

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
July 30, 2018**

Present

Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Cameron Durant, Commissioner
Keith Silvia, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Michael Ristuccia, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Rebecca Vento, Administrative Assistant
Amilio Manzella, Crescent Drive
Julianne Manzella, Crescent Drive
Pamela Kuckuk, 3 Spring Street
John McGilvray, Sewer Department



I. Call to Order

Mr. Wotton called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. July 16, 2018

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of July 16, 2018. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote 4-0 Mr. Wotton abstained.

IV. Appointments

A. Amilio & Julianne Manzella, Crescent Drive - Sewer Abatement Betterment Tax

Mr. Manzella - When they put the sewer line in on Crescent Drive, I asked for two letters, one addressed to me and the other addressed to the contractor. They said once the sewer line was installed the lot would be buildable. I have received an email from Wayne Fostin stating that the lot is now unbuildable, due to it being undersized. Since I am unable to build a house there, I am looking to get my sewer betterment money back, so I can do something with the land. If the lot is not buildable, it is no good to me.

Mr. Hobson – Where is Crescent Drive?

Mr. Manzella – Crescent Drive is off Raymond Street.

Mr. Hobson – Are you across the street from the water?

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Mr. Manzella – No, I am about 1/10th of a mile from the water.
Mr. Hobson - Why do you want to take the sewer stub away?

Mr. Manzella – They are now saying that the lot is undersized and unbuildable.

Mr. Hobson - If I was you, I would pursue this matter with the town, town counsel and your lawyer to make the lot buildable. That lot is worth probably one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, if you could acquire a building permit for it. You asking for money back from the town is a mistake. I am just trying to help you.

Mr. Wotton - What you have going for you is the letters that you have. I believe that you should be grandfathered in.

Mr. Hobson - You should pursue this with someone that could give you legal advice.

Mr. Ristuccia – If I was in this situation, I would ask the Board to table this matter and then seek legal advice. After you have done that, then you come back in front of the Board so we can discuss this further.

Mr. Manzella - Could we table this matter until a further time?

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to table the discussion for Crescent Drive Sewer Abatement Betterment Tax. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Pamela Kuckuk, 3 Spring Street - Driveway Waiver

Ms. Kuckuk – Currently we have one driveway. We are looking to put in a second one. The parking on that end of Spring Street is crazy.

Mr. Ristuccia – Are you looking to install the driveway where the fence was taken down?

Ms. Kuckuk – Yes, we are looking for 14 feet to keep it as small as we can.

Mr. Hobson - As long as your neighbors are ok with this. I think it is a good thing that you are trying to get cars off the street.

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the driveway waiver for a second opening of fourteen feet at 3 Spring Street. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. Pasta House – Grease Trap

Mr. Wotton removed this item from the tabled matters.

Mr. Wotton - If you recall in January 2015 the Board of Public Works voted to “grandfather” in all internal grease traps, unless there is an issue, then the property owner would have to have an external grease trap installed. This property was remodeled ten years ago, three to four years ago we notified

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the owner because he needed to have an exterior grease trap installed. I think at this point we need to come up with a time frame to make sure an external grease trap is installed.

Mr. Ristuccia- If we have to go to the property from now until they install a grease trap, they should be billed for the town's services, since we have been called their numerous times and they have only received a bill for the last time.

Mr. Hobson – The town should stop going there and helping them.

Mr. Furtado –If the town did not go there when they have a problem, it would end up being the Towns problem, since the main is usually blocked.

Mr. Ristuccia - Have you heard from him since the last time you spoke with him on July 16?

Mr. Furtado - We called to remind him that he was on tonight's agenda, although we had to leave a voicemail.

Mr. Ristuccia - I think we should give him thirty days to submit a plan from an engineer showing how the grease trap will be installed. Once the job is started, I know that it will take a couple of days to complete the installation of the grease trap.

Mr. Silvia - I think that six months is plenty of time to have plans drawn up, submit them to the Board of Public Works and then have the work completed once the plans have been approved by the town.

Mr. Hobson – We sent him a bill for thirteen hundred dollars. I think that he needs to come in front of the board.

Mr. Wotton - We have invited him in enough and he does not show.

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to send a letter to the property owner advising him that he is to submit engineered plans to the Board of Public Works within thirty days for the installation of an external grease trap at the Pasta House. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

D. Alex Sylvaria – Re. Boy Scout Eagle Project

Mr. Sylvaria - I would like to first thank the Board of Public Works for seeing me again. At the last Selectmen's meeting, I was informed that the Board of Public Works thought that this project was off. I just wanted to let you know that I have started clearing the brush back to the tree line. As of tomorrow, I will be doing more work down there. I would like to ask the Board of Public Works for a few things. The first thing is to have the "dog sign" moved from the back of the building to the front. People are getting out of their vehicles with their dogs off leash and then having to go back to their vehicle to get the leash once they see the sign. Second thing is to remove the bush that we have already cleared from the parking lot. We have been clearing the brush out quicker than we planned.

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Mr. Durant - I saw the pictures that your father posted on Facebook. You are doing a great job.

Mr. Sylvaria – There are a few people that are working with me. They are my father, my grandfather, Gary Lavalette and some people that were passing by on the bike path that showed some interest.

Mr. Ristuccia - I am thrilled that you are doing this. Your dad should be proud of you. I am all for whatever you need.

Mr. Hobson - There is a lot of history to that location. I will try to get you some pictures of what it used to look like.

Mr. Durant – Can we look to see if we have an extra bike rack that could be placed there once the project is complete?

Mr. Sylvaria - The project should take me about a month to complete. I have a bench and picnic table that has been donated. I will be putting it there once the project is complete. I will also be buying a bike rack to put there, but if you have an extra one we could put a second one there. In addition, we will be replacing the roof since it is a danger.

Mr. Wotton – Have you contacted the bikeway committee? I know they were looking to do some work in that area. Maybe they would be able to help you. We commend you for all your hard work.

Mr. Sylvaria - We are also looking for woodchips for the barrier of the floor. Not sure if you have any that can be spared.

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to allow the sign to be moved to the front of the property, have the Board of Public Works move the brush from the parking lot area and have wood chips brought to the location. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

V. Items for Action

A. BPW Superintendent - Carry over Vacation

Mr. Furtado - This is my annual request to transfer over five days of my vacation time that I have not used.

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to allow Mr. Furtado to carry over five vacation days. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Insituform Technologies, Phase 2 Sanitary Sewer Interceptor

1. Change Order No. 1 \$ 690.00

Mr. Furtado - We have two items for Insituform Technologies, the first thing is the change order for \$ 690.00 and the other is payment # 4 for the work that was done on the bike path.

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Mr. Durant motioned to accept change order # 1 to Insituform Technologies in the amount of \$690.00. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote Unanimous.

2. Payment # 4 \$ 24,372.50

Mr. Durant motioned to approve payment # 4 in the amount of \$ 24,372.50. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

**C. Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Gap Grant Approval
\$23,925.00**

Mr. Furtado – This is a grant that the sewer department applied for and received. This is an earmark to do one of the pilot studies. We really wanted to do one this summer but it did not work out. This is to see what will be the best technology for the nitrogen removal.

Mr. Durant motioned to accept the Gap grant in the amount of \$ 23,925. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

D. Causeway Road – Install Boulders

Mr. Furtado – We received a request from the police department asking us to install boulders near the beach on the north side of Causeway Road. Currently there is an area that people are using as a drop off and pick up area. By installing boulders there, they think that it will stop people from parking there and not letting people drop off or pick up from there.

Mr. Wotton - If we put boulders there to stop people from parking, how are they going to be able to drop off and pick up from that location?

Mr. Hobson – Previously they had boulders there. They removed them when someone hit them, and it became an issue. Instead of boulders, maybe we could put highway barriers so people can still drop off and pick up. If someone hits a highway barrier, they would bounce right off.

Mr. Ristuccia - I have a problem with this and I will tell you why. There is no real good signage to tell where you can and cannot park. I think we should first fix the problem with the signs. The safety officer should be more concerned with stop signs on the north and south sides of Causeway Road. Somebody is going to die there before they put signs up. People come from out of the area to come to that beach but where do they park?

Mr. Wotton - Is the picture in the packet where they want the boulders, or do they want to move them up more?

Mr. Ristuccia - Where is everyone going to park? I do not think we should vote on this until we go and take a better look at this. It is unsafe for people to drop off and pick up there. People are not paying attention they open their door without even looking or they are removing a kayak off the roof of the vehicle.

Mr. Wotton - I agree this needs to be looked at further. There should be no parking over there. Maybe there should be a 10 minute loading and unloading zone.

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Mr. Ristuccia – I will volunteer to go with Mr. Furtado and the police department to get further information.

Mr. Hobson motioned to table the discussion for Causeway Road until we get more information. Mr. Ristuccia seconded. Vote unanimous.

E. Wayne Electrics, Proposal for Security System at the Wastewater Treatment Plant \$ 4,225.00

Mr. Furtado - This is an addendum for the proposal that was approved at the last meeting. We are now looking to add cameras to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The last proposal was under budget, so we can now add to the treatment plant.

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to approve the proposal from Wayne Electrics for the Security System upgrade at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$ 4,225.00. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

VI. Tabled Matters

A. Pasta House – Grease Trap

B. Sewer Use Ordinance

Mr. Furtado - I put this on the agenda again to see where you all stand. As of right now, the policy reads that we do not go into anyone's house. We check the main to make sure it is flowing clearly, if the main is blocked, we then clear the blockage from the main. The two policies that I have drafted are, the town owns the tree roots forever and the other is the town owns the tree roots for one year. We will never go into anyone's house to clear a blockage and the request has to come from the property owner. The snaking will come from a clean out in the sidewalk area, if there is not a clean out in the sidewalk, the property owner can request to have one installed. I am trying to think of a way to satisfy the concerns of the liability issue.

Mr. Ristuccia - What happens when a resident calls that has a blockage but they do not have a clean out?

Mr. Furtado – The property would then be put on a list to have a cleanout installed.

Mr. McGilvray - The real problem is going into people's homes. It is not that we do not want to help the owner, it is the liability. The other issue is that people say that they have a town tree that is causing the issue. When we get there, the tree is on one side of the property and their sewer line is on the complete other side, with arborvitae's growing less than ten feet from the line.

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Mr. Silvia – Is there anything stating that we are not responsible for breaking pipes while we are trying to rectify the situation?

Mr. Hobson - We currently are not responsible for any blockages except for the main line. Why do we want to take this back on?

Mr. Furtado - We only stopped this policy back in January. I am trying to find a way to provide a service that we do not have to go into people's homes. Prior to January 2018, we used to go into the cellar to clear all blockages.

Mr. Wotton - What we need to do is come up with a distance from the pipe to the town tree. If a tree is within 30 feet of the pipe, it will give you a realistic root canopy. We need to not go into houses and we need to stick to that. It is not fair to the employees to put them at any kind of risk.

Mr. Durant motioned to clean the sewer line affected by a town tree that is less than 30 feet from the lateral line for one year from the initial call. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote 4-1 Mr. Hobson opposed.

VII. Old Business / New Business

A. Superintendent

Supt. Report for July 30th, 2018

From last meeting

- Cut brush at various sites
- Invoice sent to Pasta House

New items

- Attend Reynolds Dr meeting re title search
- Attend meeting with new workman's comp insurance carrier – Mega Insurance
- Preconstruction meeting for Green St Phase 2
- Annual Army Corps Hurricane Dike Inspection
- Attend BBAC Monthly meeting
- Drop off letters to Reynolds Drive residents advising them of upcoming project
- Coordinate Workplace Harmony Session
- Lots of emails re: New BPW Supt Vehicle
- Meet with GCG and resident of 79 Green St re granting Town an easement for sidewalk to save the tree
- Prep work is commencing for street construction of Diamond, Club and Henry
- Rockland street road construction
- Attend Department of Labor Training re: New Safety Regulations that will be imposed on Municipalities
- Attend Dept.Head Meeting re new time clock procedure
- Meet with Developer of former Huttleston Motel property

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Mr. Furtado – In regards to the Green Street project, we may have one property owner who is willing to have an easement to save the tree in front of their property. We are currently down to having seven trees taken down.

B. Board Members

Mr. Hobson – There is a trench near Farmfield Street and Atlas Street, where the water main has previously been repaired that has settled and needs to be repaired. There is brush that is sticking up about a foot on Middle Street near the boat ramp, Hoppy’s Landing and on Union Wharf. On Potter Street you can no longer fit two cars down the street at the same time. There is brush that is overgrown into the street and needs to be cut back.

Mr. Ristuccia- Mr. Furtado what is up with the Causeway Road bridge?

Mr. Furtado - As far as the repairs, the last few reports that I have received from the State say that nothing has changed in 3 years, but it still needs to be fixed. We may have to postpone the last section of Green Street so we can make repairs to the bridge.

Mr. Hobson - That bridge needs major work.

Mr. Wotton – The only thing that I have was the weeds growing up around town.

C. Marine Resources Committee – BPW Related Matters

VIII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Ristuccia motioned to set the date for the next meeting on August 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote unanimous.

IX. Executive Session & Adjourn

Mr. Hobson motioned to adjourn open session and enter into executive session and not to reconvene in open session at 7:02 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. Mr. Ristuccia seconded.

Roll call taken: Mr. Wotton, Mr. Durant, Mr. Silvia, Mr. Hobson and Mr. Ristuccia.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Vento
Administrative Assistant

Minutes Approved August 13, 2018