

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 1, 2015**

Present

Michael Ristuccia, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Kathleen Sturtevant, Commissioner
Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Daniel Freitas, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant
West Island Beach Applicants
Barbara Oliveira, 42 Washington Street
Robert Roderiques, 15 Oliver Street
Esther Bigham, 25 Union Street
Trina Bigham
Ann Richard
Matt Spinner, Buzzards Bay Coalition



I. Call to Order

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

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. May 18, 2015

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2015 meeting. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. West Island Town Beach Applicants; Rachel McNamara, Madison Maniatis, Mara Hartig, Shane Charles, Gregory Davis, Meaghan Fowler, Althea Sylvia, Michael Young, Caleb Bolger, Cassie Freitas, Keith Grenier, Morgan Haaland, William Maniatis, Madison Shields, Jewlya Sturtevant

Mr. Hobson – We are going to interview tonight and will let you all know tomorrow or within a couple of days.

Rachel McNamara, Madison Maniatis

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Mr. Furtado – Two are coming back; Rachel and Madison.

Mr. Freitas – The only thing is I will tell you and all the other ones, whoever gets the job to take this seriously. No cell phones or iPods or anything like that. It's a real important job.

Mr. Furtado – What we didn't want to do for the number of slots for gate attendant or lifeguard, for you to be disappointed. We figured after the interview to mull it over and the award winners will be notified in the morning and take it from there.

Gregory Davis

Mr. Furtado - Greg was the head lifeguard a couple of years ago.

Mr. Freitas – I happen to remember Greg. He did a really good job, high on my list. What was the reason you left?

Mr. Davis – I joined the National Guard and was gone for the summer. I do have my summer commitment and I sent those hours to Mrs. Tripp when I would be away.

Mr. Hobson – It's good that you are in the military.

Meaghan Fowler, Althea Sylvia

Mr. Furtado – Meaghan Fowler and Althea Sylvia are not here.

Michael Young

Mr. Young – I work at the YMCA in Wareham and Outdoor World in Rochester.

Ms. Sturtevant – The only thing like I said as previously is how important it is going down there and the head lifeguard and what is expected of you. I have an issue with iPods and congregating with no one paying attention. People go down and they will check to see if you are doing your job.

Mr. Freitas – People talk to us if you aren't doing your job. Head lifeguard will speak to the Board or Kathy if you are not working out. It's not just a hangout for the summer. There are plenty of faces here that want the job.

Mara Hartig

Mr. Furtado – Mara is here. She did a very good job for us last year.

Caleb Bolger

Mr. Furtado – Why do you want to work here?

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Mr. Bolger – It would be a fun summer job.

Mr. Wotton – Based on what they said before. You can't just let anybody in. They have to pay and follow the rules.

Mr. Hobson – Gate person is very important also. Anything that happens at the gate you're the one and you have to help the people with the trailers and the lifeguard stands. Money and the men's room ladies room while at the gate.

Mr. Bolger – I will be out either the second or third week of July on vacation.

Cassie Freitas

Mr. Freitas left the meeting.

Ms. Freitas – I'm getting my license soon and need a summer job.

Mr. Hobson – Available the whole summer and how will you get there?

Ms. Freitas – Yes, my mom will bring me.

Mr. Hobson – It's a very important job.

Mr. Ristuccia arrived at 6:15 p.m.

Mr. Hobson – You have to work Saturday and Sundays.

Mr. Freitas returned to the meeting.

Keith Grenier

Mr. Grenier - I was recommended by my sister. She was the head lifeguard last year and she said I would be a good fit. I'm loyal, honest and would be a good addition here.

Mr. Hobson – You are aware of the job?

Mr. Grenier – She filled me in on it.

Morgan Haaland

Ms. Haaland - My mom works for the Town. I do currently have a night job I love being part of the team. I play sports in college. I'm very hard working and I dealt with money since I was twelve. I was the treasure of my class.

Mr. Hobson – Are you available all summer?

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Ms. Haaland - With the exception of one week I will be going on vacation.

William Maniatis

Mr. Maniatis – I was recommended by my sister. She was the gate attendant and lifeguard. I like being outside.

Mr. Hobson – Available all summer and weekends?

Mr. Maniatis – Yes.

Madison Shields

Ms. Shields – I applied last summer. I currently work night shifts. I can't work on Saturday. I am in my second year of college. Mr. Davis was my swimming instructor. I know the importance of the job.

Jewlya Sturtevant

Ms. Sturtevant left the meeting.

Ms. J. Sturtevant – I actually work at Alden Court Rehab. I have experience for this job. Physically caring for the elderly and do what I have to do and it also entails cleaning up after them. Not a big issue. I've handled money and receipts. I like to keep working in Fairhaven with an outdoor job. Take it seriously.

Ms. Sturtevant returned to the meeting.

Mr. Freitas– Who has a CPR card? If you are hired you could go to the Fire department if need be.

Mr. Ristuccia – Kathy will notify you tomorrow. Thank you all for coming.

B. Barbara Oliveira, 42 Washington Street – Re: Driveway Waiver

Mr. Furtado – She applied for a driveway waiver because she wants two openings, one on each side of the house so she needs a waiver.

Mr. Ristuccia – Why two?

Ms. Oliveira – It's a three family home. We want to keep the cars off the street, especially after last winter. Now there are five cars who live there and a camper.

Mr. Hobson – Good idea to get them off the road. It's a very busy street.

Mr. Freitas – Is there still a business there?

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Ms. Oliveira – No.

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to approve the driveway waiver as showed on the plan with two openings.
Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. Robert Roderiques – Request for Sewer Abatement, 21 Oliver Street

Mr. Roderiques – I have an elderly mother who owns the house, one bedroom, one bathroom. The water bill came in last time I didn't look at and hadn't had a chance to look it but I told the tenant to keep an eye on the water. I had a plumber come. There was five feet of snow. Never shut it off outside. He did a die test. He did every test there was. No sewer from the garden hose. I'm ready to take all the outside faucets out. A month and a half later I received a warning my bill was high; \$1,700. I thought the \$900 bill was high. I knew you changed the billing process. I took action at that point. So this is why I'm here. It's not my house. My mothers. History average use was pretty much 4,000. One time, everything else is pretty standard.

Mr. Wotton – You are looking for a sewer abatement?

Mr. Roderiques – Water is the water.

Mr. Furtado – In order to give a sewer abatement you have to prove the water didn't go down the drain.

Mr. Roderiques – It froze and the water was running.

Mr. Freitas – I'm looking at a bill from Barry Martin Jr. Plumber; and it does say a split hose outside in the winter months running. From my standpoint I'm willing for sewer. I am looking at his bill, too bad on the other. It's his mom's bill. Give you the benefit of the doubt.

Mr. Roderiques – If it was a multi family I wouldn't be here.

Mr. Wotton – I'm okay with it.

Mr. Hobson – I have a little issue. You didn't really prove what happened here.

Mr. Ristuccia – The gentleman tells us what happened. Split hose during the winter months. See the usage from before. I can't imagine that it was a faucet. It ran nonstop.

Mr. Wotton motioned to abate a portion of the sewer charge based on past usage. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote 4-1 in favor with Mr. Hobson against.

Ms. Tripp – In the future, if anyone has this type of situation, the Water Department needs to be notified and witness the problem. We receive calls for broken pipes and the water is running out of the house. We have residents bring in broken pipes. Not that I don't believe you, but we need to witness what goes on when it's happening.

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D. Fairhaven Housing Authority – Re: Water and Sewer Bills

Ms. Tripp – They canceled this morning. They will probably be on the next agenda.

E. Esther Bigham, 25 Union Street – Re: Sewer Backups

Mr. Furtado – Mrs. Bigham lives at 25 Union Street. The Sewer Department has been there four or five times this year. In January there were roots in the line. There was water in the basement. Mrs. Bigham came by the office last Tuesday or Wednesday. She had asked to appear before the Board. Myself and Linda went to her house on Friday. We filmed her cleanout at the sidewalk to the main. Basically her pipe from the cleanout to the street is good. At every joint there were roots and x months again roots. She is nervous because of the odors. Our part is not blocked right now. First ten feet blocks up again we would like at that time to go again before Roto-Rooter goes to save her. Rene made a deal. She states it backs up on Sunday, so every Friday he is going to check the cleanout, run some water until June and taper off as the months go on.

Mrs. Bigham – I've lived there for thirty years. Thirteen years ago I had a plumber there. He ripped up the back side of my house and dug a hole and put a PVC pipe from the house to the sidewalk where the cleanout is. I had Speedy Rooter there in 2006. I had Speedy Rooter come; Roto Rooter paid them on August 9, 2010. Roto Rooter in January 2013. In January I had the guys come out. March came out and April and May. Little bit of water. Hole in my cellar which you were there was sewer. Water that was there smelled the whole cellar. Boys aren't supposed to come in my house. They did because I asked them too. If you ever had sewer in your cellar it stunk up your house. I've had it four times since the beginning of this year. Guys come in with Clorox and wash it out. There is still a stink in our house. I called James Spark, the plumber. I asked him if the PVC pipe put in my house does that mean the roots could get in and he said no.

Mr. Furtado – What remedy? The main line is flat.

Mrs. Bigham – There is an apartment down the street. He said it's funny nobody else on William Street has problems. I went to the Board to get a pulled permit. The Board said they had a water problem and permits are ruined. Excuses.

Mr. Furtado – She brought this up Friday with Rene. We also noticed that the discharge into that section is pretty flat. Put it on the list and jet rod it. Hoping that will help by adding it to our list.

Mrs. Bigham – In January they gave me a bucket of stuff kill the roots. The Town did that and I'm still getting a problem. There is a big huge tree. Not into mine the Town's stuff. There is a problem there. Usually twice a year and now it's four times this year.

Mr. Ristuccia – I want to see the film to the pipe.

Mr. Furtado – If the main were blocked other people would all be calling.

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Mr. Ristuccia – There are several things that could be causing this. PVC pipe is there and not blocked the roots won't go into that. No reason to take a picture. We had the film from the end of your pipe. I want to see that film.

Mrs. Bigham – If I spend \$450 to Roto Rooter from my house to that section and I find there is nothing.

Mr. Furtado – Right now that pipe is clean.

Mr. Freitas – I've done this for twenty years. It's an old section of Town. Not just you, but tons of people that have the clay joints they just stuck them together. The tree roots get in there. Roto rooter can cut them but sometimes you can't get them. White vinegar; put a gallon in the toilet before bed at night last time when you flush. The tree roots don't like it. They will start to pull back. Old trick. Starts to help and alleviates the problem.

Mr. Furtado showed the video.

Mr. Ristuccia – When was the PVC pipe installed?

Mrs. Bigham – I can't remember. Union Street, never see anybody on Union or William.

Mr. Freitas – I think just seeing one jet rodder could be grease in the main. Flat service the water takes longer. The main is also fairly flat. At the house somewhere clean it but it might not be enough. Mr. Furtado will send our guys there. You to do the white vinegar trick. First week every night and then as a maintenance thing. Also guys go down there stuff we wouldn't ask a homeowner try to do is to accommodate you. Put it in and sit in the line as long as we can. I've seen a lot worse. Tree roots in there if something not done. I don't want to rush into anything now. Definitely should be taken care of.

Mr. Ristuccia – If the pitch on the pipe leaving the house situation where the pipe as it leaves the house used to be x and now its $x - 3''$ settled down. So it could be very simply the pitch leaving the house isn't great enough so the flow is slow. Send our crew there to take a picture of her pipe. Get a level on it see what kind of pitch. Need a waiver to go in and do it.

Mr. Freitas motioned we send our crew and get some pictures. Next week take some pictures of the whole line camera in between that and start the vinegar. See how this maintenance works and revisit at another date. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

V. Items for action

E. Award Livesey Skate Park Renovation RFP

Ms. Richard – I guess you have a copy of the Bid. The RFP from two weeks ago and it's been one year and a half. Put a bid in and hopefully get it started. It's being paid by CPC money, no cost to the Town.

Mr. Furtado – We are just the sponsor. It was put in the Central Register. So here we are for approval. The BPW will be the sponsor of the construction project thru their funds.

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Mr. Wotton motioned to sponsor and award the bid to Pivotal Concrete from Wakefield, Rhode Island in the amount of \$60,000.00. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments (Continued)

F. Executive Session Personnel Matter

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to adjourn the open session at 7:16 p.m. and enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and then to reconvene into open session at its conclusion. Mr. Freitas seconded.

In favor: Mr. Ristuccia, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Wotton, Ms. Sturtevant and Mr. Freitas in favor.

Open session reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

A. West Island Beach Applicant

Shane Charles

Mr. Charles – Before this I was an auto mechanic. I have two years experience. I worked as a lifeguard at Kings Dominion in Virginia and then I moved here to be with my daughter last summer. When I was nineteen I worked at the Brockton public pool. Have done rescues. I have all my certificates.

Mr. Ristuccia – You represent yourself well. You know what to do.

Mr. Hobson – When are you available?

Mr. Charles – I have to give my two weeks' notice.

Ms. Tripp – You can still work nights.

Mr. Wotton – Where do you work now?

Mr. Charles – The Wareham YMCA.

Mr. Wotton - Why come here to go back there?

Mr. Charles – It pays more. That's a side thing. Never been on a beach before.

Mr. Freitas – Are you the head lifeguard?

Mr. Charles - No. Some people around you guy's age.

Mr. Freitas – One person is in charge and one assistant.

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Mr. Charles – Authority, no problem with that.

Mr. Freitas – No Iphone or iPods. If I see that it's a concern as a lifeguard and you could be terminated. Do your job. We take it seriously.

Mr. Charles – I worked at an amusement park. Have to constantly scan the pool. Really intense.

V. Items for Action

D. Shaw Farm Trail – Request to Install Sign on Bike Path

Matt Spinner – Basically we are asking for permission to hang a sign at an entrance being constructed in about a month near the Phoenix Bike Path which links up with the old state park. We are putting our name on the sign because we own the easement for the fifteen foot trail. We keep up the maintenance but it's supported by the towns. The placement would be in the grassy area. Leave enough room for horse to ride by.

Mr. Freitas – Off of that trail is it anybody else's land or all Buzzards Bay?

Mr. Wotton motioned to allow Buzzards Bay Coalition to install a sign and access to install sign at the Shaw Farm Trail. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

A. Award Annual Bids

Mr. Furtado – In your packet are the annual bid results from the various items.

Mr. Wotton motioned to award bids to lowest bidder. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Street Acceptance Request – Welcome Street (south side of Route 6)

Mr. Furtado – South side of Welcome Street. We have to review this, Planning Board and Selectmen. A number of residents signed to have that portion of Welcome Street accepted at the next town meeting.

Mr. Wotton – None of these people that signed live on the street/

Ms. Tripp – Some live on the corner of Huttleston Avenue.

Mr. Wotton motioned to allow the petition to go forward. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. Fairhaven Improvement Association – Request for Services; Homecoming

Mr. Furtado – This is the annual fair that occurs in June. The folks have asked to use our employee's and trash barrels during the event. Before that they want street sweeping, grass and tree trimming. Vote to allow the overtime on that particular Saturday for whatever.

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Mr. Ristuccia – Last year we voted on the same thing and there were statements made that going forward they were specified whether we would be respond or not.

Mr. Freitas – If you look at 2011 from where we almost didn't make it. They have to start to reduce the costs because we almost couldn't do it. It's gone up. Down to four people. Either way we did discuss it in 2011 and that we had started to figure a cost.

Mr. Ristuccia – Quite certain last year we talked about how much participation from the Town.

Ms. Sturtevant – I work one of the booths. Sometimes they are just hanging around. They need to leave it up to the supervisor. It's his discretion to call anybody else in. I think they called someone in anyway.

Mr. Freitas – Look at the hours. In 2008 average hours were thirteen, 2009 thirteen, 2010 eleven; 2011 ten, 2012 nine and 2014 nine.

Mr. Wotton – It's physical. They were working hard and I commended them for it. I think we need to tone the hours down. Two people and then bring a 3rd in at the end of the day. Twenty-seven and work it from there.

Mr. Ristuccia – This is a non-profit?

Ms. Sturtevant – No, it's profit.

Mr. Ristuccia – Profit, why should we send our people there?

Mr. Hobson – Money is paid to the Association. What they do with the money is give it back to the Town.

Mr. Freitas – I'm not against it but have the people come in front of us. Asking money from the Town and nobody is representing them here tonight. Years ago our feet were to the fire. We cannot do this. Somehow give and take. It would have been considerate to have a rep show up.

Mr. Ristuccia – How much for a booth?

Ms. Sturtevant - \$35.00.

Mr. Freitas – People have to understand. We asked Town meeting for money and they said no. The services that we render really add up. Great overtime for the guys, but I know back in the day there could have been a problem.

Mr. Ristuccia - We need to talk to these people in the next month or so because I say it like I feel it. We asked for \$2,000 for the summer help and get good kids but we can pick up guys to pick up trash for the vendors.

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Mr. Hobson – The BPW doesn't want to spend \$1000. They should charge \$40 so they can pay for their own cleanup.

Mr. Wotton motioned to request the Fairhaven Improvement Association to come in front of us within the next thirty or sixty days for ways to cut back costs and allow our workers to help assist with this event not to exceed 27 hours. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Ristuccia – They should charge an extra \$10 for the booths. We have talked about this every year for the last four years.

Mr. Freitas – We also had this discussion that if that falls thru and money has to be paid out there is no money for this. Things like this could happen.

F. Award Tinkham Lane Roof Bid

Mr. Furtado – We are going to pass over this. The low bidder from last time, Tata and Howard provided the spec but they did not bid the spec. We were asking these people to send something and we sent it to Tata and Howard. Eddie wants to get done this.

Appointments of Lifeguards and Gate Attendants

Mr. Wotton motioned to hire Greg Davis as Head Lifeguard and rehire the previous employees and Rachel McNamara as the Assistant Head Lifeguard. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Wotton motioned to rehire Mara Hartig as the Gate Attendant and also hire Cassie Freitas and Sturtevant. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor. Ms. Sturtevant and Mr. Freitas reclused themselves.

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

Mr. Hobson – There are some streets that need attention in Town; Holiday and Seaview halfway down. Small 50' potholes and then Hoppy's Landing do the weed whacking. The Highway guys did an excellent job at the farm at Winsegansett. Cleaned the wall. I see them working on Causeway road. There is a bump in the road.

Mr. Wotton– I was at a restaurant and they served dirty water. What's going on?

Mr. Furtado – We don't know. We had dirty water in different sections of Town. We are still feeding the City of New Bedford for quite some time. I got in touch with Mattapoissett. They were really pushing water in our tanks.

Mr. Wotton – Can you get the street sweeper out on Shaw Road. There is a lot of traffic. Debris on the side of the road.

Ms. Sturtevant – Recycle barrel for Howland?

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Ms. Tripp – It's on the list. I don't know if she has it yet. We have called several times to ABC.

Mr. Furtado – They are doing them on Wednesdays.

Mr. Freitas – We received a letter from the governor thanking everybody for the snow removal. Again the governor is thanking our staff. Pass this along.

Mr. Ristuccia – First, ABC; I thought we had the program what's in the barrels. They seem to pick up whatever is out there.

Mr. Furtado – They have had a little problem getting the trucks here.

Mr. Ristuccia – My point is just this time of year we voted to go to a system 95 gallon for recycling and 65 gallon for trash. Trash is what they get. Not picked up. Now ABC doesn't have the truck. We are still picking up whatever is out there. This Town is spending more than what it should be for the rubbish. It's been on television only pick up what's in the barrel. Majority of the citizens just in the barrel.

Mr. Hobson – I followed a truck today. The truck drives up, lifts the cart and bang it's done.

Mr. Ristuccia – Whether the people complain today or two weeks from today. I came in here the other day. Over Memorial Day weekend there were people with twenty bags plus the barrel. I came home from work and all the trash is gone. Hoppy's Landing; bunch of speed boats in there. They pull over by the cabin and they are washing their boats down. Who pays for that water?

Mr. Hobson – It is part of the sticker fee.

Mr. Ristuccia – Follow up with the parking.

Mr. Furtado – Cherrystone was approved by the police.

Mr. Ristuccia – When?

Mr. Furtado –John is aware.

Mr. Hobson – City of New Bedford has had their red flag up for over a month. A bunch of people go quahogging there all summer. Can you check on that?

Mr. Furtado – They must have had some bad samples.

Mr. Hobson – Some of these people do this for a living.

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VII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Wotton motioned to set the date for the next meeting on June 15, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

VIII. Adjourn

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on June 15, 2015.