

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
November 4, 2013**

Present

G. Steven Riley, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Kathleen Sturtevant Commissioner
Michael Ristuccia, Commissioner
Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant
Edward Fortin, Water Superintendent
Ken Pottel, Bikeway Committee
Jeff Sullivan, Bikeway Committee



I. Call to Order

Mr. Riley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. August 12, 2013 – Executive Session

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2013 Executive Session. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. August 26, 2013 – Executive Session

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2013 Executive Session. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote 4-0 in favor with Mr. Riley abstaining.

C. October 21, 2013

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2013 meeting. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. Ken Pottel, Fairhaven Bikeway Committee – Request for Support for CPC Funding

Mr. Pottel – We are requesting a lane modification for fog lanes and a parking issue to resolve. The fog lane would provide some safety. There was a SRPEDD report done in 2009 that highly recommends fog

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lanes be put on the Neck. We agree. Everybody has seen people riding bikes down the Neck. It would make it safer. The other one is the signal light at Scoticut Neck Road. Add two signals; wireless solar powered that will detect motion on either side of the bike path. Also, there would be button for pedestrians. It's about \$12,000 for each light and then \$250 for the prefab foundation. \$12,000 for 2 lights. That's the only cost involved.

Mr. Roth – They are going to be submitting minimal bike staff support to the committee. We will see if they are both eligible. Fog lines, transportation safety should actually be implemented. We will review it.

Mr. Wotton – We talk about this quite often. It's a great idea.

Mr. Ristuccia – My sentiments exactly. I'm all for making that safer. It should happen.

Ms. Sturtevant – My biggest issue was the parking issue. As far as the light I'm in full support of that. Fog lines not an issue either.

Mr. Hobson – I'm all for the safety. Where are the lights going on Scoticut Neck Road?

Mr. Pottel - At the bike path.

Mr. Hobson - What if somebody just walks by?

Mr. Pottel - They will have to push a button. There are sensors that will look down the bike path on either side.

Mr. Hobson - I just don't want the light to go automatically.

Mr. Roth – Dismount the bike and push the button. It's the best way.

Mr. Riley – Does anybody know the life of the battery?

Mr. Pottel – No, but I can check on it.

Mr. Riley – Two meetings ago we discussed about painting some lines on the right side where people stop and go around.

Mr. Roth – The problem is when somebody stops for the cyclist going north it's wide enough that they think you're turning. One other option you could look at the white things that screw in the road. They have them in Dartmouth at Route 140 at Brownell and at Faunce Corner Road when you get off at Route 195. They put those up in the summer and take them out in the winter. The Board should look at that.

Mr. Riley – We looked at the various options.

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Mr. Furtado - John and I met with Jeff and his wife and emails. We support our assistance pending a vote.

Mr. Pottel – Could we get a possible letter of support from the Board?

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to approve supporting the Bikeway Committee to use \$22,000 from CPC funding for Scoticut Neck Road bikeway improvements Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Hobson motioned to support \$10,000 for fog lanes. Mr. Wotton seconded.

Ms. Sturtevant – I don't know if we should support that.

Mr. Pottel – The SRPEDD study said it is a safety issue too.

Mr. Furtado – Does this have to go before the sign committee?

Ms. Tripp – Yes.

Mr. Riley – It's not the safety issue but to fund it going forward.

Mr. Ristuccia – If I'm not mistaken when Mr. Roth was speaking, the painting of the line might not get the funding.

Mr. Roth – Every project submitted does not meet the guidelines.

Mr. Ristuccia – Does this project?

Mr. Roth – This one, I'm not sure. The signals, yes. The striping I would have to check in to.

On the motion: Vote unanimous.

V. Items for Action

A. Pavao Construction – Fort Street Roadway Improvement Project, Pay Req. #6

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to approve Payment #6 to Pavao Construction in the amount of \$71,121.95 for the Fort Street Roadway Improvement Project. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Fairhaven Lions Club – Request to Install Sign

Mr. Furtado – We received a request form the Lions Club to install a sign adjacent to the NFIA building. John and I went by there and didn't see a problem.

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to approve the sign for the Lions Club. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

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C. Mill Road Pumping Station

Mr. Riley – With the equipment that is there it is being used as a homeless shelter.

Mr. Furtado - We received a resident complaint to the BPW from a woman that lives near the Mill Road building. She expressed concern that folks are hanging around. It's dark where the trailer is fenced. The trailer belongs to EMA. There is water and sewer there so in response we fixed some of the lights and added additional lighting. We need your vote to have EMA move their property that is there. I don't believe they utilize it any longer. With your support I'll ask them as to keep vagrants out of that area.

Mr. Fortin- It was a trailer that was brought in years ago for their office. It's been abandoned for six or eight years. We used to keep Water Department vehicles there before we moved to this building in 1983. I've asked them a couple of times if somebody's going to take it. We were approached from the police that somebody was living in it. It's not ours. They put plywood on the door. It's pretty much overgrown and it hasn't been maintained. Adjacent is a two stall garage they also utilize. The garage is basically falling apart. We just need to know what, if anything we can have them move the trailer, clean up and if there is not a lot in the garage, get rid of it.

Mr. Furtado – We went there and sent a picture to Jeff Osuch. He gave us his comments.

Mr. Riley – On the overgrown brush, it's the Water Department?

Mr. Fortin – We only maintain outside the fence.

Mr. Riley – The security lighting; are we shifting to LED?

Mr. Fortin – I'll have to check with Ray.

Mr. Riley – The LED last longer and there is less maintenance.

Mr. Hobson – The people that run that are good people. If we can assist them with a backhoe and put it on a truck and help them get rid of it.

Ms. Sturtevant – These garages are falling down?

Mr. Fortin - I'm going to have Wayne look at it.

Mr. Ristuccia – I'm not real familiar with that building. If we own it why can't we just decide what's going to happen?

Mr. Fortin – We don't own the trailer.

Mr. Ristuccia – Send them a letter get your stuff out guys.

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Mr. Fortin - It's going to cost money to clean this up.

Mr. Ristuccia- Potentially it's a liability for the Town.

Mr. Wotton – The red brick building?

Mr. Fortin – No, behind it and the two stall garage.

Mr. Wotton – Have them remove what's in the building and access the building. There are only two houses in the back. It's a good hiding spot. She's right to be concerned. I think they need to come down.

Mr. Riley – Send a letter to EMA to take care of their stuff.

Mr. Hobson motioned to send a letter to EMA to remove the trailer within sixty days and the garage has to be gone within another one-hundred twenty days. Mr. Ristuccia seconded. Vote unanimous.

E. Tata & Howard – Proposal for Tinkham Lane Well Evaluation

Mr. Fortin – There is a proposal that went out. We cleaned it last year and what we found at the time is that we were losing capacity. There was 3 ½ feet of sand at the bottom. We've done some preliminary work to see if we can slow the migration down. In order to evaluate the stainless steel screen we have to pull the pump, evaluate it, and see what we can do with the well. This is our main well.

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to approve not to exceed spending \$11,500 to Tata & Howard to evaluate the Tinkham Lane Well. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

D. Water and Sewer Indirect Costs

Mr. Riley – Water and sewer indirect costs concerns about the other town buildings using water and sewer and are not charged or deducted from the indirect costs to the general fund.

Mr. Ristuccia – I am happy that this is on the agenda this evening, heightened with the increase in the rates. I see in the package the schedule of what the bills would have been. Could you recap how much money?

Mr. Furtado – It could be \$45,000 this fiscal year.

Mr. Ristuccia – If we have to pay to the Town our share of in costs, why do we give the water away for free? I just feel that the school department and other departments should pay.

Mr. Furtado – There are certainly two sides of the argument. If we get charged on the calculation held to this standard, why not charge for water and sewer for other departments. Revenue and expense the town is expecting we cannot charge another department. The shortfall has to be made up somehow. That's where they are going to make it up.

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Mr. Ristuccia – \$50,000?

Mr. Furtado – There would be \$50,000 less in the general fund. Next town meeting they have to make that up somewhere. Finance and Selectmen are responsible for balancing the budget. Moving forward, we are allowed to look at those numbers. Indirect costs have to be approved. It has to be agreed by us.

Mr. Riley – It has yet to be explained to me the extra \$45,000 should have been paid for the last seven years. My question is how did the town survive the last seven years without that money? Road work didn't get enough money as they should have.

Mr. Ristuccia – This is the reason why I want to talk about this. We were forced to raise the rates to meet the obligation that was placed upon us. My concern is there a lot of people who don't have the ability and squeak by, even if it's only \$30 or \$60 is a huge amount. If we had the Town paying us for the water then we could decide.

Mr. Riley – The D.O.R. came in and looked at the whole town. Why can't they do that for this?

Mr. Ristuccia - The water and sewer costs are going to go up.

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

Mr. Wotton – There was an issue with a sidewalk that was on a to-do list that should have been done.

Mr. Furtado – It was on the list given to the contractor.

Mr. Ristuccia – All set.

Ms. Sturtevant – All set.

Mr. Hobson – All the leaves have fallen off the trees. Is it possible when all the leaves are gone a truck and trailer can go around and pick up junk ,TV's that people are throwing on the side of the streets? A few other towns use a backhoe with a truck and pull it out and get rid of it. The residents would appreciate it.

Mr. Furtado – I'll look into it.

Mr. Wotton – The neighborhood around Oak and Sycamore Street. There are leaves on the street put out by the residents that are piled high. It took up several parking spaces in the street. We allow them to do that? The town comes and picks them up.

Ms. Tripp – There should be a by-law preventing that.

Mr. Wotton – It's a huge inconvenient for the people in those areas.

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Mr. Riley – It also clogs up the drains.

Ms. Tripp – Bring it before Town Meeting and put a fine with it.

Ms. Sturtevant – What is going to happen with the junk on the side of the street is that people are going to see items on the side of road and then not bring it to recycle.

Mr. Riley – Couple things. Budgets are way past 50% for temporary help.

Ms. Tripp – That’s because it is based on three months. They will come back in June to finish the fiscal year.

Mr. Riley – Budgets and the rubbish contract. I’d like to have the Capital Outlay in by the first meeting in January with 3 quotes.

Mr. Furtado – We have already started working on the rubbish contract.

Mr. Riley – I’d like to get that done early.

Ms. Tripp – Do you want to change anything in it such as charging for bags?

Mr. Riley – No, we don’t want to go that route.

Mr. Furtado – We had a staff meeting last week and discussed the wish list and capital outlay.

Mr. Riley – Howland Road, any movement on that?

Mr. Furtado – No.

Mr. Riley – Brown and Caldwell were doing some redesigning. We do not want to absorb any more costs.

Mr. Furtado – That’s up to the Board. They will present everything and take it from there. We need to make the system work. They are putting together some thoughts for us. We will meet with them this Friday. Need to make some modifications. Not big ticket items.

Superintendent Report for November 04, 2013:

From last meeting:

- Guard rail at Cottonwood (as at Bass Creek); we could install it, need to have ConComm approval
- 179 Adams St; grate was switched
- Lions Club sign okay to be put up
- Waybridge Road; pile in Town way, pile is actually building materials which are being utilized

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- Weeds Church Street; homeowner to remove when he knocks down wall

New Items:

- Court case versus Severance Trucking was rescheduled for 12/10
- Court case (payment review) versus A.W. Martin also on 12/10
- Drainage issue at Thompson Street; we will need to install leaching basin as we have no easement on resident's property
- Lots of pricing work with Bikeway Committee to assist with CPC grant
- Forwarded Oliver Street traffic island removal request to Selectmen
- Sewer Union upset with employee work schedule time change
- Scheduled training for me
- Taught wastewater classes for the troops
- Mr. Senna paid \$200 towards his invoice
- Met with Brown & Caldwell – B&C to give Town estimate for pipe modification to feed digester...estimate for DAFT repairs..and to add SCADA controls for hrt and solids loading – will meet on 11/6
- Issued discipline letter to a sewer employee
- Water/sewer revenue down due to water ban
- Safety walk through our buildings with the Town's comp carrier
- Attended Economic Meeting with Department Heads – informed all present of the discussion by the Board to offset some of the indirect costs with water/sewer
- Met with CDM concerning Mass Estuary report which will be used to set Town's Wastewater Nitrogen limit
- Had meeting with Superintendents – spoke about Articles and Capital Outlay for upcoming year. Also spoke about various communication issues I would like to see improved
- Met with Cintas – laundry service company – concerning next year's contract

VII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to hold the next meeting on November 18, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

VIII. Adjourn

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to adjourn at 7:18 p.m. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on November 18, 2013.