

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
January 9, 2017**

Present

Michael Ristuccia, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Jarrod Lussier, Commissioner
Keith Silvia, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant
Sean Simonin, Applicant
John Charbonneau, Highway Superintendent
Linda Schick, Sewer Superintendent
Edward Fortin, Water Superintendent



I. Call to Order

Mr. Ristuccia called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. December 19, 2016

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2016 meeting. Mr. Lussier seconded. Vote 4-0 in favor with Mr. Silvia abstaining.

IV. Appointments

**A. Interview for Heavy Motor Equipment Operator – Highway Department
Sean Simonin**

Mr. Ristuccia – We interviewed some folks for the position. We thought this gentleman was the most qualified, Sean Simonin and he’s an interesting guy, good job. Tell us why you want this position?

Mr. Simonin – Just want to get closer to home. Not travel so much and utilize the licenses that I have.

Mr. Furtado – This is for a vacancy in highway department for a truck driver. We reviewed the applications. We interviewed with John, Brian and Mike. Sean is a good candidate. He knows its more laborer than driving a truck.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
January 9, 2017**

Mr. Ristuccia – He’s not being very talkative right now. His employment has been with a tree company for the last five plus years. Right up his alley with what we do. Pretty much the same thing. Lots of experience. He’s all over the map.

Mr. Hobson– Explain to you 80% laborer and 20% truck driver unless snow plowing. Blue Cross Blue Shield is quite expensive.

Mr. Simonin – My wife has it. I won’t need it.

Mr. Hobson – That’s usually a problem with people we hire. We offer sick, vacation and all that. Understand not a truck driver.

Mr. Wotton – The difference between Sean and other candidates is that normally we get all truck drivers who just drive truck. Sean is different. He’s the opposite. He has the license but he doesn’t utilize them. I’m very familiar with the operation at Lewis Tree. Sean does an awesome job here. Very respectable.

Mr. Lussier – Seem to come highly recommended. Hoisting engineer license. I’m currently teaching a class right now. That’s a huge plus.

Mr. Simonin – I took the hoisting class before I took the test.

Mr. Silvia – If he’s been working with trees quite a few years he’s not afraid of work.

Mr. Simonin – I didn’t go to college. I just know manual labor.

Mr. Ristuccia – I was impressed with the man. He had said I don’t want to be seventy and still have to be working doing laboring stuff. Thinking of the right things.

Mr. Wotton motioned to hire Sean Simonin for the HMEO Highway position pending passing physical. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Superintendents – FY18 Budgets

Mr. Charbonneau – Operating expenses are pretty much level funded. Increase miscellaneous \$1,050 due to hoisting license training and boiler inspection. Contracted services had increased on those also. Electric and fuel are decided by selectmen’s office. Everything else to uniforms is level funded. Gas and fuel again the selectmen. Dues and professional gathering increase with hoisting and pesticide fees. Rubbish increase in the contract is 2%. Transfer station for recycle station increase. Drainage, curbing and hard surface, sidewalks and street resurfacing the same. Subdivision maintenance fees are paid by developers for the maintenance; street sweeping, brush cutting, and catch basin cleaning.

Mr. Furtado – Salary and wages we don’t know what that is yet.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
January 9, 2017**

Mr. Charbonneau – The only other thing get the Vactor truck to replace the 1991 catch basin truck that needs to be replaced. It has the jet rodding capability to unblock drain lines and sewer lines. Half paid by Chapter 90 and half by the town. Last year we had \$150,000 for a new truck. The new truck will cost \$330,000.

Mr. Furtado – I went to the Capital Planning Committee to request to them with the road work.

Mr. Charbonneau – Not doing articles tonight but we need two replacement doors for this building. Next I'd like to do the garage doors that are from 1983 and replace them with fiberglass. Less stress on the motors.

Mr. Wotton – The transfer station TV's?

Mr. Charbonneau – TV that's the main item. Electronics recycling what we charge doesn't cover it.

Mr. Wotton – We can't be charging \$10 and it costs us \$20.

Mr. Charbonneau – We pick them up on the side of the road. Town picks it up and no money to cover that.

Mr. Wotton – Will the vac truck suck out from basements?

Mr. Charbonneau – No, it's not for services.

Mr. Wotton – In negotiations we talked about trucking into people's basements.

Mr. Charbonneau – No.

Mr. Ristuccia – The doors from last year?

Mr. Charbonneau – Two more and then one more.

Mr. Ristuccia – Rubbish, is that the contract going up?

Mr. Charbonneau – Yes.

Mr. Ristuccia – We should talk about that a little. Complaining about it for a bit. We are not producing the savings from one barrel. Part of the contract they were supposed to have those trucks for us. We can certainly put in for that. They are not providing the service.

Mr. Charbonneau – Park; equipment repair is up \$1,000. We are asking for a new 4000D tractor. The one we have is seventeen years on the force and it's a work horse. We have spent a lot of money into that thing. We cut sixty plus acres. West Island beach this year; the money didn't cover it. Miscellaneous, safety glasses he gets one pair every three years. Everything else is level funded. Capital Outlay; 2 weed whackers for \$1,400.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
January 9, 2017**

Mr. Wotton – West Island beach expense. Do we make enough money?

Ms. Tripp – It's pretty close.

Mr. Hobson – Do you bring the beach trailer back here every day?

Mr. Charbonneau – No, it's left on West Island.

Mr. Hobson – Union Wharf at the south end plowing.

Mr. Charbonneau – We had a new driver, Kyle who did it for the first time. Guys did a damn good job.

Mr. Ristuccia – I might say that I called Mr. Furtado yesterday morning. I think that it's the best plowing job in the last five or six years.

Mr. Wotton – The comments heard from local business owners there were no complaints. People have submitted letters to Vinnie and Mark Rees. Goes to show department is running perfectly.

Mr. Hobson – No machine to do the bike path?

Mr. Charbonneau – No we don't. Next fiscal year I'd like to put in for the proper piece of equipment. Guy almost got killed doing it a few years ago. Thank god he had his seat belt on.

Mr. Hobson – Some parts of Town 3" and some got 6" of snow.

Mr. Charbonneau - 90%

Mr. Ristuccia – I was on the phone with a resident complaining about the snow plow. On Scoticut Neck Road telling me how certain roads on Scoticut Neck were not plowed. That was not the case. I went to West Island thinking it must be a mess. It was like a landing strip down to bare pavement.

Mr. Fortin – Water; pretty straight forward for the most part level funded. Salaries, we have a new person. A more senior person left and a new guy came in so that is less. Well cleaning and the main two wells next year, pump and motors. Water meter increase by \$4,000. Meters are more expensive. Postage down \$3,500 because it was transferred over to Linda's budget. Contracted Services down \$5,700 cut off point on maintenance agreements we need to fund by fiscal period. Partial one until the end of June and then the fiscal period. Equipment in the water towers. Other than that the District is down from last year by \$60,000. Everything is level.

Mr. Furtado – We are not talking about articles tonight but there are three projects with the Capital Planning Committee to approve; the new well and a couple of roofs at the pump stations. We will use retained earnings to support that.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
January 9, 2017**

Mr. Ristuccia – Sometimes I don't think they say it well. Mr. Hobson's input, that's not a criticism on his part. Concern and desire it shows where his mind is.

Mr. Furtado – In fairness to John, everything was taken care of. He's already heard it before.

Mr. Ristuccia – We actually got for the first time people taking their time to send messages. Maybe new drivers.

Mr. Fortin – It was never brought up but I have three people that plow every time with John and Linda too. John utilizes our people just so that my guys know.

Mr. Ristuccia – You are right.

Mr. Fortin – That leaves us short handed the next day and the day after. We don't have any people when they go home.

Ms. Schick – Sewer; salaries are down just because higher paid senior people left and we have newer people. Purchase of Services pretty much level. Contract assistance up 6% based on what we spent in past years. Telephone up 15% based on what spent in the last couple of years. We added Comcast lines. We added postage and had the Town Accountant put in a new line item to pay half of the water and sewer bills. Capital Outlay items listed in your packet; first thing is a push camera we use inside people's homes when they have a problem. What we have now is an old VCR tape. We send it to engineers and they don't have a VCR so we are upgrading that. Hot water pressure washer; clean a lot of things with grease. Multitrode; need to retrofit two of the older stations. Biorem Media every five years for odor control at the Bernese Street Pump Station, materials only, we do the labor. West Island Treatment Plant is hitting the fifteen year mark. Two replacement blowers and automatic samplers. Right now we have a report to buy or replace within the next 5 years. I've added a 10% price increase for all the items because things that are quoted now and when we buy in July it's not the same price.

Mr. Furtado - The big article will be the 24 inch sewer that runs along the bike path. It's 3,200 feet; the pipe is not totally collapsed but on its way there.

Mr. Wotton – John talked about some equipment. Anything in the foreseeable future?

Ms. Schick – Everything at the treatment plant. Four more major stations that need to be rehabbed. Roll that into the big plant upgrade.

Mr. Wotton – Trucks?

Ms. Schick – New box truck will cost \$75,000. That's in the capital plan. Up to date with most of the equipment. The loader came with the plant will need to be replace. It's a 1989.

V. Items for Action

A. n/a

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
January 9, 2017**

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

Mr. Furtado – We have to meet with Mark Rees on Wednesday on the budgets.

Mr. Hobson – Get back to the bike path. We don't have a machine to do it. Hire a machine.

Mr. Wotton – I don't know if we want to open a can of worms. Slip and fall on the ice. Salt and sand that for a dozen people. Now beginning of January we have twenty inches of snow. I'm not opposed to it but to finance hired equipment you need a snow blower on a loader. Can't go down there with a truck. John was saying the guy slipped off. I'd like to commend everyone who worked for us during the storms. There were numerous compliments. They did a phenomenal job, done professionally. Good at what they are doing. Any employees from any other department, great job.

Mr. Lussier – Streets are great. No complaints, awesome job.

Ms. Silvia – Public has to be patient.

Mr. Hobson– Ruling form Town Counsel about me?

Mr. Furtado – When the Selectmen had a meeting a week ago Tuesday for the replacement of Kathy, so as part of that the Selectmen interviewed the candidate's. One question they asked they wanted to make sure the candidates knew that they could not hold another position from special legislation in the 60's. We were asked to look and see who are on other boards or committees. Keith was on the Board of Appeals. Asked Town Counsel and this is the comment: Special legislation created the BPW from holding an elected or appointed office in Town so it's disallowed. If a committee were formed as a representative from our Board then that is allowed.

Mr. Furtado – Articles. Not all of them are here. Some are part of the Capital Planning Committee. Three here we need a vote on. Last year when you created the sewer capital fee as part of that another article permission from town meeting to take that money out to pay the loan. First one is for the two doors for the BPW building, \$12,500. There are three more days to submit articles. The second one is just permission from the Town to use the Chapter 90 money and the third is permission for the revolving account with the Park Department if someone wants they give us the money to pay for the lights.

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the articles for the doors at the BPW building, State Aid to Highways and Park Revolving Account. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Ristuccia- What's up with the water main on the bridge, completed?

Mr. Fortin - We are waiting on some shims that need to be insulated where the new supports are. When I went to look at it was not included. No protection to keep people off the new support. I talked to Tata and Howard. No work on that structure for a couple of years. It's part of the bridge. I'm waiting for a price from the general contractor that probably will need a change order. Need some kind of

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
January 9, 2017**

protection to keep people off. We had one price back from the contractor which is pretty expensive. We still have money left in the project. 99% of the work is done. Pipe there that is rusty is the electric line.

IV. Appointments (Continued)

C. Peter DeTerra, Contractor – Re: 232 Huttleston Avenue – Water Service

Mr. DeTerra was not in attendance.

Mr. Furtado – A couple of folks applied for a special permit. This happens very often. They applied with the Planning Department for two, 4,800 square foot buildings across the street. When anyone applies for a special permit Bill Roth sends a letter with the plan out for comment. BPW in June the comment was they needed a 1" service.

Mr. Fortin – No, to upgrade the service. Not because of the special permit. It's commercial.

Mr. Furtado – Upgrade.

Mr. Wotton– Building like this with tenants. I was under the assumption one company.

Mr. Fortin – In May plans were dropped off here from the Planning Board which showed commercial development across the street. Everything on the plan was never discussed with us. It showed utility of the existing service to that house. The plan shows a build out of eight units similar to across the street utilizing the existing water service. Can't do that. Currently the service is for the house and two sheds. The only service to the property is a residential service. I don't know what is out in the street. It's could be there from fifty to seventy years. It's was shut off in 2004. Nobody came in to talk to us. This is not a definitive plan you work off. I marked up increase the size of the water line. That's what I put down. Since then nobody has contacted us until the letter we just saw now. Nobody has done calculations. There will be eight toilets and basins. Jared you can understand. Nothing is sized out. Planning Board sent the order of conditions saying it has to be upgraded. We need a utility plan for approval on how it is to be constructed. Nobody has even discussed with us what they need to do.

Mr. Lussier – Numeric value come off the main, no size.

Mr. Ristuccia – Here's what I know. I talked to the owner today. The State just resurfaced Route 6. You can't go into it for five years the people are saying. We will build one building now and utilize the ¾" service and won't go in the street. Provision to let them do that when you get the water calculations from the engineer to make sure the ¾" line and what the needs are going to be.

Mr. Fortin – It's been shut off for twelve years. I wouldn't even venture that stuff.

Mr. Ristuccia – Turn the chair around and the state won't let you touch that road for five years.

Mr. Fortin – Go back to the engineer. Why didn't they research it?

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
January 9, 2017**

Mr. Wotton – It should have been disclosed to him. Is that road final pavement?

Mr. Fortin – Yes. That’s final.

Mr. Wotton – So in your opinion, anything you can really do?

Mr. Fortin – I need sizes. Even if you don’t know, what is going to come out of it if I turn the valve? I don’t even know if water will come out.

Mr. Ristuccia – Two issues; turn on is anything going to come out and water calculations if it does flow.

Mr. Fortin – Each building has four unisex back to back toilets. I have nothing. You have to do the calculations.

Mr. Ristuccia – We can talk about all these things. I know as myself not going to prevent to see if that pipe works. Second thing I know we need water calculations.

Mr. Fortin – Trunk line should be 1” or 1 ½” to service.

Mr. Lussier – If it's undersized what do we do?

Mr. Ristuccia – Let’s get the water calculations from the engineer. There is nothing more to talk about.

Mr. Wotton – About a year ago a couple came in because there was a moratorium and they dug underground. Can you do that for water?

Mr. Fortin – No. The only option is they could get an easement and tie in from Narragansett Boulevard. It abuts that property.

Mr. Ristuccia – Let’s see the water calculations, if they don’t meet nothing to talk about.

Mr. Wotton motion to table and ask them to come back.

Mr. Ristuccia – In the meantime I’m going to have him get the water calculations.

On the motion: Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote 4-0 in favor with Mr. Ristuccia abstaining.

VII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Wotton motioned to hold the next meeting on January 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Lussier seconded. Vote unanimous.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
January 9, 2017**

VIII. Adjourn and Executive Session

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn open session and enter into executive session at 7:23 p.m. to discuss ongoing union negotiations and not to reconvene in open session. Mr. Lussier seconded.

In favor: Mr. Ristuccia, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Wotton, Mr. Lussier and Mr. Silvia.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on January 23, 2017