

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
January 25, 2018**

Present

Michael Ristuccia, Commissioner
Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Keith Silvia, Commissioner
Cameron Durant, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant



Michelle Bergeron videotaped the meeting.

Mr. Ristuccia arrived at 6:17 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Wotton called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

II. Motion to Rescind Vote of January 11, 2018

Mr. Hobson motioned to rescind the vote taken on January 11, 2018 regarding hiring of a water superintendent. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote 4-0 in favor.

III. Hire Water Superintendent

Mr. Wotton mentioned that they were still waiting for the chairman to arrive.

Mr. Furtado -The prior superintendent Edward Fortin after 44 years retired at the end of September and started an interview process. Notice was put on the town's website and on websites where the utility water folks look for this type of work. Received some applications and formed a subcommittee, Brian Wotton, Keith Silvia, myself and Patrick O'Neale who is a paid consultant. He has been our water department engineer for 35 years and wanted his expertise on the panel.

Mr. Ristuccia arrived at 6:17 p.m.

Mr. Furtado – Patrick came up with the technical interview questions and I created the town related questions. Eleven applicants applied. They were reviewed. Dwindled it down to five persons and came out with the top three. One of the top three backed out and then we were left with two. The two that we were left were Jeff and Tom Weir. Very good candidate pool. Actually voted a couple of weeks ago but the posting was vague so we were advised by Tom Crotty do this. I appreciate everybody that is here. We didn't take this cavalierly whatsoever. The choice is either Jeff or Tom unless the Board wants to open this up to an additional candidate.

Mr. Ristuccia – I apologize for being late and would take public comment and listen to people who are here.

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Mr. Hobson - This all started with Vinnie said, two board members and consultant and had a meeting in executive session and voted 3-2 to hire this person from Foxboro, Mr. Tom Weir. Did it in executive session but the vote has to be in open session. Then after that we decided to have another meeting three days later which was short notice and we had to vote again. In three days one of the board members changed his vote and we hired Jeff. Now here because we have to vote in open session. I've made up my mind what I did what I thought was best for the town. Either person I'm happy with.

Mr. Wotton – I was on the subcommittee and had gone thru twelve candidates, brought it down to five or six and interviewed five and brought it down to three. The recommendation from the subcommittee as well as superintendent was to hire Mr. Jeff Furtado based on those recommendations from the subcommittee. This would be his first handpicked candidate under his regime. Person most qualified for the job. Recommend Jeff for the job out of the two remaining candidates.

Mr. Silvia - I agree with what Mr. Hobson said. Let's get this going.

Mr. Durant – This board made one mistake and that was we did not get the superintendent's opinion. I take that into great consideration.

Mr. Ristuccia – Over the past several weeks here have been lots of comments back and forth. This board is all elected officials. Myself, I take this job very seriously, what's best for the town first priority. With that in mind I have to stand back and look at superintendent for water department. Ultimately it's Mr. Furtado, who do you want? Most comfortable with? This man is responsible for the water department. One more piece of information to make the best decision for the Town of Fairhaven. There are a team of people who have vouched for him.

Mr. Wotton motioned to hire Jeff Furtado for the water superintendent position. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote 3-2 with Mr. Ristuccia, Mr. Wotton and Mr. Durant in favor with Mr. Hobson and Mr. Silvia voting against.

IV. Adjourn

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn at 6:37 p.m. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on February 5, 2018.