

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
March 9, 2015**

Present

Michael Ristuccia, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Brian Wotton, Commissioner
G. Steven Riley, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant
Richard Ferreira, 9 Jeannette Street
Paul Pacheco, 16 Jeannette Street
Theodore Charpentier, 12 Jeannette Street
Karyn Ferreira, 13 Jeannette Street



Ms. Sturtevant was not in attendance.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Ristuccia called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. February 23, 2015

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2015 meeting. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. Jeannette Street Residents – Re: Drainage

Mr. Ferreira – I live at 9 Jeannette Street. I have lived there for fifteen years and for fifteen years there has been a constant water problem. It's in my cellar, foundation. I am pretty far back from the road. In the winter it freezes and then there are ruts. An ambulance couldn't get by. It was brought to you once before and I guess recently.

Mr. Hobson – There was an issue a few years ago.

Mr. Charpentier – The street goes to a dead end coming from the woods.

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Mr. Ferreira – There was no drainage halfway. They just put in a new catch basin.

Mr. Charpentier – There was a basketball court that had a pipe that went to Florence Street. Now there are other houses and that line is gone. The drains that are there they can't handle what comes out of the woods.

Mr. Ferreira – In fifteen years there have been seven events.

Mr. Hobson – We need an engineer to redesign the drain.

Mr. Furtado – Drain further to the north?

Mr. Ferreira – Conservation told them to remove the pipe from the pond.

Mr. Ristuccia – We can check into another catch basin down the end of the street determined by the Highway Department. You have our attention.

Mr. Furtado - The place we have to start is to have an engineer design it. It will take a couple of months.

Mr. Ristuccia – Who did you speak with at Town Hall before?

Mr. Ferreira – Wayne.

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the study of Jeannette Street drainage. Mr. Riley seconded. Vote unanimous.

V. Items for Action

A. Gravity Construction – Re: Hydrant Replacement Program

1. Contract Agreement

Mr. Furtado – Contract Agreement and Notice to Proceed. The contract is for \$141,990.01 and this is from FY14 article for the Hydrant Replacement Program.

Mr. Riley motioned to sign the contract for \$141,990.01 to Gravity Construction. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

2. Notice to Proceed

Mr. Riley motioned to sign the Notice to Proceed to Gravity Construction. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Award Annual Bids #1-12

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Mr. Furtado – The bid opening was last week. Items on the left #1-12, these were the bids that came in and this is the highlighted portion of who we will have contractually for next year based on the bid.

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the low bidders as highlighted. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. The Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford – Re: Fort Phoenix Easter Sunrise Service

Mr. Furtado – This is the annual request that we receive from the Inter-Church Council for April 5th Easter service at sunrise.

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the request and to waive the fee. Mr. Riley seconded. Vote unanimous.

D. Bay State Regional Contractors – Re: Pumping Station Improvements, Notice to Proceed

Mr. Furtado – This contract is for the Taber and South Street Pumping Station improvements. You already signed the contract to move forward a few months ago. There was an issue with the MBE/WBE. They have to have 5% of their business minority or women. So there were some issues. They weren't exactly at the 5%. If they did not reach that percentage we would have gone to the next bidder.

Mr. Wotton motioned to sign the Notice to Proceed to Bay State Regional Contractors. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

F. GCG Associates – Agreement for 209 Huttleston Avenue – Grease Trap

Mr. Furtado - This is the pizza place near Stop and Shop.

Mr. Hobson motioned to sign the agreement with GCG Associates for inspection services for 209 Huttleston Avenue in the amount of \$1,910.00. Mr. Riley seconded. Vote unanimous.

E. Water Rates

Mr. Ristuccia – I think it would be a good idea to add a tier.

Mr. Furtado – Fifty percent of the people in Town saved money and 50% of the people are paying more. We are breaking even. We billed out \$2.7 and collected \$2.5. If you raise the rates it's only affecting 90% of the people who pay. Shut the water off if they don't pay.

Mr. Ristuccia – Eighty-five percent of the people pay their water bill. If we don't collect enough money then we have to raise the rates to collect the money. Fifteen percent of the people aren't paying.

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Mr. Riley - When they pay their tax bill and they pay \$2000 in the tax bill and \$250 is owed to the water, that money comes to the enterprise first.

Mr. Ristuccia - Actually my point is we need another tier here. Not decrease of the amount of revenue but those people who don't pay. We are going to take people who do the right thing and award them for it.

Mr. Riley – I understand your premise. Injustice if we didn't allow the three cycles of billing to come into play. Fall bill and summer bill to really find out. Right now we are just guessing.

Mr. Ristuccia - It should be in our minds we should be doing something.

Mr. Furtado – My only issue with that current rate where do we go when you get lesser of a bill. We are just breaking even now.

Mr. Riley – Review it in a year from now.

Mr. Furtado – Based on Wendy's projection we are breaking even. In order to do projects we have to do such as the water main the Causeway and we need another well at Tinkham lane. We have quite a few water main projects that we need to get done. Have to raise the rates then we have to impose shutting off the water.

Mr. Ristuccia – I understand but I am not going to allow raising the rates of the resident.

Mr. Furtado – The city of New Bedford shuts you off after sixty days.

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

Mr. Hobson – I'm good. Excellent job in the last storm.

Mr. Wotton – One thing Alden Road, we need to get somebody over there right away. It's only one and one-half lanes. The old garbage cans, what can people do with them?

Ms. Tripp – They can put the plastic ones out with the trash this month. Put something on them indicating they are for the trash. They will not take the metal ones.

Mr. Riley – Guys in the snow removal did fantastic. Have we gotten headway with the Selectmen to get those people to tie in?

Mr. Furtado – I've requested the Selectmen to use Town Counsel.

Mr. Riley – It's warming up, have they started to clean the catch basins? Snow is starting to melt.

Mr. Furtado – We have a strategic plan.

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Mr. Riley – New recycling bins going out. Can we get a ninety day update from ABC how much they collected? How will we know the increase in recycling percentage?

Mr. Furtado – I can get those numbers by the tonnage delivered to SEMASS from Pat.

Mr. Furtado– This Thursday is the Finance Committee for two things; budget and the second is the deficit in the snow and ice operations. I requested another \$15,000. Next Monday I have to go with John Charbonneau in front of the Selectmen.

Mr. Ristuccia – Vote coming up in April. I don't like the way it's written for the election. It would behoove all of us to talk to the people and vote.

Superintendent's Report for March 9, 2015:

From last meeting

- Various plowing requests were taken care of

New Items

- Union potential clerical bumping issue that may affect us
- Attend water withdrawal permit seminar at DEP in Lakeville concerning water withdrawal regulations soon to be imposed on Town
- Numerous snow events - plowing and sanding
- Attend capital planning committee meeting
- ABC cart delivery still on-going. Residents cannot get additional carts unless this office approves such. Too many carts will go against the reason we started the program in the first place
- Attend MS4 (stormwater permit) meeting concerning new permit regulations that will be imposed on Town
- Tom Crotty send cease and desist practice letter to Yard Boss for water withdrawal at Mattapoissett spillway
- BPW bid opening for asphalt, concrete and sidewalk work for FY16
- Meet with Town Counsel re: Tibbetts/Howland Rd
- Attend Town Economic meeting – budget preparation for Town meeting
- Requested to deficit spend an additional \$15,000 in Highways snow and ice materials account
- Attended Mattapoissett River Valley water withdrawal permit strategy representative Towns

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VII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Riley motioned to hold the next meeting on March 23, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

VIII. Adjourn

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn at 7:14 p.m. Mr. Riley seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on March 23, 2015.