

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
October 30, 2017**

Present

Michael Ristuccia, Commissioner
Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Keith Silvia, Commissioner
Cameron Durant, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant
James & Kathleen Wing, 10 Sunset Beach Road



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. October 16, 2017

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2017 meeting. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote 4-0 in favor with Mr. Durant abstaining.

B. October 16, 2017 – Executive Session

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2017 executive session. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote 4-0 in favor with Mr. Durant abstaining.

IV. Appointments

A. James & Kathleen Wing, 10 Sunset Beach Road – Re: Sewer Development Fees

Mr. Wing – This is about the betterment fees on my two pieces of property and what I have to do to put in the system. The cost is \$100 a foot not counting the Y, elbow and stubs. Total of 500 feet, so its \$50,000 to do betterment to Sunset Beach. I have to pick up where they left off. Why do I have to pay two betterment fees if I have to spend to put the sewer in?

Mr. Ristuccia – How many stubs?

Mr. Wing – One was forgotten. It's my two, Jeff and the house next to Jeff and to go to a T to continue n.

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Mr. Ristuccia – How far next is the next house after you?

Mr. Wing – Eric, Leo and an A frame in the corner and a house remodeled that double their square footage. Mike Costa has a failed septic system.

Mr. Wotton – Your lots were they ever 1 lot or 2 lots?

Mr. Wing – One lot and then it was divided. My septic is on that lot.

Mr. Wotton – When we brought the line down the Neck how was it assessed?

Mr. Wing – In 2008 I think we had this divided.

Mr. Hobson – It's not going to happen. If you don't want to pay don't hook in.

Mr. Ristuccia – The betterment fee is for what?

Ms. Tripp – When the sewer project was completed; all of the costs involved; design, construction and engineers the total cost was then divided by how many stubs were left at homes and buildable lots. In all fairness, since he has to bear the cost of the main extension maybe you could charge \$6,000 per connection which would be the same fee as a new home.

Mr. Wotton – At the time when the line came down whether there was two or one lot?

Mr. Wing – No they were two and then one. The last lot they had never got rid of. Two tax bills, no.

Mr. Wotton – In my opinion one lot, two lots and put it back to two the time frame might fall into your favor. My second recommendation. We went thru this on Torrington. They added a sewer line extension. Same thing. One of the properties was sold to one of the individuals and one was assessed on the sale.

Ms. Tripp – On Torrington Road when the Sconticut Neck Sewer Project was in construction, the owner of the subdivision asked if we could extend the main. We told him that one of the lots would be assessed the betterment and he chose which lot. The other two lots would have to pay the development/betterment fee when they tie in. They did not install another extension of the main. What they had to put in was their sewer services to each house.

Mr. Wing - Paying two betterments will cost \$25,000 and putting in the sewer will cost \$75,000.

Mr. Ristuccia – You are bringing the sewer line in for two lots instead of one. In order for you to sell the lot it is an elected thing you are doing. The fact that you are spending the money you are gaining. Right now you have one usable lot. Two lots paying taxes and only one is usable.

Mr. Wing – It is too close to the wetlands.

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Mr. Ristuccia – By bringing the sewer you are bringing a buildable lot. \$74,000 you are spending. Can I buy that lot for \$74,000?

Mrs. Wing – We wanted to originally to bring it to our land.

Mr. Ristuccia – When you first came in you wanted to bring it down the sidewalk. We do not want spaghetti lines. Although at that time I said that you should have to pay both betterments. The people on the other side.

Mr. Ristuccia – I would like to table this until the next meeting. I want to speak with the health department because this is a benefit to him maybe.

Mr. Durant– I empathize and I understand this is what needs to be changed. If someone 50 feet, 100 or 200; that’s what it comes down to.

Mr. Ristuccia – I know if we voted right now it would be no.

Mr. Durant - Currently how it reads right now it’s the betterment/development fee.

Mr. Silvia – If the town were to bring it down every house would have to bring it down.

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to table until the next meeting or meeting after that. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote 4-1 in favor with Mr. Hobson against.

B. BRW Properties – Re: New Driveway & Sidewalk Contractor

Mr. Wotton – I’m Brian Wotton and I am the president of BRW Properties. I am in front of you to apply for an approved contractor for driveways in town.

Mr. Ristuccia – You have nice references.

Mr. Wotton – There are three letters of recommendations but I have never worked for a town. My insurance is also attached. I have a driveway coming up for Dogwood for a second opening and for sea shells.

Mr. Ristuccia – You know that the new regulations after you do your first one Mr. Charbonneau will exam it for the quality of work.

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve BRW Properties as a new driveway contractor. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote 4-0 in favor.

V. Items for Action

A. Hart Engineering Co., Payment Requisition #1; \$125,400

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Mr. Furtado – Hart Engineering was the award winner for the updates for the treatment plant and two pumping stations. The invoice is \$125,400 for mobilization fees and bonding.

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve payment to Hart Engineering in the amount of \$125,400. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Tata & Howard, Inc. – General Services Contract

Mr. Furtado – Before Ed left I sat down with him and Patrick and went over a list that Eddie had. We relied on them for water issues and I will until new water superintendent is here. This is a contract not to exceed \$10,000 for general services with applications. Helping with bidding and technical matters. Ed had used them exclusively.

Ms. Tripp – The contract is for two parts; one for \$10,000 and one for \$14,000 for the well cleaning.

Mr. Wotton motioned to approve a general services contract with Tata & Howard in the amount of \$24,000. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. Water Regulations

Mr. Furtado – Not that I am in the throes of the water department. Do you recall when we upgraded the sewer use ordinance a few years back with the do's and don'ts? I'd like to do something on the water side. A lot of times with us it's not spelled out with folks. This is by no means complete.

D. Gravity Construction – Award Jeannette Street Drainage Project

Mr. Furtado – We had the bid last week for Jeannette Street finally. Gravity under the engineers estimate and this is for the drainage to award to Gravity Construction. They did the hydrants for us. The amount is \$85,628.63 and this will be paid by Chapter 90.

Mr. Wotton motioned to award Gravity Construction the Jeannette Street Drainage Project in the amount of \$85,628.63. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

E. Appoint 2 Board Members for Interview Process for Water Superintendent

Mr. Furtado – We have a few candidates. Need two people to sit on the preliminary committee.

Mr. Hobson – Keith would be a good choice.

Mr. Wotton – I am willing to do it.

Mr. Ristuccia – I'll be the substitute.

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Mr. Hobson nominated Mr. Silvia and Mr. Wotton and Mr. Ristuccia as the alternate to the preliminary interview process for water superintendent. Mr. Ristuccia seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Furtado – Next thing, we are not meeting with the selectmen today, it will be next week. That comes thru maybe attract better folks.

VI. Tabled Matters

n/a

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

A. Superintendent's Report for October 30, 2017:

From Last Meeting

- Spread shells at Hoppy's Landing
- Repaired sewer cover at Grandview

New Items

- Submit 5 year capital plan for water department
- Attend department head meeting
- Check with Town Counsel re: contract employees
- Attend Department head meeting
- Attend Capital Planning meeting
- Meet with various contractors for water department input
- Met with UniBank re: set-up to offer debit/credit card use at BPW
- Met with resident on Green Street – re: installation of snow fence
- Water department employee submits retirement notice
- Meet with Recreation Director and drive bike path for Highway department future install of exercise stations
- Work on update to water regulations
- Attend hazard mitigation meeting
- Meet with resident re: sewer invoice

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- Attend BBAC monthly meeting
- Contact Town Counsel re: ABC contract increase

B. Marine Resources Committee

Mr. Hobson – Marine Resources Committee had a lot of issues about different things. Mr. Rees and Mr. Freitas and the selectmen kept sending emails that they were going to show up. Controversy at Union Wharf and it came out Rees went to town counsel and Cox didn't show up either. Cox can put anybody he wants there. Special interest and why he got the spot. Town employees went to his school for free.

Another issue about something special grant for oysters we gave a grant on the Fairhaven Mattapoisett line and that became a little bit of an issue. We want to know where the grants are going.

Issue with moorings; people who have a right of way on Fort Street. Instead of the board they bypassed the Marine Resources Committee and went to town counsel and got different opinions.

C. Board Members

Mr. Hobson – Seaview Avenue moon tide is full of seaweed. The town beach is so bad you can just about drive in there.

Mr. Silvia – Summit between Holiday and Seaview is pretty rutty.

Mr. Durant – Momentary delay finding outside funding for the playground that we talked about. We'll have a response at the next meeting.

Mr. Wotton – 79 Nakata there was a branch down as it makes the right turn on Scoticut Neck there is a dirt road. A large branch over there one of the trucks drove by it three times.

Mr. Furtado – We assisted the tree department today.

Mr. Wotton – I would think that moving forward if a resident informs any member of any our department they would at least stop and pick it up. Courtesy to the resident. Carefree Homes, is that their tree or ours?

Mr. Furtado – We sent our appeal for the permit that went Friday. We also hired a marine scientist who looked at the UMass work since the last time in 2010. Sent the appeal to give us time. Once signed thirty days to come into compliance. First sample we would be in violation. Next step sewer rates will be calculated.

Mr. Ristuccia – In regards to that, the appeal who from he government who handles that appeal?

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Mr. Furtado - They have a separate board. There is going to be a nice glossy newsletter that Kathy and I did that will be going out with the bills. I wanted to put something in out about the dirty water. I included information about the nitrogen permit.

Mr. Ristuccia – Along with the newsletter informational stuff on a regular basis. The town people need to be aware.

B – I was in favor of having a town hall discussion about why it's going on and what it's going to cost.

VIII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Wotton motioned to hold the next meeting on November 6, 2017 one-half hour before the Selectmen's meeting at the town hall. Mr. Ristuccia seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Wotton motioned to hold the next meeting after November 6, 2017 on November 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

IX. Adjourn

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Ristuccia seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on November 13, 2017.