Energy to receive an update on the trends being seen in the energy aggregation program facilitated by SRPEDD.

See Attachment A for trends in the community aggregation rates.

The Board thanked Mr. O'Rourke for his presentation. Mr. Murphy opened the meeting to public comments or questions. There were none.

# **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

At 7:30 p.m., the Board conducted its annual Emergency Preparedness meeting with all department heads to present any changes or updates to the emergency/hurricane manual (See Attachment B).

Fire – Chief Francis reminded residents to evacuate West Island in the event of a hurricane. If they must remain, turn off propane tanks and the main breaker in the house. Put away lawn furniture and projectiles. In response to pet shelter concerns, Chief Francis said that SRPEDD is working on an emergency preparedness plan that will provide animal shelter. He will not keep any emergency personnel or equipment on West Island in a hurricane.

Police – Chief Myers gave an overview to the police response in an emergency and encouraged the public to sign up for "CodeRED" through the Plymouth County Sheriff's Office to make sure that their phone numbers are included in a reverse 911 database.

Schools – Superintendent Bob Baldwin said that the shelters at Hastings Middle School and Wood School would be ready to go in an emergency.

Natural Resources – Harbormaster Timothy Cox urged the public to remove their boats from the water in the case of an imminent hurricane, adding that a lot of insurance companies will even pay for the boat removal.

BPW – BPW Superintendent Vincent Furtado said that the Water department would send out a reverse 911 if a water shut-off is needed in an emergency. Also speaking for Highway and Water departments were supervisors John Charbonneau and Ed Fortin.

Additional updates were provided by Tree Warden Brian Bowcock, Anne Sylvia of the Council on Aging, Kris Sheedy of the Housing Authority, and Marc Jodoin and John Rogers of the Emergency Management Agency.

# **BELL COMMITTEE**

The Board reviewed several requests from the Bell Committee. Present from the Bell Committee were Doug Brady, Nils Isaksen and Al Benac.

- Paul Revere Bell the Bell Committee is requesting to temporarily display the Revere bell at the Town Hall in the foyer. Mr. Brady said that the committee has consulted with the Building Commissioner (Wayne Fostin) and the Town Hall custodian (Frank Fostin) and has gotten their support for the bell placement. Mr. Espindola motioned to have the Bell Committee work with Mr. Rees and Ms. O'Brien to find a temporary placement for the Revere bell at Town Hall. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).
- Oxford School Cupola The Bell Committee is asking the Town to ask the Stratford Group to conduct a structural engineering study on the cupola at the Oxford School. The Bell Committee had to cut and remove most of the cupola to remove the Revere bell from the Oxford School and then determined that returning the cupola would not be easily accomplished. Mr. Freitas stated that he did not think that the Stratford Group was obliged to return the cupola, but that he would not mind asking. The Board did not object to presenting the question to Stratford.
- Rogers School Bell The Bell Committee is asking to remove the tower bell from the Rogers School. The housing for the bell is damaged and the bell is listing to one side as a result. The bell can be removed without damaging the cupola. The Bell Committee said that the work could be done by volunteers at no cost to the Town.

Gary Lavalette was recognized. He said that he felt the Bell Committee should be consulting and working with the Historical Commission more in their actions. Mr. Murphy recommended that the Bell Committee courtesy copy the Historical Commission in their communication to the Selectmen's Office from now on.

Mr. Espindola motioned to have Mr. Rees facilitate the removal of the Rogers School bell, with all the provisions requires in the case of the Oxford School bell removal (certificate of liability, etc.). Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

# OTHER BUSINESS

#### In other business:

- Mr. Espindola thanked the organizers of the Father's Day road race for another successful event.
- Mr. Espindola reminded the public of Homecoming on June 25.
- Mr. Murphy congratulated GNB Vocational High School students\_Taylor Sullivan, Kayla DaCosta, Tara Cox, Lexi Lees, and Marissa Vasquez, for being nationally recognized by Skills USA and Business Professionals of America for academic excellence.

At 8:41 p.m. Mr. Espindola motioned to enter Executive Session pursuant to MGL ch. 30a section 21, for ABC disposal – litigation; and North Street access - litigation. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0). Roll call vote: Mr. Murphy in favor. Mr. Espindola in favor. Mr. Freitas in favor.

Respectfully, Anne O'Brien Administrative Assistant Minutes approved 07/11/2016

# **EVERSOURCE RATE PROJECTIONS**





