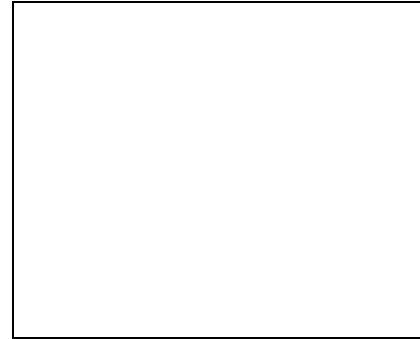


**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
January 4, 2016**

**Present**

Michael Ristuccia, Commissioner  
Robert Hobson, Commissioner  
Brian Wotton, Commissioner  
Daniel Freitas, Commissioner  
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent  
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant  
Randy Perry, 45 Capeview Street  
Fred Jones, 43 Capeview Street  
Edward Fortin, Water Superintendent  
Linda Schick, Sewer Superintendent  
John Charbonneau, Highway Superintendent



Ms. Sturtevant was not in attendance.

**I. Call to Order**

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

**II. Routine Matters**

**A. Signing of Departmental Bills**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**A. December 21, 2015**

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2015 meeting. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**IV. Appointments**

**A. Randy Perry – Re: Capeview Street**

Mr. Perry – I live at 45 Capeview Street. I've been there since 1966. I have to say when I bought the house I knew it was a dirt road. So what, I was 24 years old. Now 49-50 years later I'm sick of the dirt road. There is dirt on the cars and the house. There is a big problem with water. I will say you treated me pretty good and put in the swale. In heavy rain the road floods. Now they built the pumping station the road is raised up and it puddles and backs up.

Fred Jones – I am the neighbor at 43 Capeview Street. I've been there since 1985. Also there is a part of the road that is paved up to the hill and then it's not paved and starts to go downhill. At the point of

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pavement ends there is a hole. They do try to fix it but it doesn't last long. A month or so. Bad weather. It's a little bit hard on the cars.

Mr. Ristuccia – We have a fixed sum of money every year to work with pave roads. We like to choose the roads. It usually doesn't fall with us.

Mr. Furtado – In the past we usually get about \$300,000 and with that money say one major street and a couple of smaller streets. We submit the request to finance committee. Not all three streets approved are carte blanche. A little bit of change in the finance committee. My feeling is that these are the elected folks and they should have the say.

Mr. Perry – I put in a petition about six or seven years ago. Never informed about it. This is the second time that I have been trying to do this.

Mr. Freitas – It's actually Capeview to Sunrise Court, 1200' of gravel road, drainage issues. The cost is \$130,000 and it's marked as #4. I would assume as when it is looking to get done.

Mr. Hobson – I am familiar with the area and I know you applied before. I go down that street quite often. Tar ends and it goes onto dirt. Rains heavy it drops about six inches. We should do one dirt road a year.

Mr. Furtado – We are meeting next Monday. Make it part of the package next Monday.

Mr. Hobson – The whole street there is probably twenty-five houses.

Mr. Perry – There are five new houses in the last ten years.

Mr. Hobson – John is familiar with the area.

Mr. Charbonneau – It is less maintenance for me when you pave.

Mr. Hobson – The other thing you come here and present this to us but we expect you to go to town meeting and speak. We send it to town meeting. Sometimes they change the streets. You should go to town meeting because that makes a big difference.

Mr. Wotton – It is obviously on our radar. You are number four so you are within. It wouldn't be sixteen. It would be in 2017.

Mr. Freitas – Is the price of tar down?

Mr. Charbonneau – No. It was \$29 a ton when I started, now its \$85.

Mr. Wotton – We try to get as many streets we can do. A few of us will drive on the top six. You have a pretty decent chance.

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Mr. Freitas – I would keep calling. Keep asking us while it's fresh in our minds. Fourth on the list.

Mr. Furtado – There is going to be a vote next week or you are welcome to come in.

Mr. Ristuccia – Next week we are going to vote as a board. That way you know. If it isn't on the list come again next year.

**B. Superintendents – Re: Budgets**

Mr. Fortin explained the water budget.

Mr. Freitas – Building maintenance \$1,500; is that enough to tackle things?

Mr. Fortin – It's for the small stuff, windows. Larger projects would be through the capital planning. Three roofs are part of the contracted services. We have a proposal to do an assessment for the three roofs at Wolf Island. Rubber roofs with gravel.

Mr. Furtado – As I mentioned at the last few meetings, it's imperative that we not have any capital projects because the ones this year using retained earnings. Tata and Howard will present that the rates go up. Sustain the operating but to do capital projects.

Mr. Fortin – They did say to generate a 2% increase. I didn't do it. It should be over a little by 1%.

Mr. Hobson – Down the road getting the new meter system?

Mr. Fortin – Yes, its part of the capital plan.

Mr. Furtado – Sooner rather than later, fiscal year 20 or 21. Raise the rates.

Mr. Ristuccia – When are we getting the report?

Mr. Furtado – They were looking for some numbers about the debt service.

Mr. Wotton – Do you have any equipment that is on its way out?

Mr. Fortin - I have one more truck. Waiting for a truck to be delivered.

Ms. Schick explained the sewer budget.

Mr. Hobson – I'm okay with the budget. Question about how we keep track of the campers.

Ms. Schick – That's a courtesy service, at most thirty gallons.

Mr. Hobson - A lot of towns charge for that.

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Mr. Furtado – We never charged in New Bedford.

Mr. Wotton – We hired a piece of equipment. What is our largest a backhoe?

Mr. Charbonneau – Thirteen feet.

Mr. Wotton – Mini excavator decent size, would that be something you would find more useful. Next time mini 17' if we've talking 15' and a piece of equipment could save us thousands of dollars each year.

Ms. Schick – Washington Street this year and the bike path.

Mr. Wotton – Highway run into that?

Mr. Charbonneau – In year five of the capital plan I want to replace the 963 with a 320 excavator.

Ms. Schick – Their shoring boxes were huge.

Mr. Freitas – Heat light and power budget seems to go up a little bit. How often firing the generator for the digester?

Ms. Schick – As long as it's running continuously.

Mr. Freitas – Percentage natural gas compared?

Ms. Schick – 25-30% digester gas.

Mr. Freitas – The sludge disposal gone the same?

Ms. Schick – In 2014 to 2015 it's down \$27,000. We are running below that right now. We are down 100 dry tons of sludge from the year before.

Mr. Charbonneau explained the highway and park budgets.

Mr. Charbonneau – We received a notice on December 18<sup>th</sup> for upgrades that need to be done for the gas recovery. I'm still waiting for prices.

Mr. Wotton – Only question the electronic bin? Did we take that into consideration for the fees? When we set our fees we didn't know about the \$2,500 increase. Should put that on our agenda?

Mr. Hobson – Have you considered finding a place for a recycle center?

Mr. Charbonneau – I wish I could find one. Ours was cut in half due to the wetlands. Alden Road would have been perfect.

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Mr. Hobson – Little Bay Road from the rain it's like almost undriveable now. At the end of the road where people park before they take a right, there is so much trash.

Mr. Charbonneau – We have a barrel at the parking lot.

Mr. Charbonneau – In the park department we are asking for additional help and two brush saws.

Mr. Wotton – We need another full time person there. Stop cutting the lawns until they realize need more help.

Mr. Freitas – I agree with Brian the change is only about \$6,500. You need more help.

Mr. Charbonneau – The thing that takes the most time is weed whacking.

Mr. Ristuccia – How many full time employees?

Mr. Charbonneau – One.

Mr. Ristuccia – In the summertime how many people pulled from highway?

Mr. Charbonneau – Depending on how wet the spring, either one or two.

Mr. Ristuccia – In the winter time he works in the highway?

Mr. Charbonneau – Yes, he is out with the highway crew.

Mr. Ristuccia – Summer help is the key. What's the plan for making that happen?

Mr. Furtado – Go in front of the finance committee and selectmen.

Ms. Tripp – I found a park payroll from fifteen, twenty years ago that had about seven summer help employees.

Mr. Ristuccia – Formulate what the park do for main work in the summer time. At the next meeting the items you just talked about 5, 10, 15 years ago and what they do today. Work did a lot of new areas.

Mr. Furtado– Administration budget, I will be entitled to longevity and a new copy machine.

**V. Items for Action**

**A. Bay Sate Regional Contractors; Taber Street Payment #4 \$55,016.97**

Mr. Furtado – This is actually the bill he submitted from last week for work that has transpired. Piping and wiring for Taber Street Pumping Station.

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Mr. Wotton motioned to approve payment #4 to Bay State Regional Contractors in the amount of \$55,016.97. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote unanimous.

**B. Pavao Construction – Francis Street Roadway Improvement Project**

- |           |                         |                   |
|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>1.</b> | <b>Change Order #3</b>  | <b>\$3,288.50</b> |
| <b>2.</b> | <b>Final Payment #8</b> | <b>\$9,276.85</b> |

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve Change Order #3 in the amount of \$3,288.50 and Final Payment #8 in the amount of \$9,276.85 to Pavao Construction. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

**3. Certificate of Final Completion**

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the Certificate of Final Completion to Pavao Construction for the Francis Street Roadway Improvement Project. Mr. Ristuccia seconded. Vote unanimous.

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

Superintendent's Report for January 4, 2016

From last meeting

- "No Unauthorized Water Withdrawal" sign down
- As of January 1<sup>st</sup> – Recycling center is in winter hours mode – every Wednesday and last Saturday of the month
- Dogwood – between Fisherman and Gull Island – ruts will be fixed – once the puddles dry out
- Advised police of traffic issue at Livesey Park re: Pop Warner
- Town is scheduled to hire a lawyer to negotiate all contracts. If our Article (to retain the negotiating right) is approved at Town Meeting then we can decide at that time

New Items

- Town received grant to install "bad curve" signs at New Boston Road – picked up signs
- Work on Annual Report which is due early January
- Close-out of Livesey Park Skate Board project
- Met with Reps of State's Coastal Zone Management re: Logistics of Grant that we received to improve storm water conditions at Calumet, Briercliffe and Jerusalem
- Attend Emergency Response Training which is required bi-annually of all Water Departments

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- Capital Planning Committee presented FY17 budget to Select Board – water and sewer capital expenditures were presented as “pending the BPW raising rates”
- Budget meeting with all the superintendents in preparation for presenting FY17 budget to Board

Mr. Furtado – As always any questions in addition to that the articles are due on January 22<sup>nd</sup>? The budgets are due on the 15<sup>th</sup>. I looked at just to follow up with the BPW issue and on October 14<sup>th</sup>, the Selectboard voted to have town counsel draft an article about the referendum vote and alter the language for the town administrator. I will follow up with that. If they didn't we will submit an article. The only thing the town is contemplating is hiring someone to negotiate all the contracts. If you want to retain that I will submit an article to retain that.

Mr. Freitas – Why pay someone if we can do it for free?

Mr. Furtado – My only thought is how much more money if it's just us. Other than that I don't disagree.

Mr. Ristuccia – If we do our own and the rest of the town has a firm do that then it just keeps us on our toes. Do the job the way it needs to be done. I think we can do a better job.

Mr. Furtado – The BPW will submit an article that we will retain that.

Mr. Ristuccia – We received a letter in the department here and it pertained to an executive session matter. That letter was nothing new documented what we already knew. I asked Vinnie to send it to Town Counsel. Town Counsel said to get that as far away as the taillights. Stuff that happened in executive session but the letter is nothing new.

Mr. Furtado – The letter was to me from a subject matter of recent executive sessions. I spoke with Crotty and he said put it in the file and speak with Mike. Make the board aware.

Mr. Freitas – I'm curious to see the letter.

Mr. Hobson – My only point is you and he knew about it. Other people knew about the letter.

Mr. Ristuccia – Before I do anything I wanted town counsel to tell me what to do and how we should do it. Town Counsel told me not to talk about it.

Mr. Hobson – I told Mr. Charbonneau about the bike path and another person on Dogwood Street flooded and impassable at certain times. Edwards has complained a few times.

Mr. Wotton – Remind the public about the Christmas tree collection during the week of January 12-15. It is one day after your normal garbage day.

Mr. Freitas – One thing, at the last meeting I gave you a letter from Mr. Lussier. He did want to come in front of the board. I called and asked why he is not on the agenda? What we are here for?

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Mr. Furtado – I apologize for that. I never saw the letter.

Mr. Ristuccia – Livesey Park?

Mr. Furtado – I got in touch with the police. I spoke with Jared. I told him I would follow up with the police this week and he could come to our meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup>. I told him that he is welcome to come in but it's not a BPW matter. We can't block a street. I told him I would call him midweek. I haven't gotten anything back yet. I spoke with him on Friday.

**VII. Set Date for the Next Meeting**

Mr. Wotton motioned to hold the next meeting on January 11, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote unanimous.

**VIII. Adjourn**

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn at 7:09 p.m. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp  
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on January 11, 2016.