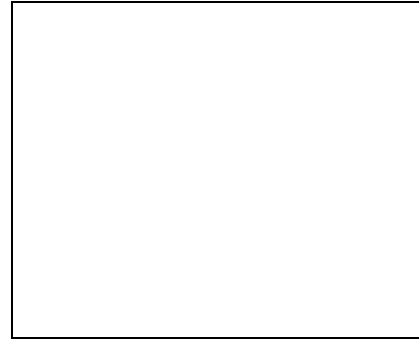


**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 18, 2018**

Present

Cameron Durant, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Keith Silvia, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Rebecca Vento, Administrative Assistant
Jeffrey Furtado, Water Superintendent
Doug Brady, 97 Pleasant Street
Mark Fletcher, 99 Pleasant Street



Mr. Wotton and Mr. Ristuccia were not in attendance.

I. Call to Order

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

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. May 31, 2018

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes from May 31, 2018. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. June 4, 2018

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes from June 4, 2018. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. Doug Brady, 97 Pleasant Street – Re: Sewer Laterals

Mr. Brady – My lateral pipe gets blocked one to two times per year from the roots of a town tree. As a homeowner I understand that I am responsible for the lateral pipe to my house if they become blocked. Before you made changes to the sewer use ordinance the sewer department used to come and resolve the tree root issue. Now the town will only come to the property and check the main to make sure the main is clear and flowing freely. I don't understand why the town won't help the fifteen to twenty residents per year that have the issue with tree roots. If I was an irresponsible homeowner I would see why it would be my responsibility to clear my lines but I am a responsible homeowner. I don't put things down my pipe that don't belong. I actually put root rid down my sewer cleanout to try and help with the tree root issues that I have. When the town put a camera down my line in the past it clearly showed the roots from the town tree that's affecting my line. Why should I pay to have my line cleared? It is the town's issue. It's not the clearing of the roots that's the issue it's implementing the policy.

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Mr. Furtado – The new procedure is when we get a call for a sewer back-up we send someone to the property to check the main. If the main is flowing freely then it's the homeowner's responsibility to have it cleared. If the main is blocked then the town will clear the main and the private lateral line.

Mr. Hobson – If you are having this problem a few times a year, why don't you replace the pipe to remedy the issue?

Mr. Brady – Since it's a town tree the town should replace the pipe.

Mr. Hobson – As a homeowner this is your responsibility.

Mr. Fletcher – Since you don't know for a fact that the tree roots are on private property. Is there a way to run a camera through the line and see if you are looking at the town property or private property?

Mr. Hobson - I'm all for having things fixed that need to be done. It's not fair if some people pay and other don't.

Mr. Brady – I am asking for the board to reinstate the policy for town tree roots to be cleared from a private line.

Mr. Durant – The issue isn't cost of clearing the tree roots from the line. It's the liability that comes with it.

Mr. Fletcher – If you do reinstate that procedure you could have a checklist for your employees to follow and have the homeowner sign a waiver stating that town is not responsible for breaking any pipes during this process.

Mr. Silvia motioned to table the discussion for 97 Pleasant Street regarding sewer laterals until the next meeting on July 2, 2018 when all board members are present. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

V. Items for Action

A. Sewer Use Ordinance

Mr. Silvia motioned to table the sewer use ordinance until the next meeting on July 2, 2018 when all board members are present. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Memorandum of Agreement – Town Human Resources Department

Mr. Furtado - This was put on the agenda from the last meeting as a follow up. We have received an email from Mr. Rees rescinding the memorandum of agreement with the town human resources department so there is no need to discuss this topic.

C. P.A. Landers – Notice of Award, Green Street Reconstruction Phase II - \$790,892.30

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Mr. Hobson motioned to award the Green Street Reconstruction Phase II to P.A. Landers in the amount of \$790,892.30. Mr. Silvia second. Vote unanimous.

D. Water Meter Tampering

Mr. J. Furtado –At the last meeting when we discussed this topic the board asked if I had any information from other towns concerning meter tampering. We came up with information from six local water departments that have a meter tampering policy and fines for tampering with their meter. A few of them fall under the Mass General Law. Somerset had their attorney address the situation and their attorney followed the Mass General Law and fined the resident tampering with the meter \$1000.

Mr. Durant – I think that the highest possible fine will prevent someone from tamper with the meter.

Mr. Hobson - I think if someone gets caught they should get a fine of \$1000.

Mr. J. Furtado – Currently we don't have anything in the town's bylaws under the general code. I would like to make a suggestion to put something into the bylaws at the town meeting in November.

Mr. Furtado - We can ask Mr. Crotty to write something up. Then we can present it at the town meeting in November.

Mr. Silvia motioned to change the water meter tampering fine to \$1000 and have the policy adopted in the town's bylaws at the next town meeting in November. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

E. Administration Stipend

Mr. Furtado – As you all know Ms. Tripp is retiring in a few weeks. I would like to have your permission to have her come back part time and help out in the office. I have spoken with her and she will be happy to come back and help if we need it.

Mr. Hobson motioned to have Ms. Tripp come back part time as needed. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

F. River Road Mattapoisett Pumping Station

Mr. Furtado – The River Road pumping station has been offline for over twenty years. We no longer have use for the pumping station anymore. The Town of Mattapoisett would like to take the area and make it into a park.

Mr. Silvia – I say if we don't use the property anymore we give it to the Town of Mattapoisett to utilize.

Mr. Furtado - I just wanted to make sure that it's okay with the board that we give up the property.

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Mr. Silvia motioned to give the River Road Pumping Station to the Town of Mattapoisett. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

VI. Tabled Matters

A. n/a

VII. Old Business / New Business

A. Superintendent

Superintendent's Report for June 18, 2018

From Last Meeting

- Pothole requests attended to
- Raised up sewer manhole on Briercliffe
- Removed trees we could reach at Little Bay Bike Path
- Purchased spike drag for ball fields

New Items

- Water department clerk begins
- Write thank you letter to all interviewed candidates
- Meet with GCG about Green St trees
- Bid opening for next phase of Green St – PA Landers wins bid
- Inspect roof with John at Rogers School for TA
- Attend HR Training
- Meet Lee Miguel – drain at Cooke St
- Review development plans with Mattapoisett River Valley
- Army Corps. annual bike inspection will be in July
- Attend/chair MRV Meeting
- Appointed (again) on Capital Planning, SRPEDD, JTPG and BBAC committees

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- Meet with Mark Rees
- Attend BMX meeting at Conservation
- Attend meeting with Insurance re: BPW employees on WC
- MOU for HR rescinded by Town hall
- Call Geico re: Hydrant Claim on Green St

B. Board Members

Mr. Silvia – The water gate at Briercliffe Road and Sconticut Neck Road still needs to be fixed.

C. Marine Resources Committee – BPW Related Matters

VIII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Hobson motioned to hold the next meeting on July 2, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Mr Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

IX. Adjourn

Mr. Hobson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. Mr. Silvia second. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Vento
Administrative Assistant

Minutes Approved on July 2, 2018