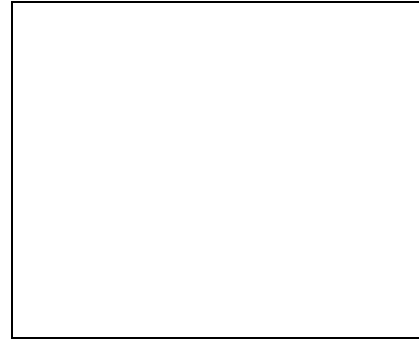


**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 15, 2015**

Present

Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Kathleen Sturtevant, Commissioner
Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Daniel Freitas, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant
Cory DeSousa, 124 Sconticut Neck Road
Krisanne Sheedy, Housing Authority Director
John Rousseau, Housing Authority
Paul Days, Housing Authority



Mr. Ristuccia was not in attendance.

I. Call to Order

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

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

- A. June 27, 2011 – Executive Session (a)**
- B. July 11, 2011 – Executive Session (b)**
- C. July 25, 2011 – Executive Session (c)**
- D. August 8, 2011 – Executive Session**
- E. August 22, 2011 – Executive Session (b)**
- F. September 6, 2011 – Executive Session**
- G. September 19, 2011 – Executive Session (b)**
- H. October 3, 2011 – Executive Session (a)**
- I. October 17, 2011 – Executive Session (b)**

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J. November 7, 2011 – Executive Session (b)

K. December 5, 2011 – Executive Session (a)

L. December 19, 2011 – Executive Session (c)

Mr. Freitas motioned to approve the executive session minutes A-L. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor with Mr. Wotton abstaining.

M. May 18, 2015

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

IV. Appointments

A. Cory DeSousa – Re: Driveway Waiver; 124 Scoticut Neck Road

Mr. DeSousa – I’m from Little People’s College. TCK is a business me, my brother and sister formed years ago. We are the children of the owners. That property was just bought for the playground. Buses pull in. There is an existing building with a fence there. Pull in and back out used as part of that property. North side will have six additional parking spaces we really could use. Curbing to get rid of would be very helpful. I do have a contractor, Morgado. I talked to John Charbonneau. Originally cut into the Town. John recommend if you could go another 5 x 100 what was supposed to be asphalt get curb and we will tar to the street.

Mr. Wotton– I’m okay with it.

Ms. Sturtevant – That would be great. It’s very dangerous. I see the bus go in and out. Think for safety it would be a plus.

Mr. Freitas – I don’t have a problem.

Mr. Hobson– I don’t have a problem. Little People’s is an asset to the Town.

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the removal of curbing at 124 Scoticut Neck Road. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Fairhaven Housing Authority – Re: Water Bills

Ms. Sheedy - I’m the director of the Housing Authority. With me are John Rousseau and Paul Days. We’ve come before your Board to ask for some leniency for the tier system water bills. It’s hitting us hard. There doesn’t seem to be another system in place. We house the seniors and disabled for the Town of Fairhaven and veterans. We have been able to be self sufficient. The bills are so cumbersome

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for our own revenues. We do have to go the state for subsidies. We've run some numbers. Huge problem for us. It's an increase of \$11,000. We have large buildings with some on one meter.

Mr. Rousseau – One of the problems is Oxford Terrace. There are one hundred seven units but only one meter. There is no way we can stay in the lower tier 2250 cubic feet @ \$1.97 per hcf. We probably will be on the highest tier on every single water bill. If it was divided by 107 units each unit only uses 400 cubic feet of water.

Ms. Sheedy - So in essence, we really are asking if we would be allowed to take whatever the read is and divide it by the number of units.

Mr. Days – If we divide by 100 units they are just elderly people using way below the low rate anyway. One meter is only why it appears.

Mr. Hobson – You use the same amount of water?

Ms. Sheedy - Basically. We recently installed low flow toilets. Everything we can to conserve.

Mr. Rousseau – The heating system at Oxford Terrace is the original; over forty years old. We are in the process of now trying to put in individual heating units in every unit. It's underground. We had three more leaks. Obviously we are pumping water by thousands of gallons of water until we can find the leak.

Mr. Hobson – If you have issues like that and prove then we can give you an abatement.

Mr. Furtado – What they want to do is take the consumption value and divide it by 100. Five hundred cf should be \$1.90 for each of the units. That in effect is changing the rate. Only advice is to look at a condo rate now or in the future like we did with Dana farms do quarterly. Condo rate is not something we shouldn't do. In fairness they are going to be high no matter what. Conservation; the show place for water conservation they are still going to trigger it. You have to know unfortunately that we checked with Mattapoisett. They bill semiannual at a higher rate. There is no condo fee. That doesn't exist. That's where we are right now. We implemented this last year. DEP promotes conservation. Eventually there will be more restrictions with the water withdrawal permit from the Mattapoisett River Valley. That would be my recommendation to the Board, do the quarterly billing. Moving forward a different rate for these folks.

Mr. Rousseau – Unfortunately with the quarterly consumption we will still be over the limit. In effect bill us quarterly or semiannual we will still be at \$7.45 as opposed to \$1.90.

Mr. Furtado – That's changing the rate. With the quarterly you would save money. The clock would start over at day 91 as opposed to 181. I'm not against a condo fee but that is something we would have to address moving forward.

Mr. Rousseau - Do it monthly.

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Mr. Furtado – Could read meters automatically monthly. It’s in the works.

Mr. Freitas – I think what should happen start with quarterly do some homework and to take a vote. Elderly people I know that the fee gets passed on.

Ms. Sheedy – No, we cover all the utilities.

Mr. Freitas – Elderly worked their whole lives. Comfort in their home. We need to discuss this in the future. There is a lot of elderly housing in Fairhaven. Definitely have to discuss this and come up with a rate.

Ms. Sturtevant – I agree. Something needs to be done but as a quick fix right now quarterly reads every three months. It’s a little bit of relief. It’s is a tough situation.

Mr. Wotton– We spoke with the engineers who designed this system. They didn’t have any other fees for multiple housing developments on one meter. This isn’t something that just hit us tonight. Invite our engineer back in. Get back with him to figure out what we can do. I agree with you divide that makes sense but that’s playing with the number. We just can’t do that for you.

Mr. Rousseau – Some have four or six units.

Mr. Hobson – Vinnie, call the people who designed this and found out if there is a better system for situations like this.

Mr. Wotton – It’s not permanent but will help out.

Mr. Rousseau – We make up the water in the boiler, we have water system.

Mr. Wotton motioned to read the Fairhaven Housing Authority for the locations of 180 Adams Street, 100 McGann Terrace, 227 Main Street and 275 Main Street to be read quarterly. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

V. Items for Action

A. Pavao Construction – Francis Street Improvement Project, Payment #4

Mr. Furtado – A portion is being paid by the CDBG and Chapter 90. The portion in front of us is for \$33,932.58.

Mr. Wotton motioned to pay Pavao Construction Pay Requisition #4 for Francis Street in the amount of \$33,932.58. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote unanimous

B. Recycle Commercial Permits

Mr. Furtado – Brian asked to put this on the agenda about commercial haulers.

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Mr. Wotton – I had a couple questions on the commercial permits. My thinking is we as a Town have a recycle center that is open at minimal hours 8:15 to 12. Landscapers and commercial contractors pay \$400 for a truck. GVW between 10,000 to 13,000 you pay \$100 so exclude the non landscaper. The landscaper trucks pay \$400 and GVW 13,000 to 35,000 if you're paying 400 and you have a 12,000 GVW truck total I feel that the 35,000 should be the same rate whether you have a trailer and a truck or not. Biggest problem is you pay for the sticker and are trying to get as much in a short amount of possible time and the same amount of debris. You are only open until noon time each day. We are housing material and trying to truck it in during the hours we have. If you have a truck and under the 35,000 I feel whether truck or truck and trailer these people have a problem. Granted I am one. I'm not allowed to vote one way or another come here whether ten trips or big one it's still attached to that truck. Same amount of debris trying to help the customer. Continue to stay open we should make an amendment to rule.

Mr. Furtado – Just to make this clear if a company owns two trucks and they get a permit for \$400, the trailer should be required to have a sticker.

Mr. Hobson – Only problem with that is the recycle center is not even big enough. The issue people have already paid this year for two trucks and trailers to make an exception is too late. Bring it up next year. I'm not against what you're saying. Three trucks if the other trucks they don't come here.

Mr. Freitas - I understand what he's saying I just do not want debris from other towns. One trailer comes in every day. Basically something has to be done with that recycle center. I don't think so out of control we have to worry about it.

Ms. Sturtevant – I understand instead of making ten trips you make one.

Mr. Freitas motioned to allow the trailer hauled in by anybody on this list at no additional cost as long as that plate matches the permit and not to exceed GVW of 35,000. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote 3-0 in favor with Mr. Wotton abstaining.

C. Chapter 90 Request – Shore Drive, Seaview Avenue, Ocean Avenue & Grandview Avenue

Mr. Furtado – This will come from Chapter 90. We met with GCG about drainage work at the Seaview Avenue Boat Ramp and this is just regarding reconstruct for the roadway that is there. Phase 2 if you will.

Mr. Hobson – When will this start?

Mr. Furtado – In the fall.

Mr. Wotton motioned to use Chapter 90 money for road reconstruction for Shore Drive, Seaveiw Avenue, Ocean Avenue and Grandview Avenue. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

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

Superintendent's Report for June 15, 2015:

From last meeting

- Provided dumpster and equipment for Oxford School clean-up
- Filmed 25 Union Street – minor roots found in her private line

New Items

- Was on vacation June 2-5
- Worked on grant for Mill Road dam restoration – mailed grant application
- Wellness van was on site at BPW on June 4; blood pressure, cholesterol and sugar were measured for those who wanted – a few people took advantage of this health screening offered by Town
- Received email notice from MEP team indicating that it will cost \$150k to input digester data into current model
- Conference call with FST concerning MEP model for nitrogen discharge costs
- Wrote draft letter to DEP commissioner re: above
- Sewer Department applied for a Grant offered to Coastal communities to shore up its' infrastructure due to coastal location and/or climate
- Someone took "No Parking" signs that were erected on posts at bottom of Cherrystone off of posts and placed them on a fence and a tree. I have notified police of this event and the signs will be placed back onto posts
- Met John Medeiros at Benoit Square – Highways crew will help with installing a bench near gazebo and loaming and seeding
- Met with Jim Coe and Bill Roth re: expenses for Francis Street project

Ms. Sturtevant – Just wanted to mention that people are still putting out stuff on the side and an extra barrel. They will not pick up anything that does not fit in the barrel.

Mr. Freitas – This is not much to do with us but can you make a phone call to the school committee? The grass over at the Hastings Middle school in the dugouts is 2½ feet high. Tick heaven, if something can be done. I don't want to cause a stink. They have barrels in all the dugouts but with the water bottles maybe we can give them some recycle bins. There was one over at Hastings but that means someone has to drag it out front.

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Mr. Hobson – What about the court crew?

Mr. Freitas – I know we had a discussion about hiring for the summer. There is an opening in the Water Department because one kid is not coming in, if we could fill it with Ben.

Mr. Furtado – One of the young men got a job somewhere else. He had already been recommended.

Mr. Wotton – Next time we should have a reserve list.

Mr. Furtado - Okay we'll put him in the Water.

Mr. Hobson – The Town beach, there were a lot of cars there this weekend. The other thing, make sure the parking lot is all set. On the side of Scoticut Neck Road past Ricardi's a third of the way down there are weeds in the sidewalk. Are we still taking old barrels?

Mr. Furtado – We could tell them to turn in your barrel by a certain date. ABC won't pick them up. They can drop them off at the recycle center.

The only other thing in my notes that I just wanted to make the Board aware of is the nitrogen permit. We had requested the state hire UMass Dartmouth for the estuaries study and from the study is going to be the basis for the permit. We had requested to run additional scenarios. Put this model together; best case scenario, City of New Bedford harbor and getting there are results of failed septic systems from Acushnet. We had requested UMass Dartmouth to run a couple of scenarios isolating our discharge from the others. We were \$6,000 then up to \$9,000 which was still within reason. Then we posed the question okay move forward UMass people use the digester data. In order to run the digester the rate went from \$9,000 to \$150,000. I sent a letter to the DEP commissioner. DEP owns the model. We have a vested interest. They are using old data. Hoping a meeting will become of this. You can't have something like this cost prohibitive.

Mr. Hobson– Stolen signs?

Mr. Furtado – We put them up again today. No parking on the far west side of Cherrystone. Somebody took the signs off the post and put them on a fence. I took pictures. I let the police know.

VIII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Furtado – Next week we have a meeting at the West Island Improvement Association. We can meet in the kitchen.

Mr. Wotton motioned to hold a meeting on June 22, 2015 at 6 p.m. at the West Island Improvement Association. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Wotton motioned to hold a Board of Public Works meeting on July 6, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Board of Public Works. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote unanimous.

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IX. Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on July 6, 2015.