

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 4, 2012**

Present

G. Steven Riley, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Kathleen Sturtevant, Commissioner
Geoffrey Haworth, Commissioner
Daniel Freitas, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant
Edward Fortin, Water Superintendent
Joshua Souza
Jonathan Bowers



I. Call to Order

Mr. Riley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. May 21, 2012

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2012 meeting. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. Interviews for HMEO / Water System Maintenance Man

1. Joshua Souza

Mr. Souza – I'm hoping to get this position. I've worked in the Highway Department for five years. When this position became open I saw it as a great opportunity to expand my knowledge.

Mr. Freitas – Do you have any water license?

Mr. Souza – No, but I have been studying.

Mr. Freitas – How long?

Mr. Souza – On and off for a couple of months.

Mr. Freitas – How is your sick time?

Mr. Souza – Normally it's good, but now I have a baby and have used some.

Mr. Freitas – Any other reason why you want the job?

Mr. Souza – Other than a raise in pay grade, mostly about the challenge.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 4, 2012**

Ms. Sturtevant – Do you have any other licenses, Haz Mat?

Mr. Souza – No, just my CDL license.

Ms. Sturtevant – Air brakes?

Mr. Souza – Yes.

Ms. Sturtevant – What do you think you can bring to this position?

Mr. Souza – I have five years in and am very confident working in the Highway Department. I'm a strong worker and a very fast learner.

Mr. Haworth – In your current position, have you ever helped out in the Water Department?

Mr. Souza – I have worked with the Water a few times, pipe repairs.

Mr. Haworth – What kind of pipe experience?

Mr. Souza – Just hands on.

Mr. Haworth – Do you have any backhoe time?

Mr. Souza – I don't have my hydraulic license.

Mr. Hobson – He must be a good employee, he has never been before us. Who has the most seniority? You have to be able to step up to the plate.

Mr. Furtado – The State has changed the regulations about the licenses. The first one you have to attend class. Grade two, not sure but probably another class. You have to hold the license before you can take the next test. The State regulates us to have certified personnel.

Mr. Hobson – I appreciate your good service to the Town.

Mr. Fortin – I've met with Josh and explained to him about the licenses. We will make sure that he does and has enough time to work at it. Mr. Furtado has helped people on his own time study.

Mr. Furtado – Luke and I interviewed all the candidates and emphasized that most importantly we have to have safe drinking water to the residents. Self motivation is required. Seniority has nothing to do with it. It's AFSCME verse Teamsters. Josh interviewed well.

Mr. Freitas – We've seen it more than once. They do it at work, at home. We want people to get the license.

Mr. Riley – What do you think your greatest weakness?

Mr. Souza – Probably financing for the license.

Mr. Freitas – Your greatest strength?

Mr. Souza – Very glad I had the opportunity to work in the Highway Department. I've learned a lot. I feel I'm quite efficient and have given good quality. I'm very good at following orders.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 4, 2012**

2. Jonathan Bowers

Mr. Bowers – I've worked for the Town for two years; one year temporary in the Water Department and since last May full time in the Highway Department. I've had one year of experience with water mains, hydrants, services, installing meters. I've worked on main breaks during the night.

Mr. Haworth – You worked with the Water Department for one year. What did you learn the most?

Mr. Bowers – Service repairs to houses; lead and copper.

Mr. Haworth – Have you taken any steps to get your license?

Mr. Bowers – No.

Mr. Haworth – Why?

Mr. Bowers – I was hired as temporary and I got my CDL at that time.

Mr. Hobson – All set. He's a good employee.

Ms. Sturtevant – I know Jon. He's a hard worker. Why do you want to work for the Water Department?

Mr. Bowers – I'm motivated; up for a new task.

Ms. Sturtevant – You know about the licenses?

Mr. Bowers – Yes. I talked to Ed and Vinnie today about it. I'd like to get my D-4.

Mr. Freitas – I actually worked with Jonathan the last year I was here. He's a hard worker. Zero problems. He's self starter. I don't know if he's the brightest bulb.

Mr. Fortin – I was glad when Jonathan applied. He was a very good worker when he worked for me temporarily. He picks things up pretty quickly. When he was studying for his CDL he came in early every morning. I have no doubt he would work on getting his license.

Mr. Furtado – Jonathan has worked for Ed before, not to say to cut Josh short. Josh would be a good worker as well.

Mr. Riley – It will be a big challenge working for the Water Department.

Mr. Bowers – I don't think I will have a big challenge.

Mr. Riley – In the end, we don't have to hire. You have two people who do not have any licenses. At foremost it will take eighteen months not having them with the license.

Mr. Fortin – Grade 1 you can get pretty quickly.

Mr. Furtado – It's our desire to get the whole department to have a Grade 3. There should be no issue.

Mr. Fortin – We can't afford to have employees in the department to have just a Grade 1 license. The two candidates have to show progress. We can't have people sitting on a Grade 1 for ten years.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 4, 2012**

Mr. Haworth – That's very concerning to me. There are six or seven employees. Follow up in six months. I'm sure Mr. Fortin will be on top of this. If they don't progress we'll reconsider their position.

Mr. Riley – We have two candidates. We can hire two, one or none.

Mr. Haworth motioned to hire Jonathan Bowers and to have Mr. Fortin report back to us with his progress.

Mr. Hobson motioned to hire Joshua Souza as the senior candidate of the two because of his five years of service and Mr. Bowers second.

Mr. Haworth motioned to hire Mr. Souza with a start date of June 11th and Mr. Bowers with a start date of June 18th. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

V. Items for Action

A. Staffing for Homecoming – June 30th

Mr. Riley – Last year we had budget constraints with overtime. We told the foreman to call the men in later in the morning and he called them in right away. They can set up on Friday afternoon and work on Saturday from 10:00 to 5:00; three men.

Mr. Freitas – We had the same discussion last year. We are not going to be able to afford this. We don't have the money. 10:00 to 5:00 is fine.

Mr. Riley – For the last three years we've spent \$1,000. Last year it was \$900.

Mr. Freitas – We need to keep this price down. They should come up with a little bit of money. This is the third year; same discussion.

Mr. Haworth – I agree with Mr. Riley. We need to cut some of the overtime. Next year will be another request. This is the Bicentennial. This is a big year for the Town. We had to cut the recycling hours.

Ms. Sturtevant – I work it. When they open up they do use a few barrels; 9:30 to 10:00. That's when they start selling too. It shouldn't be an issue.

Ms. Tripp – There's a roll-off behind the Town Hall. Ask the vendors to put their boxes in that so they don't fill up the barrels.

Mr. Hobson – I'm all for kids and family events.

Mr. Furtado – Send a letter to the folks who are in charge of set up to help us out to have the vendors use the roll-off and we'll provide a crew from 10:00 to 5:00.

Mr. Freitas motioned to supply three staff for Homecoming on June 30th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Appointment to the Bike Path Committee – BPW Representative

Mr. Riley – Some issue arose about different persons on certain boards. I did check it out. My understanding is that the Bike Path falls under the Board of Public Works control. We can appoint someone under Chapter 122 of the Fairhaven BPW rules and regulations.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 4, 2012**

Mr. Hobson – I personally was elected by this Board to sit on the Hoppy's Landing Committee. Selectmen said I couldn't be on another committee. Put me back to the Hoppy's Landing Committee. We cut the grass down there.

Mr. Furtado – I believe that is under the jurisdiction of the Selectmen. The Bike Path would be us.

Ms. Sturtevant – I use and run the bike path. We would like to see it extended from Providence to Provincetown.

Mr. Hobson – Why, now in ten years?

Ms. Sturtevant – It's been dormant.

Mr. Hobson motioned to recommend Kathy to the Bike Path Committee. Mr. Freitas seconded.

Mr. Haworth – I think Mr. Hobson makes a point. We maintain Hoppy's Landing; we should have a representative on the committee. There is work to be done down there, the same with the bike path. They didn't ask us.

Ms. Sturtevant – I wrote a letter to be on the committee. I've gone to two meetings. The last meeting I was a bystander. I asked to put this on the agenda to do the right thing.

Mr. Freitas – I will say this, Kathy has done the job, but ask the Selectmen if we can send a representative of the BPW; yes or no.

On Mr. Hobson's motion. Vote 4-0 in favor with Ms. Sturtevant abstaining.

Mr. Freitas motioned to send a letter to the Selectmen asking if the BPW can have a representative to the Hoppy's Landing Committee. Mr. Haworth seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. Family Bicentennial Family Fun Day – Request for "Big Trucks" 7-14-12

Mr. Riley – This request will come out of next year's budget.

Mr. Haworth – Why do we use three people, 2 guys or one guy?

Mr. Freitas – Last year, go there and not see them. They need to wear their cleanest uniforms and no smoking. Pass that along.

Mr. Riley – Three pieces of equipment; three people.

Mr. Haworth motioned to approve three personnel and vehicles for the Family Bicentennial on July 14th at Cushman Park from 10:00 to 4:00 p.m. and that the personnel stay with the vehicles at all times. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

Ms. Tripp – Mr. Bouley told me that he has donations from contractors for a roof and upgrade the electrical at the Bandshell. I told him to make sure they had the proper permits.

D. Bay State Contracting – Final Pay Requisition

Mr. Furtado – This is for the roof for the Operations Building.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 4, 2012**

Mr. Haworth motioned to approve final payment to Bay State Contracting in the amount of \$21,965.12. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

**E. Joint Appointment to the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District Committee,
Alfred Raphael**

Mr. Riley – Mr. Raphael would like to continue serving on the Water District Committee.

Mr. Haworth – Mr. Raphael was an excellent employee. My comment is in no way disrespectful to him but we've had a lack of communication from that committee. He is no longer an employee.

Mr. Furtado – I attended the last couple of meetings they had. I am on the Advisory Committee now. No disrespect to Mr. Raphael but if there is another opening, I would like to sit on the District Committee as well. Public Works should be represented.

Mr. Freitas – I'm sure he would come in.

Mr. Haworth – I would like to see him every quarter.

Mr. Fortin – I believe this Board appoints the Advisory Committee. The District Committee are items dealing with the district plant.

Mr. Freitas motioned to appoint Alfred Raphael to the MRVWDC. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

F. Water & Sewer Abatement Request; 22-24 Main Street

Mr. Riley – The owners live out of State. We left a notice at the house. The tenant didn't care. The property manager corrected the situation.

Mr. Fortin – We left a notice with the tenant. We wanted to get into the property but we didn't get in. The homeowner called on May 4th. We received a letter from the homeowner on May 30th for an abatement. This is only what he said. We didn't physically get in.

Mr. Haworth – At any time did you test the meter?

Mr. Fortin – We never got into the house.

Mr. Freitas – Can we abate the sewer?

Mr. Haworth – How do you do that? We left them a notice. That's not our problem. I don't see adjusting this. It doesn't warrant an abatement.

Mr. Hobson – At the last meeting we refused people. I don't see how we can do anything. There's no proof.

Mr. Haworth motioned to deny the abatement request for 22-24 Main Street. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

G. Park Department Transfer for Gasoline and Diesel

Mr. Riley – It's the end of the fiscal year and the Finance Committee wants to know of any possible shortfalls. The Park Department will need a transfer for gas and diesel.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 4, 2012**

Mr. Furtado – I've talked to the department heads and Kathy and they have made me aware that we're pretty close. After first review we've spent about \$400 to \$500 more. It depends on the weather. Last year it appears the Finance Committee gave us a \$1,200 transfer. Also, contemplating the electrical hook up for the beach trailer. It may be an issue where the electrical box is located. Nstar wants it 6' above and the electrical inspector wants it 10' high.

H. Massachusetts Coalition for Water Resource Management Membership

Mr. Furtado – This group has been in existence for a few years. New Bedford belongs. There are quite a few members in the State. It's usually commissioners, superintendents. They look at towns when they have been ordered to do unfair mandates with EPA. They will be helpful with the nitrogen limits for the treatment plant. The membership fee is 50% off. It's \$750.

Mr. Freitas – It's well worth the money.

Mr. Freitas motioned to approve Mr. Furtado being a member of the MCWRS. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

I. Horizon Solutions – Final Payment

Mr. Riley – This is the final payment of the company that was formally Teknikor for the Pumping Station Rehab for energy conservation.

Mr. Furtado – It's for the high efficiency motors. They were installed at South, Taber and Railroad.

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to approve final payment to Horizon Solutions in the amount of \$125,556.00. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

J. Pavao Construction; Spring/Main Street – Pay Requisition #1

Mr. Riley – The amount is \$38,227.05. It's been approved by GCG.

Mr. Freitas motioned to approve payment to Pavao Construction in the amount of \$38,227.05. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

K. Request to Plant Cherry Trees – Pilgrim & Cherry Street Park

Mr. Riley – The Selectmen have accepted a donation by Dr. Hinohara for cherry trees. They want some planted at Cherry and Pilgrim Avenue.

Ms. Sturtevant – I went down there. There is a memorial there that says Joshua Slocum Monument. This gentleman is 101 years old. What would it cost for us to put a stone with a plaque there?

Mr. Riley – Their request is to plant trees.

Mr. Haworth – That's a great idea. Have Mr. Charbonneau review the locations.

Mr. Haworth motioned to allow planting cherry trees with Mr. Charbonneau deciding on the location. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 4, 2012**

VI. Board Members, Superintendent – Old Business / New Business

Mr. Hobson – The Highway Department did an excellent job for the Memorial Day parade events. The weather was lousy but they got the job done.

Ms. Sturtevant – Briercliffe Road; the drain is clogged and washed out at the beach. There's a big hole. There has been sand in it in the past.

Mr. Haworth – They should check that on a regular basis.

Ms. Sturtevant – Weybridge; the gate at someone's driveway behind there. The gate is locked.

Mr. Haworth – There have been concerns on Welcome Street in East Fairhaven. It's a dirt road and it's extremely dusty. The Superintendents report about Oliver Street cutting of the grass in June. They paid subdivision maintenance fees. We should cut that a little more than we do.

Mr. Freitas – This Board needs to address this. I recently put my name in for another job. They requested my previous managers were contacted. I gave four for this job. Three came up with. Ms. Schick was listed as a professional reference. When they called she wouldn't give any comment. This is a personal thing. It could have stopped me from getting a job. I got a copy of my folder. In twenty years, there were accommodations, promotions. I didn't appreciate it. I didn't think it was fair. Why do you think people are leaving out of there? The management is horrible.

Mr. Riley – Mr. Furtado has been transitioning in the Water Department. Let Mr. Furtado come up with a plan first.

Mr. Freitas – I'm for that.

Mr. Furtado – I've spoken to the few that are in charge and the few who represent the union.

Mr. Freitas – Some guys have issues but are reluctant to say anything.

Mr. Furtado – The inmates think they can run the asylum.

Mr. Furtado discussed his report.

From Last meeting

- All our areas were (grass) cut for Memorial day
- Volunteer Bike Path clean-up; trash may be left at the following locations for pick-up
 - Pleasant Street at the bike path
 - David Drown Blvd at the bike path
 - Arsene Street at the bike path
 - Weeden Road at the bike path
 - Shaw Road at the bike path
- No dogs allowed sign was installed at Cushman Park
- Oliver St scheduled to be cut in June
- Paint brighter stripes in bike path crossing area on Sconticut Neck Rd added to line painting crew (scheduled to be on site in June) "to do" list

New Items

- Met with Bicentennial Committee at Livesey Park; went over BPW responsibilities for event July 8; need to cut grass, ramp up area for floats to access park on Glenhaven, remove bollards on Houle St side; grade Houle St.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 4, 2012**

- Oxford St reconstruction
- Public comment period for Marsh Island
- Park Department gas/diesel transfer for FinCom
- Employee suspension
- Interviews for water dept truck driver openings
- Brown and Caldwell Amendment 5 Revised
- Meet with SRPEDD; go over street sweeper specs
- GCG Inspection Contract for Southcoast Hospitals Phase II
- Email to Police concerning permission to line paint Balsam St for Fishermen Beach Association
- Digester Update; in Executive Session
- Turbine Contractor slated to complete site work on June 1, including fence installation
- West Island Association; Tower Painting update
- Town Beach Electrical Hook up for Beach Trailer update
- Ristuccia property on Balsam, denies Town easement, we should rescind driveway variance, we will still install basin to remove water from Balsam
- Prebid meeting for Tree box filter installation(s) on Sycamore St and in Livesey Park
- Broken sewer line on Pope's Island...belongs to City in accordance with IMA
- Legal Opinion re: recycle center
- Neighborhood News interview concerning Digester and NPDES Nitrogen proposed limit

Mr. Freitas motioned to rescind the driveway waiver for 46 Balsam Street for Mr. Ristuccia and he can come back before us. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Riley – Mr. Furtado will be here one year in August. I'm giving you a copy of the performance appraisal form. I'd like to get these back from you in June or July and we can discuss this in August.

VII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Sturtevant motioned to set the date for the next meeting on June 19th at 6:45 p.m. Mr. Haworth seconded. Vote unanimous.

VIII. Executive Session and Adjourn

Mr. Riley motioned to enter into executive session at 8:24 p.m. to discuss the Digester Project and not to reconvene in open session. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

Roll call taken: Mr. Riley, Mr. Hobson, Ms. Sturtevant, Mr. Haworth and Mr. Freitas in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant