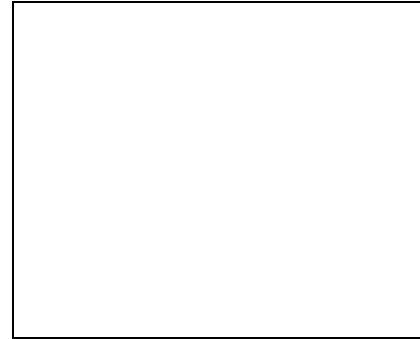


**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
February 23, 2015**

Present

Michael Ristuccia, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Brian Wotton, Commissioner
G. Steven Riley, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant
Dog Park Committee Members:
Carol Tyson
LaurieTraudt
Donna Baldwin
Tara Schryver
Nancy Santoro



Ms. Sturtevant was not in attendance.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Ristuccia called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. February 9, 2015

Mr. Riley motioned to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2015 meeting. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. Dog Park Committee

Ms. Traudt – We’d like to get some land on Long Road. I was talk to Vinnie earlier and pretty much still interested in the area behind the pond. Try to share it with you around the back which could still be utilized by the BPW in case we have a storm.

Ms. Tyson – I have an update on the insurance. Spoke with Anne Kakley. She checked with John Beauregard. He said that the Dog Park would be no exclusion, part of the general liability. He did have a few recommendations to post notices about the dos and don’ts. I have a copy of the email. Couples of suggestions, small and large dogs have different areas. Pretty much divided with dog park rules

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including children. No food, water, cleanup would be all put into signs. My other question is would the Dog Park come under the Parks and Recreation?

Mr. Furtado – Kathy Sturtevant is on the phone listening.

Mr. Hobson – Would it be enclosed?

Ms. Tyson – Yes, double entrance.

Mr. Riley – I think its fine. Biggest issue for me was insurance and the delineation of the wet lines. That's been addressed.

Mr. Ristuccia - The conservation area is a little farther east. The west side of the property is where they want to go. Conservation has already been to that site.

Mr. Furtado - Make sure Conservation is okay. Go around if we had to store brush.

Ms. Traudt – John Rockwell did flag an area but it was in the woods. In the spring the geography changes and he will revisit it in the spring if need be. Hills were gone so that would bring the land up a little more. Also the inlet before the pond, that is a little wetter.

Mr. Ristuccia – An acre or an acre and one-half works for me personally. Back portion instead of the front.

Mr. Furtado – The Board says good to go. What next?

Ms. Traudt– DEP?

Mr. Furtado – If Conservation says okay you don't have to go to DEP.

Mr. Wotton – The fence would have a double wide gate so a big truck could fit thru it. Have access if we need to.

Mr. Ristuccia – When you know when the Conservation Committee meeting is I can attend to answer any questions.

Ms. Traudt – Wait till spring?

Mr. Ristuccia – Do it while the fires hot.

Mr. Hobson – Good spot, location. Everybody has a dog and they need exercise, Fort, West Island, Hoppy's Landing and a lot of other places you can let the dog loose but not at the Town beach. No men on this committee?

Ms. Traudt – John Jorgensen.

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Mr. Ristuccia – I'm excited to have you here. I think what happens next is the Conservation Committee. I will attend if you want. After Conservation come back here and at that point put together a nice list and we can talk about the sign, fence material so we all know what is going to happen and everybody is happy.

Mr. Hobson motioned to support the Dog Park location on Long Road with the stipulation they come back to a future meeting with signage and specifics. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Riley – When the project gets going would you be looking at second area?

Ms. Traudt – Big and small dogs, one in Fairhaven is enough. Falmouth took them seven years. They have spent quite a bit of money. I think around \$10,000.

V. Items for Action

A. Water & Sewer Indirect Costs

Mr. Furtado – Kathy put together this sheet. It shows the last few fiscal years from a report from Town Hall. It's in two sections. The top part is the direct cost for water and sewer, health insurance, workers compensation, unemployment. The second part is the indirect costs of what those items cost. For example, general administration; Jeff Osuch, Anne Carreiro, accounts payable, payroll and folks like that. It was approved by the audit how much time they spend. Next item is the audit for water and sewer. If you look at the indirect costs it actually went down. Direct costs went up. So what to focus on the very last column you can see FY15-16 water and sewer. The water direct cost went up around \$16,000 and the sewer \$11,000 and change. The general administration went down \$4,000 for water and sewer. Technology went up, insurance went down. The net increase was \$10,799. The same with the sewer, \$11,441 for direct costs, but the indirect cost for those listed went down \$6,000. We have the indirect calculation sheets for each one of the three years. Everyone was approved by the audit of that time.

Mr. Riley – The amount spent on the indirect cost on the audit in FY13-14 was \$31,000 and now its \$40,000.

Mr. Furtado – We asked the Selectboard to spread it out over three years.

Mr. Riley – They said they would and they didn't. The numbers are jockeyed around at the expense of the water and sewer for the general fund.

Mr. Wotton – I agree with Steve.

Mr. Hobson – Two or three years ago hardly any of this was ours and now we have to pay.

Mr. Furtado – We have been paying indirect costs for a long time but the regulation changed in 2007 and the Town never kept up with the times. Water increased by \$150,000 and sewer \$250,000. The argument was that we should have been paying this all along.

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Mr. Ristuccia – I feel as though these numbers were put here is because the selectmen were not able to have to raise taxes. They came from here so we had to raise our sewer and water rates.

Mr. Furtado – The taxes go up every year. We felt the brunt of it a couple of years ago.

Mr. Ristuccia – The people in Town have to know where their money is going.

B. Water Projected Revenues

Mr. Furtado – Look at the spreadsheet that is in your packet which shows in FY15 what we collected the first six months of this fiscal year. July 1 to December 31 we collected \$1.3 million. This shows the same time period last year, \$1.1 million. The last sheet shows what we collected all of FY14 for water \$2.3 million. Roughly speaking we collected the same both halves. Follow that premise. We can assume \$2.6 million. That's what collected.

Mr. Riley – That figure might be flawed a certain percentage and there will be some conservation in 2015. Can't assume it will be double.

Mr. Furtado – This is just my notes on the budget; \$2.8 million. We owe \$71,000 in debt service. We have \$250,000 in articles. The \$25,000 is for the reserve, \$386,000 is the indirect costs. All together it is \$2.8 million. Told you before I'm assuming we collect about \$2.6. We may have to eliminate some of the articles. There is \$495,000 in reserve. I would recommend to the Finance Committee and Selectmen if we need \$2.8 and collect \$2.6 take \$200,000 from the reserve fund. We absolutely need to do the Causeway and the Tinkham Lane Well. They like us to have 10% in the reserve. Even without the articles then that \$2.875 which is the total of what we owe is going to be \$2.6. We are breaking even right now. Eventually we are going to have to borrow money.

Mr. Riley – In 2008 or 2009 we had \$1.1 million in that fund.

Mr. Furtado – Everything goes up.

Mr. Riley – Even \$1.1 was probably too much. Last year we voted on the tier system. We need to see what the full cycle. We don't want to deviate from that.

Mr. Ristuccia – I don't want to. Then I really need to step up and address the indirect costs.

C. Sconticut Neck Sewer Tie-ins

Mr. Riley – I need clarification from reading the chapter; is the Board of Health responsible to make sure they tie in?

Mr. Furtado – I thought it was the Board of Health.

Mr. Riley – They can grant a hardship waiver.

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Mr. Furtado – Yes, they can grant a waiver. My understanding it doesn't task either department.

Mr. Riley – Of the thirty-nine homes that aren't tied in there are eight outstanding with waivers in place right now. Thirty-one residents that haven't tie in yet or may have tied in or haven't paid. Encumber upon this board. Whatever that process is we need to do.

Mr. Hobson – Waiver, how long for?

Mr. Riley – Why worry about the eight people?

Mr. Ristuccia – You can look at that after. It's probably because of private systems that were recently installed. Plus the chapter says that it can be amended from time to time. Can't we bill them like they are tied in?

Mr. Riley – No, you have to follow the legal process.

Mr. Furtado – Kathy had asked Anne Carreiro if we could use some of the article money to use Town Counsel. She said no. When Pat used to represent the Town and went to court to represent the town Tom submitted the paperwork. I'd like to ask you if I can ask the Selectmen to use Town Counsel.

Mr. Riley motioned to send a letter to use Town Counsel to do the legal process for the people who have not tied into the sewer system. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

D. Boston Hill Water Tank – Closeout Documents for DEP

Mr. Furtado – This is what DEP requires for the SRF to close out the project. Money that was used we are satisfied with everything and the project is closed out.

Mr. Riley motioned to approve the closeout documents for the Boston Hill Water Tank Rehabilitation. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

E. I.W. Harding – Final Payment for the Shore Drive Parking Lot Reconstruction

Mr. Furtado – Chapter 90; this was the drainage parking lot reconstruction on Shore Drive and Seaview. Final payment. Letter for final completion from contracted engineer GCG that everything is okay. We have the contractor application for payment in the amount of \$1,220.08.

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve final payment to I.W. Harding in the amount of \$1,220.08. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

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

Mr. Riley - Anything resolved with Mr. Crotty about the business withdrawing water?

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Mr. Furtado – Yes, I received a letter today and he sent a letter to that company that it was unlawful to withdraw. Last Monday I met with the Sustainability Committee about the carts and I thought it went very well with Pat Fowle and a representative from ABC. We presented about fifteen questions and presented the program to make it as easy with the implementation as well as we can. There will be a grace period. There is a lot of snow and they are going to pick up the garbage the old way as a grace period.

Mr. Hobson – I like the old way with the pickup day once a year.

Mr. Wotton – If it's a metal item put it out and it will be gone. Garbage barrels are very easy to roll and lids just fold right over. There are a couple streets that need a little bit of attention; Farmfield to the dirt road. Lambeth Park Drive, do we plow that?

Ms. Tripp – Yes.

Mr. Wotton – At the end is a cul-de-sac. Can you tell them not to plow in the fire hydrant? And also the gate to that storage facility. Those two areas is a safety issue. Fellsway; they did a little bit today but they need to do some more. Commend the department on the fantastic job they have done compared to other communities. Wide right from the get go. In driving other communities thank god I live in Fairhaven.

Mr. Furtado – It takes us a little while.

Mr. Riley – Follow up with what Brian said on other communities; we are limited with vehicles and the budget we work with they did a tremendous job. Thankful that we have them. People complain but in the grand scheme of things there were few complaints.

Mr. Ristuccia – I think that we all understand that. Certain percentage of people but this is a snow period that stopped the MBTA. Shut it down. The day of the storm a driver could go anywhere in this town. Not a very big budget.

Superintendent's Report:

From last meeting

- Kathy invited dog park reps
- Water revenues
- Letter of credit to 9 Goulart Memorial Drive

New Items

- Meet with ABC subcontractor for cart distribution – drive to various Town sites
- Attend Capital Planning Committee – prepare 5 year grid

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- Attend Economic Meeting with Department heads
- Attend Mattapoissett River Valley meeting concerning distribution system ad water withdrawals
- Stopped delivery of carts to summer residents only
- Met with Biomag Representatives (with sewer department). This is part of the grant that the sewer department was awarded to reduce nitrogen using current structures
- Requested an additional \$15,000 in deficit spending for Highway Snow and Ice
- Met with Tom Crotty re: yard Boss water withdrawal issue at Mattapoissett spillway
- Respond to snow events
- Present cart program with ABC and Board of Health to Sustainability Committee. It was taped for repeated viewing
- Received close-out letter from Tom Crotty to finalize contract with Brown and Caldwell re: digester
- Ethics test
- Submitted Semi-annual Hurricane Barrier report (compiled by John Charbonneau) to Army Corps.

VII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Riley motioned to hold the next meeting on March 9, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

VIII. Adjourn

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Riley seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on March 9, 2015.