



Fairhaven Board of Selectmen

November 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman Daniel Freitas, Vice Chairman Charles Murphy, Clerk Robert Espindola
Town Administrator Mark Rees, and Administrative Assistant Vicki Paquette.

Chairman Freitas called the meeting to order in the Town Hall Banquet Room at 6:41 p.m. The meeting was recorded by Cable Access.

MINUTES

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2018 meeting, open session.
Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2018 meeting, open session.
Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Mr. Rees told the Board he was busy focusing on Special Town Meeting therefore there is no report this week.

COMMITTEE LIASION REPORTS

- Mr. Murphy read a letter from the John Manjiro Festival Planning Committee in Japan (Attachment A)
- Mr. Espindola reported that Cable Advisory will meet on November 20, 2018

REQUEST TO USE TOWN HALL

Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the request to use the Town Hall auditorium for a wedding ceremony on Tuesday, November 27, 2018, to waive the fees but to sign the indemnification agreement. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

25 MPH IMPLEMENTATION

Police Chief Meyers explained to the Board that per Mass General Law and Town meeting vote on May 5, 2018, the Town can implement a 25 mile per hour (MPH) speed limit town wide. The

law states that the Board of Selectmen can lower the speed limit from its current 30 mph to 25 mph on NON-posted streets of thickly settled or business districts. The Chief is in favor of changing the speed limit and feels a 30 mph limit in residential neighborhoods is too fast. This new speed limit will be town wide unless otherwise posted and will only affect streets where it is not posted currently. The Chief will notify residents through Social Media, Cable Access and signs once the change takes place. Selectmen agreed that speed is an issue and are happy to see it reduced. Mr. Murphy made a motion to implement the 25 mph speed limit Town wide unless otherwise posted effective January 1, 2019. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0) (Attachment B & C)

COUNCIL ON AGING APPOINTMENT

Chairman Freitas read the resignation letter from Council on Aging member Nancy Kleinowski. Selectmen thanked her for her service to the Town. Mr. Murphy made a motion to accept the resignation of Nancy Kleinowski on the Council on Aging. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Chairman Freitas read a letter from resident Carol Burt requesting to join the Council on Aging.

Mr. Murphy made a motion to appoint Carol Burt to the vacant position on the Council on Aging Board for Fairhaven. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Mr. Murphy made a motion to appoint resident Eric Dawicki to the Marine Resources Committee. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

PRIZE-A-PALOOZA FUNDRAISER

Kristen Lancaster, organizer of the Prize-a-Palooza fundraiser met with the Selectmen to invite them to be “celebrity bartenders” for the event, which will be held at the Seaport Inn on December 2, 2018. Ms. Lancaster explained that this is a family friendly fundraiser to benefit the Neediest Family Fund. In 2017 this event raised more than \$32,000. Chairman Freitas thank Ms. Lancaster for volunteering her time to put on such a great event.

POLICE SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Police Chief Myers and members of the Fairhaven Police Department were in attendance to introduce new police officer Michael Carrette. Mr. Carrette was most recently in the Navy as a machine gunner. He is a UMASS Lowell graduate and was the top of his class at the Police Academy. All Selectmen thanked Mr. Carrette for his service to our country and to the Town of Fairhaven. At 7:10 pm, Town Clerk, Carolyn Hurley swore in Mr. Carrette with accordance to Town bylaws. Mr. Rees told the Board that pursuant to the Town Administrator’s act, he was approving the appointment by Chief Myers of Officer Carrette.

VETERANS SERVICES DISTRICT

Mr. Rees explained that this will be postponed until a later time.

HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT

Tim Keough, President of BASK, Inc met with the Selectmen to discuss the Host Community Agreement for Fairhaven. Mr. Keough feels this should be an easy task as that the rules are set by the State Attorney General. Mr. Rees recommended a working group appointed by the Town Administrator to aid in the negotiations with BASK. Mr. Murphy feels because he is part of the Marijuana advisory group he would like to serve on this group.

FY20 POLICY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Mr. Rees said the Board had a good discussion regarding the Goals and Objectives for FY 20 on November 11, 2018. Once the preliminary is approved by the Board of Selectmen, Mr. Rees will have Departments add their input into the document and will bring the final document back to the Board. Selectmen thanked Mr. Rees for his hard work. Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the preliminary report of FY 20 Goals and Objectives. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0) (Attachment D)

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Espindola discussed setting up an Ad Hoc Committee to work through the process of a feasibility study for municipal fiber optics. A meeting will be held on December 12, 2018 with an expert in the field to discuss the subject for anyone who is interested in learning more.

Mr. Espindola and Mr. Murphy reminded residents about the Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning

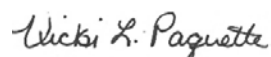
Mr. Murphy wished the Fairhaven Blue Devils good luck at their football game against the Dartmouth Indians.

Mr. Freitas mentioned that M.O. LIFE will be holding a gift basket raffle event on Sunday, November 25, 2018. Mr. Murphy left the room for this announcement.

The Board of Selectmen wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

At 7:21 pm Mr. Murphy made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Vicki Paquette
Administrative Assistant
(Approved 12/3/2018)

Documents appended:

A: Letter from Manjiro Festival Planning Committee

B: Letter from Chief Myers

C: Article 34 and MGL Chapter 90, Section 17c and Section 18b

D: FY20 Policy Goals with Objectives Draft

Tosashimizu John Manjiro Festival Planning Committee
Office of the President

November 5, 2018

Mr. Charlie Murphy
Vice-Chairman
Fairhaven Board of Selectmen
40 Center Street
Fairhaven, MA 02719

Dear Selectman Murphy,

I want to thank you for your contribution to the 7th John Manjiro Festival in Tosashimizu. We were also honored to have received your congratulatory address and message. Thanks to you, we were able to successfully hold the festivities to a safe completion.

It is our fondest hope that you continue to honor the achievements of Tosashimizu's forefather, John Manjiro, and share his story with all you encounter. We here in Tosashimizu wish to further deepen and strengthen the bonds of friendship that we share with our sister cities of Fairhaven - New Bedford and Tomigusuku. To that end, we hope that you will continue to support our efforts with your cooperation for years to come.

In closing I would like to apologize for the informality of this letter and thank you once again for your contribution to the 7th John Manjiro Festival in Tosashimizu.

Sincerely,

Yo Hodooka
John Manjiro Festival Planning Committee President

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN
POLICE DEPARTMENT
1 Bryant Lane
Fairhaven, MA 02719
Phone 508-997-7421
Fax 508-997-3147
www.fairhavenpolice.org

Michael J. Myers
Chief of Police

November 15, 2018

Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
40 Center Street
Fairhaven, MA 02719

Gentlemen,

In 2016 through Section 193 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016 the State Legislature created Massachusetts general law Chapter 90 section 17C the amendment is as follows:

SECTION 193. Chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 17B the following section:-

Section 17C. (a) Notwithstanding section 17 or any other general or special law to the contrary, the city council, the transportation commissioner of the city of Boston, the board of selectmen, park commissioners, a traffic commission or traffic director of a city or town that accepts this section in the manner provided in section 4 of chapter 4 may, in the interests of public safety and without further authority, establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour on any roadway inside a thickly settled or business district in the city or town on any way that is not a state highway.

(b) Upon establishing a speed limit under this section, the city or town shall notify the department. The operation of a motor vehicle at a speed in excess of a speed limit established under this section shall be a violation of section 17.

What this laws states, is that with Town approval, the Board of Selectmen can lower the speed limit from its current 30 mph to 25 mph on NON-posted streets of thickly settled or business districts. Currently under Chapter 90 section 17 any thickly settled or business district's street that does not have a posted speed limit it is prima facie evidence that the speed limit is 30 mph. You would be voting to make the prima facie evidence that the speed limit is 25 mph.

One of the greatest complaints we receive at the Police department is the speeding of vehicles in residential neighborhoods. However we find in many of these circumstances the

vehicles are traveling the speed limit of 30 mph. The problem is that 30 mph is too fast to be traveling in many of our neighborhoods. By enacting this section of the law we can reduce that speed limit to 25 mph. Although 25 mph may still be too fast for many of our neighborhoods it is a good beginning to try and reduce the speeding concerns of our residents in conjunction with our efforts at the police department.

Some of the measure we have taken at the Police department to try and reduce speeding complaints include the purchasing and using of portable radar signs. We currently have a portable speed trailer that we use and have used for several years. The sign is towed around Town and moved to several different locations throughout the year. We have recently bought two portable telephone pole mounted radar signs using a grant. Within the past month we started deploying these signs throughout Town. These signs not only record and display the speeds of vehicles but it also allows us to collect data about the traffic conditions.

Each year we also apply for and receive a Traffic Safety grant which provides money for additional patrols to combat speeding, aggressive driving and seatbelt usage. These patrols are spread throughout the year, usually around heavy traffic seasons. We have also just recently secured a grant and installed the State's e-citation program and printers in all of our marked patrol cars. This program allows officers to enter their citation on the mobile data terminals and print the citation from the installed printers directly from their patrol cars. This greatly minimizes Officers time during the traffic stop by having to hand write their citations and eliminates the follow up paper trail of processing the citations.

Each year we work closely with TMDE Calibration Company to maintain and monitor our radar equipment to ensure all of our devices are properly working and certified. This prevents any issues when challenges are made in court and certifies that the equipment was working properly and accurate. Officers are assigned each shift to concentrate in areas we have traffic issues and speeding. When we receive citizen complaints about specific areas, emphasis is put on those areas and the shifts will saturate the area with traffic enforcement to try and address the problem.

We are hoping that in conjunction with our initiatives and the reduction of the prima facie speed limits we can reduce speeding complaints, accidents and increase safety for all of our Public.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J Myers
Chief of Police



Town of Fairhaven
Office of Town Clerk

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Telephone (508) 979-4023 Ext. 105 FAX (508)-979-4079

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2018
WALTER SILVEIRA AUDITORIUM – ELIZABETH HASTINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL
TOWN MEETING MEMBERS PRESENT 200 – QUORUM REQUIRED 100

ARTICLE 34 – ACCEPT MGL CHAPTER 90, SECTION 17C AND SECTION 18B

By majority vote, it was voted to accept M.G.L. Chapter 90, Section 17C that provides for the Board of Selectmen in the interests of public safety to establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour on any roadway inside a thickly settled or business district and Section 18B that provides for the Board of Selectmen in the interests of public safety establish designated safety zones on, at or near any way in Fairhaven which is not a state highway and with the approval of the Department of Transportation if the same is a state highway and, furthermore, such safety zones shall be posted as having a speed limit of 20 miles per hour, or take any other action relative thereto,

A TRUE COPY, ATTEST:

Eileen M. Lowney
Town Clerk

Part I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT

Title XIV PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS

Chapter 90 MOTOR VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT

Section 17C ESTABLISHMENT OF 25-MILES-PER-HOUR SPEED LIMIT
IN THICKLY SETTLED OR BUSINESS DISTRICT IN CITY
OR TOWN; VIOLATION

[Text of section added by 2016, 218, Sec. 193 effective November 7, 2016.]

Section 17C. (a) Notwithstanding section 17 or any other general or special law to the contrary, the city council, the transportation commissioner of the city of Boston, the board of selectmen, park commissioners, a traffic commission or traffic director of a city or town that accepts this section in the manner provided in section 4 of chapter 4 may, in the interests of public safety and without further authority, establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour on any roadway inside a thickly settled or business district in the city or town on any way that is not a state highway.

(b) Upon establishing a speed limit under this section, the city or town shall notify the department. The operation of a motor vehicle at a speed in excess of a speed limit established under this section shall be a violation of section 17.

Part I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT

Title XIV PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS

Chapter 90 MOTOR VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT

Section 18B ESTABLISHMENT OF DESIGNATED SAFETY ZONES FOR
WAYS IN CITY OR TOWN; VIOLATION

[Text of section added by 2016, 218, Sec. 194 effective November 7, 2016.]

Section 18B. (a) Notwithstanding section 18 or any other general or special law to the contrary, the city council, the transportation commissioner of the city of Boston, the board of selectmen, park commissioners, a traffic commission or traffic director of a city or town that accepts this section in the manner provided in section 4 of chapter 4 may, in the interests of public safety and without further authority, establish designated safety zones on, at or near any way in the city or town which is not a state highway, and with the approval of the department if the same is a state highway. Such safety zones shall be posted as having a speed limit of 20 miles per hour.

(b) The operation of a motor vehicle in such zone at a speed exceeding the speed limit established under this section shall be a violation of section 17.

Board of Selectmen

FY20 Policy Goals with Objectives

Approved: XX/XX/XXXX

Blue: Carry Over objective

Green: New objective

Note: Once this document is given preliminary approval by the Board of Selectmen specific objectives will be assigned to department(s) and a quarterly tracking system will be put in place.

Goal 1: Human Resources Improvements

To strengthen the Town's Human Resources operation in ways that will enhance employee productivity, create an atmosphere of mutual respect and team work, develop an equitable and competitive compensation and benefits plan, and foster employee accountability for job performance.

FY20 Objectives:

Revise Personnel Rules and Regulations and write Employee Handbook

Work with Department Directors on developing succession and cross training plans for key employees:

Determine the feasibility of revamping the Employee Health Insurance program to incentives healthy living of town employees and dependents..

Successfully negotiate collective bargaining agreements with Police/Fire/Clerical Unions. Assist BPW in negotiations with Highway/Sewer/Water Unions.

Analyze the possibility of changing the Tree Warden from an elected position to an appointed position.

Goal 2: Town Committees Collaboration

Recognizing that volunteers, both elected and appointed, play an integral part in improving Town government and enhancing civic engagement, establish methods and practices that will enhance collaboration and coordination between various boards, improve interaction with the public, and provide educational resources to ensure compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

FY20 Objectives:

Conduct, annually, a meeting of all chairs (and their membership) of town boards, commissions and committees to discuss matters of mutual interest and ways to collaborate.

Goal 3: Inter and Intra Governmental Cooperation

Identify and advance opportunities for cooperation between Town departments, Fairhaven Public Schools, neighboring municipalities, non-profit organizations and regional governments as ways to improve services and reduce costs.

FY20 Objectives:

Complete Indirect Cost Allocation Agreement with Fairhaven Public Schools

Complete Revenue Sharing Agreement with Fairhaven Public Schools

Complete Memorandum of Understanding on Cable Access Television with Fairhaven Public Schools

Determine the Feasibility of a Veterans Services District

Review possible ways that the town and school building maintenance can be made more efficient and effective, by applying for Community Compact Grant to study feasibility of establishing a consolidated facility management operation.

Conduct a comprehensive review of all Waterways Related bylaws and Rules and Regulations and consolidate them into one document.

Install and make operational the Fiber Optic Network

Goal 4: Financial Sustainability

Establish long term financial sustainability for the Town by adherence to approved financial policies regarding reserve levels, balanced budgets and capital financing, financial forecasting, controlling fixed costs (pension, OPEB, Health Insurance) and augmenting revenues (tax base expansion, grants, user fees).

FY20 Objectives:

Request that Department Directors report at least annually on their efforts to identify and apply for grants that would benefit their departments.

Planning Director: Submit a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) grant application to become a certified MVP Community which then allows us to apply for grants to address goals in the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Develop a monthly Executive Summary Report of Key Financial Indicators

Explore the feasibility of implementing "Open Check Book" or similar software to promote transparency of town financial activity.

Goal 5: Economic Development

Diversify and expand the Town's property tax base by implementing strategies and programs that will help existing businesses and industries grow and make Fairhaven an attractive place for new businesses and industries to locate within the town. Included in this goal is the redevelopment of underutilized commercial properties along the various retail corridors in Town and the Atlas Tack property.

FY20 Objectives:

Begin Implementation of the Economic Development Plan:

Promote Tourism by improving access to the waterfront, supporting restaurant and lodging sectors, strengthening our ties with our sister cities in Japan and Portugal, partnering with New Bedford (including the water taxi service), and looking at the feasibility of bicycle ride sharing program. Develop a methodology to measure economic impact of Tourism in Fairhaven.

Develop a strategy to address the Atlas Tack Property, beginning with working with the EPA to gain site control of the property.

Goal 6: Health and Welfare of Town Residents

Since the health and welfare of the Town's residents is of paramount importance to the community and given that the on-going opioid addiction crises is not abating, develop an interdepartmental approach involving the Board of Health, School Department, Fire & EMS department, Police Department and other stakeholders that will develop education, referral, treatment and response protocols that will effectively address this serious public health and quality of life issue. In addition, identify other initiatives that promote the health and welfare of town residents.

FY20 Objectives:

Continue and Expand Participation in the Greater New Bedford Opioid Task Force and Fairhaven Working Group on Opioid Prevention:

Continue to Revise and Improve the Town's Emergency Management Response Plan including training of town employees in incident command protocols.

Determine the feasibility of having a "pet friendly" emergency shelter.

Study ways that communications to and from residents in emergency situations can be improved.

Goal 7: Civic Engagement

Recognizing that what makes a municipality a community is the degree of civic engagement by its residents, implement methods and programs to improve communication and involvement between the Town government and residents with a focus of volunteer recruitment, transparency of information, timely response to citizen concerns, and use of modern communication technology, including public access television and social media.

FY20 Objectives:

Develop and Implement a standardized reporting system where by Departments report regularly on their activities to the Town Administrator which is then presented to the Board of Selectmen and posted on the Town's Website.

Make fully operation the Public Access Channel

Study the pros and cons of creating a non-profit organization to operate the Town's Government and Public Access Channels

Goal 8: Long Term Planning

There are number of dynamic changes that will be impacting Fairhaven now and into the future, including the condition of the town's aging infrastructure, sea-level rising, community demographics, energy consumption, and federal/state environmental regulations. To begin addressing these matters, an

emphasis must be placed on long-term planning, including work on the Town's Master Plan, Hazard Mitigation Plan and Capital Improvement Plan.

FY20 Objectives:

Begin implementation of the Town Master Plan (ask appropriate departments to determine what objectives in the plan they can begin to implement and incorporate them into this document)

Begin implementation of the Hazard Mitigation Plan (ask appropriate departments to determine what objectives in the plan they can begin to implement and incorporate them into this document)

Complete and adopt the Public Facilities Improvement Plan and begin implementation.

Begin implantation of the Open Space and Recreation Plan (ask appropriate departments to determine what objectives in the plan they can begin to implement and incorporate them into this document)

Subject to Board of Selectmen approval, begin implementation of the Rogers School Re-use Action Plan or successfully negotiate the sale of the school

GOAL 9: Improve Municipal Services:

The Town is in the business of delivering services to residents and businesses and, as such, departments should continually strive to improve municipal services in the most efficient and effective manner possible.

FY20 Objectives

Departments will identify a minimum of two services they provide to the public, or would like to provide, (which could include an objective(s) in this document) and submit a plan to the Town Administrator identifying specific ways the delivery of those services can be improved (including reducing the costs of providing those services.)

Recommend approval of the "Complete Streets" program and the development of a comprehensive strategy to control speeding.

Working with the Dog Park Study Committee; determine the Feasibility of installing a Dog Park

Upon acceptance into the Green Communities Program begin implementation of energy reduction plan and efficient vehicle use policy.

Implement an integrated, on line, permitting system that encompasses the Building Department, Board of Health, Board of Public Works, Assessors, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board.

Reinstitute the Beautification Committee and provide sufficient resources for the Committee to carry out its responsibilities.

Address concerns of residents of North Main Street/Benoit Square neighborhood regarding traffic, graffiti, parking, and vacant/deteriorated buildings.

Prepare a Request for Proposal to hire a consultant to study the building of a Municipally Owned Fiber Optic Utility for town residents and businesses.

DRAFT