

**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
January 23, 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  
Residents from:  
Brown Street, Hopkins Street and Diamond Street  
Peter DeTerra, Contractor



**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. January 9, 2017**

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2017 meeting. Mr. Lussier seconded. Vote unanimous.

**V. Items for Action**

**A. Road Work Article – FY18**

Mr. Ristuccia – We are going to discuss the road work for Fiscal 18. We receive \$300,000 for the BPW to do whatever road work in town. Sometimes we use money from state to do larger projects. Green Street, width and sidewalk a lot of other roads it would not be possible. What we look at is \$300,000. It's not a lot of money. Roads we feel should get done don't get done. How many people are served and look at the condition of the road so somehow with some logic to what to do. Never an easy pick. When you look at it in different way, roads on list is such as Cottonwood is two blocks and it's a dirt road, nasty dirt road but there are only two homes that are serviced. It doesn't rank high on priority that being said.

Mr. Hobson – Pass this sheet around and show them what we are doing.

**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
January 23, 2017**

Mr. Ristuccia – We put a pretty calculate cost to work on the streets and one is \$248,000, \$178,000 and \$145,000 so when you look at these numbers only a couple of roads get done. Travel a lot on gravel roads and we try to upgrade them.

Pam Corcoran, 3 Hopkins – How do you pick and choose? Preference of who may put one up? We started this in 2007 and it's been a fair amount of time to go thru this process.

Mr. Furtado – We have a pavement management program engineering firm and they assess all the streets. They put it in the computer and rank this is the worst. Gravel roads are not always considered. If you look at this we have fourteen streets and the numbers spit out basically are predicated on the condition of the road. Computer and travel ability. Let's say for example Green Street where it came out but the other two streets are small.

Pam Corcoran, 3 Hopkins – Hopkins loops around.

Mr. Furtado – Typically we try to do two main streets and depending on money one or two gravel roads. The last town meeting we received \$300,000 and then the town had a special town meeting in June for the Oxford School and actually the folks on Welcome Street put in an article and it got approved so last year we got more than \$327.

Dan Corcoran, 3 Hopkins – Hopkins and Brown when the bridge is broken people cut thru it. Young kids fishtail around the corner. We've had a car in our yard before. New to neighborhood took out dog house. Safety issues, school department changed the bus route.

Pam Corcoran, 3 Hopkins – At one time there was not a lot of traffic. Adam and Main take a right and head down Brown, Houle and Hopkins. Because of the gravel there are drainage problems which cause more chaos.

Carol Morton, 109 Howland – It's deceiving to say that one house is being serviced. We have a two car garage on Hopkins but we live on Howland Road. Drive on wrong side of road rutted. There are 2 other houses affected. There is a house on the right hand side so beat maneuver to get to the tar part. It affects 4

Jim Morton, 109 Howland – When the road is graded it lasts two days.

Carol Morton, 109 Howland - Plowing was fabulous though.

Donna Theodore, 13 Diamond – On Camel Street there is camper and a couple big trucks that pull into his driveway. He comes down Camel to Club Street and drives on other property to avoid the holes.

Michael DeCrosta – I bought my house on October 28<sup>th</sup> and as I've been seeing over the last three months it getting progressively worse. Potholes are 6" deep. Causes some worry when the kids ride their bikes outside.

Bill Farrell, 42 Camel Street – I walk my dog, it's muddy and horrible. I am here for support.

**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
January 23, 2017**

Mr. Ristuccia – I live on a dirt road so I know what everyone here is saying. Even though I don't put in a request I don't want them to consider my road. I know what you are saying. I understand what you are saying. Only so much money to go around. Our consideration is certainly there. Do whatever we can.

Mr. Hobson – Well, I travel throughout the Town. I have lived here sixty-seven years and been on the Board for nine years. It's my priority to do dirt roads than tarred. Been down streets on West Island, really need it bad. People can't open there windows. We didn't pick any dirt streets last year.

Mr. Furtado – Yes, we did.

Mr. Hobson - I've heard complaints on all these streets. Tire balance and repairs. I'm not going to be voting on any tarred streets tonight. I've been here nine years and we did get some dirt roads done throughout the town. We only make a recommendation to town meeting of what streets we think should be done. Last town meeting somebody for their street petitioned for the money. If you don't win here there are other options you can take. Petition streets we are dealing with. Chapter 90 money is fairly for main roads and that is different money. Some of these streets qualify. I'm only one vote of five. Go to be a town meeting member and ask for the money and basically most of these members same thing.

Mr. Ristuccia – When is the deadline for articles?

Mr. Hobson – January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Wotton – I agree with Mr. Hobson. Streets #1 and #2 by the engineering firm. I used to live on a dirt road. I had to do it myself. I didn't have any help from the Town. Gravel road, the mail ¾ miles away and it didn't get plowed. If your street isn't picked, the potholes, we are here to help you with that. Not enough money to pave every road. \$300,000 is not a lot of money when it comes to roadwork at all. We try to get the most bang for our buck. Do smaller streets or one main road that needs to get done with fifty houses is a priority. Maybe not to you or me but for travel purposes it is a priority. There is a road management program. I would agree with Mr. Hobson in favor to pave more gravel roads. I didn't do all one or two, switch it around and could do four or five gravel roads. I would be in favor trying to figure out the numbers.

Mr. Lussier – I'm very familiar with Brown and Hopkins. I actually mentioned Hopkins and Brown earlier when I was appointed back in May. The way I looked at the streets cheaper to repave. Hopkins and according to the way the list is the five cheapest streets; Hopkins, Brown, Rockland and Billy's Way \$268,000.00

Stephanie Vertentes, 3 Diamond - This is going to justify what you are doing? I have asthma. I can't open my windows. I might consider selling.

Mr. Wotton – When you purchased your home you knew it was on a dirt road.

**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
January 23, 2017**

Stephanie Vertentes, 3 Diamond - When I bought the home on the street people would drive slower. No, it's worse. Things go flying everywhere.

Mr. Wotton – The biggest problem with Diamond its 2/3 of the budget. As much we could pave four other roads.

Mr. Ristuccia – I've been looking at that, maybe do part of an area. It might be that we do a portion of that and not all 1,070 feet of Diamond.

Mr. Hobson – I'm okay with doing a section of Hopkins but I think Diamond should be one of our priorities. People come before us all the time. Nobody promised anybody anything. Streets on West Island petitioned and they didn't even show up.

Mr. Silvia – Instead of paving, can you do chip seal?

Mr. Ristuccia – Waste of money and time.

Mr. Hobson – I live on Potter Street. Five years ago they did chip seal. There are sixteen houses there.

Mr. Lussier – Add Hopkins, Brown and Diamond, \$261,700 and we've all been watching you take the time out of your day to come here. Obvious it's important to you and we should recognize that.

Mr. Wotton motioned to accept the streets for roadwork; Hopkins, Diamond, Brown and if approved, Rockland street. Mr. Lussier seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Ristuccia – The only way it won't happen is if it is changed by another department or finance committee.

The Board took a five minute recess at 6:35 p.m.

**IV. Appointments**

**A. Troy Tonnesson – Re: Sewer Betterment Development Fee – Torrington Road**

Mr. Ristuccia – Our 6:00 appointment has asked to be at the next meeting.

Mr. Wotton motioned to table the 6:00 appointment until the next meeting. Mr. Lussier second. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Ristuccia – I would like to take things out of order and do updates.

Mr. Hobson – Why are you going to do that? We should follow the agenda.

Mr. Hobson motioned to follow the agenda. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
January 23, 2017**

**V. Items for Action (Continued)**

**B. Water and Sewer Bills**

**Court Street – Fairhaven Little League**

Mr. Furtado – The reason why we put these two items on the agenda is because the NFIA recently connected to sewer and the Court Street concession for the Little League. The reason why it's in the packet is to get a Board ruling on whether or not to bill these properties.

Mr. Wotton – Before we talk about this I want to state that I am a board member on the Fairhaven Acushnet Little League and my thought process for my decision will be a clear point not objective I will abstain from vote

Mr. Furtado – We just want some direction. Currently the NFIA does not receive a bill. They are really an outside group. If you look at most recent reading for the Little League you can see they used 17,358 cubic feet, so obviously there is a leak and because of that there is a bill of \$2,400. In the past the forefathers once upon a time, they never paid a bill.

Mr. Wotton – As tax payer in Town and a board member, a father and volunteer it's wrong to charge a nonprofit. For children, my taxes should be more than enough to cover my fair share or any other nonprofit operating on town given land. My father, other fathers established this little league for years weekends nights and dollars and not ask for any money. Currently the stand is operated on a breakeven point, no gain, no profit. Anything else that goes on all owned by the town. Donate by other businesses if we start charging not significant. Make them aware not for out of the ordinary going forward to monitor this.

Ms. Tripp – It's a quarterly bill. Obviously there is a leak. The toilet probably has been running. They need to be responsible.

Mr. DeTerra – I sat on the Little League for twelve years and helped to rebuild the whole fields. So many people donate their time.

Mr. Hobson motioned not to charge Fairhaven Little League a water or sewer bill. J seconded. Vu b abstained.

**267 Adams Street – N.F.I.A.**

Ms. Tripp – I don't believe there is a meter there.

Mr. Hobson motioned not to charge the N.F.I.A. for water and sewer.

Mr. Silvia – Can you put a meter in to keep track of the usage?

Mr. Furtado – Yes.

**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
January 23, 2017**

**C. Conservation Restriction – Buzzards Bay Coalition; Mattapoissett Property**

Mr. Furtado – Over a number of years Marion, Mattapoissett and Fairhaven purchase property for aquifer and receive state grants, federal grants and CPC so with this there is a piece of property with a conservation restriction. I checked with Tom Crotty as to put my name to sign. I want you to approve the conservatin restriction but either sign it yourself or vote for me to sign it.

Mr. Wotton motioned to allow Vincent Furtado to sign the conservation restriction. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

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

Superintendent's Report for January 23, 2017:

From Last Meeting

- Checked on BPW representative issue on other committees
- Obtained price for plowing bike path – have requested that this additional \$\$ be placed in our snow and ice account for FY18
- Added money to Water Department Salary and Wages for Superintendent Training
- Solid Waste matter is being dealt with by Selectmen
- FY 16 - TV roll off cost was \$4710 – TV \$\$ recouped was \$3340 - \$1370 loss FY 17 to date – Roll off = \$3525 – TV\$\$ = \$2760 – Loss of \$765      Currently charge \$20 per TV
- Beach Receipts – when counting all expenses and what we take in (including beach trailer overtime) is currently a break even proposition

New Items

- Wrote and submitted BPW Annual Report
- Numerous calls and emails with Highway Union – Union is ready to vote
- Chair Mattapoissett River Valley Meeting
- Congrats to John McGilvray who passed his Grade 4 Wastewater License
- Attend Hazardous Mitigation Committee Meeting – once plan is developed BPW will be eligible for grant \$\$
- Attend Capital Planning Committee Meeting – vote on Town wide capital expenditures

**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
January 23, 2017**

- We are going to be requesting additional \$\$ for Park Dept. – unexpected repair and Pokemon Portajohn has decreased funds
- BPW Staff attends budget meeting with Town Administrator
- Attend meeting with State Senator – explain forthcoming water restrictions
- Converse with Town Counsel on a number of issues
- Attend Staff Meeting with Mark Rees – Public Information Laws have changed
- Meet with the Stormwater Grant Team – update of our current design for treatment
- Met with Mark Rees and heads of all Town Unions re: waiting until Annual Town Meeting to present contracts
- Water and Sewer Revenue/Expenses calculated for FY 18 based on projections – Water will be solvent – Sewer rate will have to be increased unless projections were off

Mr. Hobson – Only thing I want to thank Vinnie, Linda and the electrician for the excellent job for the lights. Now you can see when you go down to Fort Phoenix at night. Historical Commission paid for the lights and the town electrician with the fire truck put up the lights. Big difference.

Mr. Lussier – Noticed the sign from Acushnet to Fairhaven entering, the Fairhaven sign is a pretty distressed sign. I meant to go to Mattapoisett and look at that sign. I know we have one on the Fairhaven and Coggeshall Street Bridge also.

Mr. Furtado – First, Peter are you here because of the matter that was tabled?

Mr. DeTerra – Yes. I have the engineer's water calculations for Jorge and Sherry Melo. This is on the plan of 232 Huttleston Avenue that was approved plan from the Planning Board.

Mr. Ristuccia- We wanted water calculations.

Mr. DeTerra – This is for one building.

Mr. Lussier – Why is it not on the agenda?

Mr. DeTerra – There is one house and two other houses. Three buildings are to tear down and two buildings are not going to be building. Section one has one bay has four rooms with one bathroom and four sinks. We hired Prime Engineering to do the water calculations. They are a certified engineer.

Mr. Furtado – The letters finding the calculations, a ¾ inch service is adequate for water for calculation values up to nine.

**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
January 23, 2017**

Mr. DeTerra – I have the planning board's special permit decision that does not say anything from the planning board about the water service.

Mr. Wotton – Nine is a fixture value? We discussed this at the last meeting. I'm not familiar with plumbing so much. Mr. Fortin and Mr. Lussier spoke about fixture values.

Mr. Lussier – I don't discredit anything but we shouldn't be discussing this and table. This needs to be put on the meeting minutes still.

Mr. Furtado – Honestly, this was tabled until either Pete or somebody contacted Ed Fortin.

Mr. Lussier – Not discredit, but we should not discuss this right now.

Ms. Tripp – I don't know why you should discuss this at all. Mr. Fortin is the Water Superintendent. This is for him to review. Since when do you vote on this type of thing?

Mr. Ristuccia – I have to say how I feel. There is a  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch line in the ground. If an engineer does what this man needs him to do why do I have to speak to the water guy. He made statements last time. Great exception to the man who bought this property should have thought about it. He doesn't have the right to say that. Second thing is that if there were three building being serviced by that one line. I know four buildings. I don't understand where the problem is. I don't understand why we are talking about it. He told us Planning Board required a 1" line. This owner bought this property what the regulations says he can do. He wrote a letter if he builds another building he will put a new line in the street.

Mr. Wotton – So, based on the last meeting we tabled it until we received the calculations of what we received.

Mr. Lussier – Nothing to vote on because it's not on the agenda. It doesn't' really exist here.

Mr. Wotton – Just to clarify the motion last time it was to table to get the reports. What I would accept tonight is to make a motion based on Mr. Fortin's acceptance of this tomorrow morning. He accepts then I motion to allow this to go forward.

Mr. Wotton motioned based on Mr. Fortin approval of the engineer's calculations at his earliest convenience. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote 4-0 with Mr. Lussier abstaining because it wasn't on the agenda, but I do agree with Mr. Wotton.

Mr. Hobson – Kathy should be notified and then put on the agenda.

Mr. Furtado – Looks like there is no BPW representative on the marine resource committee. All those people are board of selectmen appointees.

Mr. Ristuccia – If you were appointed by the BPW that would be okay.



**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
January 23, 2017**

Mr. Wotton – Are we going to discuss the TV's and roll offs?

Mr. Furtado – The only thing I don't know is the number picked up by the town dropped off on the side of the road. Roll-off costs has increased. If we charge more I'm afraid there will be more on the side of road.

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

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

**VIII. Adjourn and Executive Session**

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn open session at 7:15 and enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and union negotiations. Mr. Hobson seconded.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp  
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on February 6, 2017.