

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
December 30, 2013**

Present

G. Steven Riley, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Kathleen Sturtevant Commissioner
Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant



Mr. Ristuccia was not in attendance.

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. December 16, 2013

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2013 meeting. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. n/a

V. Items for Action

A. BPW Budgets

Mr. Riley – The final budgets are due mid January. The next two meetings we will be discussing them. Mr. Furtado has been to a few economic meetings. There are different scenarios on reductions. The Superintendents will have more information for capital outlay items for the next meeting. They are waiting for prices.

Mr. Furtado - The Finance Committee has asked every department to come up with three scenarios; Same as FY14, level funded, 1% increase above that number and 2%. For example, the unions here everybody got a 1% raise July 1st. 1% will put us 1% behind. Quick math we need about 2% because of

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longevity and steps. Roughly speaking we need 2% give or take. Finance Committee wants us to present each budget and what we would give up salary wise to make it work.

My guess is that they would allow the 1% increase. Take it out of salary and wages. Whether we reduce staff, summer help hire in July instead of June. You will have to make the decision. We know under the 0%, 1% and 2% what that would mean. We have a few ideas. No matter what happens there will be fewer services.

Mr. Hobson – Anybody retiring?

Mr. Furtado – Not that I know of.

Mr. Riley – Step increases and the contractual money for sewer and water that's 2½%. Somewhere along the line we have to cut 4%.

Mr. Furtado – No, 2.5 %. Last year's Highway wages were \$893,794. This year we would be requesting \$916,339 which is 2.5%.

Mr. Riley – Basically it's just the salary account we can tinker with.

Mr. Furtado – That's what the Finance Committee has requested. The Selectmen have also put forth a -2% you can cut from anywhere. I can't speak for the Selectmen means a -2% which is -4% and in that scenario we can cut from anywhere.

Mr. Hobson – These Selectmen and the Finance Committee should get together.

Mr. Furtado – We are the only one with signed contracts. Everyone else will probably receive .5% and 1%.

Mr. Riley - All my past practices in the real world you encompass the full budget.

Mr. Furtado – The Sewer is less.

Mr. Riley – I think we should take a different approach.

Mr. Furtado – I agree with you but that will just be another scenario.

Mr. Riley – Capital Outlay is a wish list.

Ms. Tripp – The Town Hall will be sending us the budget forms. On it there are spaces for -2%, 0%, 1% and 2%. When we met with Jeff Osuch we said that's fine but none of those are what we want. There should be another budget for what we need. He said to make copies of the budget sheet and submit our figures.

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Mr. Furtado – There is no spot for the 2.5%. There would be a 5th column and put what we want because that's what we need.

Mr. Riley – For all intensive purposes present the overall budgets and reduce by 2.5%.

Mr. Furtado – Look at that page where -.6% and (\$12,995). So we have to find another \$10,000 to be level funded. This way you could still get the salary increase.

Mr. Riley – Forget the Capital Outlay, dues north of that we have to somewhere to find \$10,000.

Mr. Furtado – Really it would be supplies.

Mr. Riley - Any thoughts on those line items?

Mr. Furtado – Honestly we are going into the Rubbish Collection contract. Perhaps we can reduce that by taking away something. Less of a service we are providing. Items on the top harder to reduce.

Mr. Riley – Vehicle maintenance is a guess.

Mr. Furtado - \$64,000 is a pretty accurate number.

Mr. Hobson – We also bought new equipment.

Mr. Riley – If you wanted to you could find \$3,000 right there. Now you are only chasing \$7,000.

Mr. Furtado– Just so Kathy and I are clear, we are going to have x amount of scenarios, 0%, 1% and 2%, based on salaries.

Mr. Riley – Equipment maintenance; probably \$1,500 there if push came to shove. Now you are at \$4,500 on the top half.

Mr. Furtado - No matter what it's our budget.

Mr. Riley – Supplies, and signs and lines pick up a grand there. Not find anything in park. This is one of our great resources in town to use. The only place you can take it from back to what was \$1,500. We fought hard to get that extra \$500 last year. There are only six line items in the Park Department.

Mr. Furtado – The only increase is \$775. The Sewer salaries are a 2% increase. The rest of the budget it's down overall. Basically it just reflects the digester. Even with the 2% in salaries it's only up 1%.

Mr. Riley – The last time we discussed the sludge disposal. She's requesting \$250,000. Quick math amortize so far and the spring might spend more. Last year we spent \$202,000. Every spring is different \$250,000 to \$235,000 if you need to find one item.

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Mr. Furtado – I don't agree. There is no reason to reduce that number. If we don't use it, it goes back to retained earnings.

Mr. Riley– Water, the same scenario.

Mr. Furtado – Water salaries and wages is up 2.18%. The water purchase went up from the Mattapoisett River Valley based on the amount of water that is pumped. Anne Carreiro made a request to change uniforms so it reflects a 59% increase. We moved some of the stuff around. Overall the increase reflects the 1% raise for the union and the steps, and what we got billed for the district which went from \$1,027,833 to \$1,111,542, that's \$83,000 more.

Mr. Hobson – Well cleaning?

Mr. Furtado – We hire Dennis Mayer. FY12 and FY13 roughly \$22, \$23, \$24,000. Eddie asked for \$25,000 this year. That's the cost. Appropriated \$19,000 for the last two years and we spent \$21 and \$23. That had to go up. The total budget went up 4.37% and it's because of the district and the purchase which we have no control over. The only other budget is Administration.

Mr. Riley – This is difficult. Is it possible to get a scenario from the powers to be what effect it would take on manpower?

Mr. Furtado – The exercise with the Finance Committee is how are we going to make up the money? Right now projected revenue and expenses the Town has to come up with \$300,000. That's the General Fund.

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

Mr. Hobson – Recycle Center; I know it's going to be open every Wednesday weather permitting. Kind of like to see it every other Saturday just for four hours for the people that work.

Mr. Riley – They want to cut our budgets not add to it.

Mr. Furtado – Maybe we can be open once a month for January and February on Saturday.

Mr. Hobson motioned to open the Recycle Center on the last Saturday in January and February for four hours, 9:00 to 1:00 p.m. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Wotton – The trailer on Mill Road, it's still there.

Mr. Furtado – It has been tasked to us. Are we going to do it? Yes we are.

Mr. Riley – Call ABC and see if they can help us out.

Mr. Furtado – EMA said they claimed it surplus and the Selectmen said they didn't.

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VII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to hold the next meeting on January 6, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

VIII. Adjourn

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to adjourn at 6:52 p.m. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on January 6, 2014.