

Town of Fairhaven

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Finance Committee

2019 JUN 28 A 10:07

Minutes of the meeting for <April 11, 2019> at the Jeffery W. Osuch BPW Administration Building, 5 Arsene St., Fairhaven, MA

Members in attendance:

Padraic Elliott, Robert A. Furtado, Lisa Plante (in @ 7:05 PM), Kathi Carter, Bernard F. Roderick, Tracey A. Diggins, Jessica Dwelly

Town of Fairhaven:

Mark Rees- Town Administrator

Wendy Graves- Collector/Treasurer/Finance Director

Vincent D. Furtado- BPW Superintendent

Meeting was covered by government access television.

Chairman Pat called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Announced that the meeting was being recorded by government access TV. Chairman has to be notified if anyone else present is recording the meeting by video or audio.

Motion made by Bernie to accept the minutes from April 4, 2019. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous

- Mr. Rees presents a request to raise the limit on the Hoppy's Landing Revolving Account for FY19 from \$25,000 to \$41,000.
 - Chairman asks the nature of the additional expenses.

Mr. Rees states the hauling of the ramp revealed some repairs that were required. Also there are expenses related to the new electronic parking meter system now.
 - Chairman asks how much is in the account now.

Mr. Rees states there is enough to cover the expenses.

 - Jessica motions to raise the spending limit of the Hoppy's Landing Revolving Account from \$25,000 to \$41,000. Seconded by Tracey. Vote: Unanimous

Lisa joins meeting @ 7:05 PM.

Chairman states we will work on completing the Annual Town Meeting Warrant first.

- Mr. Rees passes out information pertaining to the part time sanitation administrative assistant.
 - After further study it was determined that the position would be classified as Grade 9, with a salary of \$23,900. This would be split 3 ways between Sanitation, Water, & Sewer.
 - Jessica asks if Mr. Furtado is still looking for 16 hours.
Mr. Furtado states yes.
 - Chairman questions the justification for the extra help if the contracts are still going to stay with the Board of Health.
Mr. Rees states he had an informal conversation with the Board of Health and they are willing to have the BPW handle the contracts.
 - Mr. Furtado states that's what he was planning when he suggested the position.
 - Chairman questions the Board of Health now having less work with the same staff.
Mr. Rees states the BOH is now more proactive and they have more work now. He states they spend time getting more grants now.
 - Kathi asks if the job description was created with one specific worker in mind or would it apply to anyone being hired.
Mr. Furtado states that is the job description regardless.
 - Lisa questions the job being a Grade 9 now.
 - Chairman asks what changed.
Mr. Rees & Mr. Furtado state the job was fully explained to Human Resources.
 - Chairman asks Mr. Rees how much additional money has been brought in by grants at the BOH.
Mr. Rees states he doesn't have a number, they have received grants for teaching restaurant cleanliness, and hoarding.
 - Chairman expresses continued concern of shifting work between departments, but the help not following the work.
 - Bob asks if the contracts are going to the BPW, who will negotiate them.
Mr. Rees states he feels it would be jointly with the BPW and him. He would seek a memorandum of understanding with the BPW.
 - Mr. Furtado states they need the position and the person would have no benefits.
He states his staff handles millions of dollars in contracts and personnel.
 - Chairman states Mr. Rees oversees the government operation and he is recommending the position.
 - Chairman states we should follow these new positions from year to year and see if the need is still there.
 - Bob questions, after discussion of part time workers receiving benefits, limiting the number of hours to avoid benefits.

Mr. Rees states if the position is classified as per deim there would be no benefits.

- Tracey motions to recommend \$186,089 for BPW Administration: Salaries & Wages. Seconded by Bernie. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 15: Water Enterprise Fund FY20 Recommended Operating Budget
 - Jessica motions to recommend \$580,846 for Salaries & Wages. Seconded by Tracey. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 16: Sewer Enterprise Fund FY20 Recommended Operating Budget
 - Jessica motions to recommend \$1,048,268 for Salaries & Wages. Seconded by Tracey. Vote: Unanimous
- Bernie asks Mr. Furtado about Sewer and Water Superintendents receiving large raises.
 - Mr. Furtado states it is because of the non-union wage reclassification.
- Article 11: Bills of Prior Year- Paid from FY19 funds
 - Mr. Rees wants to wait until Town Meeting to make sure there are no more bills.
 - Lisa motions to Recommend At Town Meeting. Seconded by Bernie. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 13: Funding Labor Contracts- FY20
 - Mr. Rees states they have 2 tentative contracts: Clerical and Highway.
 - Discussion of when the committee will be able to see the contracts.
 - Bernie motions to Recommend At Town Meeting. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 15: Water Enterprise Fund Operating Budget- FY20
 - Jessica motions to recommend Adoption. Seconded by Tracey. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 16: Sewer Enterprise Fund Operating Budget- FY20
 - Jessica motions to recommend Adoption. Seconded by Tracey. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 18: Roadwork- FY20
 - Mr. Rees recommends recommending at town meeting because they haven't broken down the cost yet.
 - Jessica motions to Recommend At Town Meeting. Seconded by Tracey. Vote: Unanimous
 - Lisa asks Mr. Furtado if the people from Billy's Way are in agreement.

Mr. Furtado states the concern last year was about drainage. The Town has hired an engineer to design the drainage.

- Article 30: Transfer from Surplus Revenue- FY20
 - Jessica motions to Recommend At Town Meeting. Seconded by Tracey. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 31: Citizen Petition- Street Light Request- Corner of Peter Lane and McKensie Lane- Two Lights
 - Jessica looked at this. She says this would put lights on consecutive poles while past practice has been every other pole.
 - Bernie motions to Recommend At Town Meeting. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 32: Citizen Petition- Street Light Request- 46 Torrington Road- One Light
 - Jessica motions to Recommend At Town Meeting. Seconded by Lisa. Vote: Unanimous
- Committee moves on to the Special Town Meeting Warrant.
- Article 1: Establish Enterprise Fund for Town of Fairhaven Cable Television
 - Mr. Rees states the law has changed and now the State wants the cable money set up as an Enterprise Fund.
 - Lisa motions to recommend Adoption. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 2: Town of Fairhaven Cable Television PEG Access Enterprise Fund FY20 Recommended Budget
 - Lisa motions to Recommend At Town Meeting. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 3: Establish Enterprise Fund for Fairhaven Public Schools Cable Television
 - Lisa motions to recommend Adoption. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 4: Fairhaven Public Schools Cable Television PEG Access Enterprise Fund FY20 Recommending Budget
 - Lisa motions to Recommend At Town Meeting. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous

- Article 5: Funding for engineering/architectural services related to land purchase for a public safety facility
 - Mr. Rees presents a proposal from HKT Architects, Inc. for services to access the feasibility of using 267 Huttleston Avenue as the site of the new public safety complex.
 - Mr. Rees states a RFP was put out to locate a usable site. This site was the only one that responded.
 - Discussion of whether there is a need for a new public safety complex.
 - Mr. Rees suggests speaking to the Chiefs.
 - Mr. Furtado states many sites were looked at, but were eliminated for various reasons.
 - Jessica motions to Recommend At Town Meeting. Seconded by Tracey. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 6: Roadwork FY20
 - Jessica motions to Recommend At Town Meeting. Seconded by Tracey. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 7: Street Acceptance: Robert Street
 - Jessica motions to Yield To Petitioner. Seconded by Lisa. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 8: Televising Board Meetings
 - Lisa motions to Yield To Petitioner. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 9: Amendment to Town Administrator Act
 - Chairman asks Mr. Rees if this will give more control of BPW employees to the BPW board.
Mr. Rees states yes. This will correct language from the original Town Administrator Act.
Hiring and firing of BPW employees will be handled by the BPW.
Collective bargaining will be handled with the Town being represented by the Town Administrator, the superintendent of the BPW, and a member of the Board of Public Work. Selectmen will sign the contracts.
 - Mr. Furtado states the BPW voted in favor of this.
 - Lisa motions to recommend Adoption of Article 9. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 10: Establish OPEB Trust
 - Mr. Rees and Ms. Graves state the State has changed the law governing this and they want the new language voted upon.

- Lisa motions to recommend Adoption. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 11: Buffer Zone Protection
 - Mr. Rees states he feels this may be passed over.
 - Lisa motions to Yield to Petitioner. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 12: Storm Water Management
 - Mr. Furtado states the Town has an EPA permit for storm water management. Part of the permit requires the Town to clean a certain number of catch basins and streets per year.

Mr. Furtado states the new permit comes with new requirements. They now have to collect samples at the storm drain outfalls.

This bylaw would give them authority to force people who have their sewer tied into the storm drain line to remove it.

 - Lisa motions to Yield to Petitioner. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Article 13: Historic Site Reuse Special Permit
 - Mr. Rees states this would allow a Special Permit to be issued to allow reuse of historic buildings for something outside of the present zoning for the area.
 - Mr. Rees states this would apply to the Rogers School building.
 - Lisa motions to Yield to Petitioner. Seconded by Jessica. Vote: Unanimous
- Chairman states we will talk more about Article 5 next week.

8:45PM. Jessica motions to adjourn. Seconded by Lisa. Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by:

Robert A. Furtado
Finance Committee Secretary

accepted 4/18/2019

Robert A Furtado