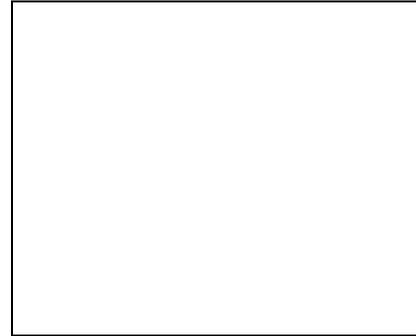


**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
March 12, 2012**

Present

Geoffrey Haworth, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Kathleen Sturtevant, Commissioner
G. Steven Riley, Commissioner
Daniel Freitas, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Kathy Tripp, Administrative Assistant
Edward Fortin, Water Superintendent
Donald Wuerdeman, Brown and Caldwell
Robert Fougere, Brown and Caldwell



I. Call to Order

Mr. Haworth called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. February 27, 2012

Mr. Riley motioned to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2012 meeting. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. Donald Wuerdeman, Robert Fougere, Brown and Caldwell

Mr. Haworth – We requested you to come in with Bob to go over with the Board the project and the resident engineer being changed.

Mr. Wuerdeman – Eian Lynch decided to pursue other opportunities. His last day was March 2nd. In consulting with Mr. Furtado and others it was a good idea to let Bill Needle go. We will be using Bob Fougere for the start up and to conserve on the budget. This will work just fine.

Mr. Hobson – I'm upset a little because we are almost done with this project. Both of them have been here since the beginning.

Mr. Wuerdeman – We didn't have enough money for the resident to be here full time. Bill wasn't happy not being here full time. We feel confident.

Ms. Sturtevant – I'm upset because we only have two months to go.

Mr. Riley – I understand. Everyone has a right to leave. I called Eian and wished him the best.

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Mr. Wuerdeman – Eian is willing to help out.

Mr. Riley – With Bill leaving, he was working a five day, five hour a day work week. Will that be deducted from the final bill? We should receive about two and one-half week credit for that line item.

Mr. Wuerdeman – We would reallocate and use it. We had 750 hours of Bill's time and billed you for 715 hours.

Mr. Freitas – When we sat down to discuss Amendment 4, we still had Bill Needle's money there. We went back and forth with that.

Mr. Riley – Is Eian and Bob's rate comparable or are we being surcharged for Bob?

Mr. Wuerdeman – No. I can get you an answer. I'll send it to Vinnie.

Mr. Haworth – Can you give us a project update?

Mr. Fougere – The insulation crew is in there now. The testing was done. The gas is on hold and final piping. We made progress with Nstar today.

Mr. Haworth – What about the five motors?

Mr. Fougere – There are five in the building spec. We need the manufacturer to guarantee the pumps. He chose to use Plan B and use the brakes on the motor. There is no way to wire them. Plan A didn't need wiring. We have to preserve the warranties.

Mr. Riley – We've been thru this before. Be very careful we don't get into one of those situations and we have to wait ten weeks.

Mr. Fougere – They said they would produce the letter in two days or go another way.

Mr. Riley – Vinnie, find that out tomorrow.

Mr. Haworth – Where are we at for the completion date at this point?

Mr. Wuerdeman – The problem is I do not have a revised schedule from the contractor.

Mr. Haworth – Based on the project, where do you see us?

Mr. Wuerdeman – There will be a startup this week on eight elements.

Mr. Riley – Will it be 90% tested and done before the end of March?

Mr. Haworth – I haven't seen the Friday reports?

Mr. Fougere – I will get that to you.

V. Items for Action

A. Brown and Caldwell – Pay Requisition

Mr. Furtado – That invoice was pulled.

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B. WES Construction

Mr. Furtado – This invoice is fine.

Mr. Freitas motioned to approve the WES Construction payment of \$119,765.70. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. Water and Sewer Rates

Mr. Furtado – At the last meeting Commissioner Riley spoke about a plan and moving forward. We need to increase the water rates from \$3.24 per one hundred cubic feet to \$3.50. That's an increase of 26 cents. The water department has been running in a deficit for the last different billing cycles. We will be running in a deficit again. We can't keep taking money from retained earnings. We have projects coming up on the horizon. We have to look at the big picture.

Mr. Riley – At the last few meetings we talked about the tier system. That would help the customers who conserve water. That will take us a longer time to be accurate with the formula we will need to charge. The engineer is looking at that.

Mr. Furtado – Next year we will come up with the ascending block plan.

Mr. Riley – We can't continue running in a deficit. The 26 cent water rate increase is minimal compared to other rate increases we've had in the past. We had to raise the rates prior to this to build the Water Treatment Plant. It's a necessary part of conducting business.

Mr. Furtado – Five years ago the Water Treatment Plant was built. Every year since then the cost to run that plant has increased 3%. We have absorbed that cost until now.

Mr. Freitas – I know we have to raise them. The people that conserve, it's a little bit more money.

Mr. Fortin – It's going to take a while to get a handle on that. We need a plan for the ascending block rate with a base fee.

Mr. Hobson – We have to fix the water tank.

Mr. Fortin – We are looking at not only that but the Capital Plan.

Ms. Sturtevant – I understand it has to go up. It's about \$1 a month. We have to do this. We should have been going up a little every year all along so it wouldn't have been such a big hit.

Mr. Haworth – This is part of getting our house in order. We should do quarterly billing.

Mr. Fortin – It takes time and personnel to collect bills. We can send a letter to the Town Hall about doing quarterly residential bills.

Mr. Haworth – We should be giving people notice and not charge with this billing period.

Mr. Fortin – This is the way it's always been done.

Mr. Hobson motioned to raise the water rates 8% from \$3.24 to \$3.50 per one hundred cubic feet effective today. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote 3-2 in favor with Mr. Haworth and Mr. Freitas opposed.

Mr. Furtado – Are we discussing a sewer rate increase?

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Mr. Furtado – No, we should wait until the digester is online and depending on how that goes. Also, we are going to need grease for the digester. We do not have a rate for grease. I'm figuring about 12 – 18 cents. I've met with a couple of vendors. I guess the Board has to set the rates.

Mr. Haworth – Come up with something for the next meeting.

D. Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford – Use of Fort Phoenix 4/8/12

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to approve the Inter-Church Councils request to use Fort Phoenix for their sunrise service on Easter Sunday. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

E. Award of Annual Bids #1 – 12

Mr. Freitas motioned to award the annual bids to the low bidders of items #1 – 12 as highlighted. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

F. GCG Engineering – Re: West Marine, 114-116 Huttleston Avenue

Mr. Riley motioned to sign the GCG Engineering Agreement for an estimated fee of \$11,135.00 for inspection services and as-built plans to be paid for by the developer. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote unanimous.

VI. Board Members, Superintendent – Old Business / New Business

Mr. Haworth – We have received two thank you letters from residents; one from Mr. Ostiguy thanking us for the bench he paid for and we installed for him at Fort Phoenix and one from Mr. Hayward regarding the sweeping of Route 6.

Mr. Hobson – What happened at the Finance Committee meeting?

Mr. Furtado – I had to make a change to one of the Highway articles. I had to increase the radios from \$12,000 to \$18,000. The license required us to take care of EMA, Harbormaster and Shellfish. Road work; we submitted \$240,000 for three streets, Wayne, Pleasant and Dogwood. They are only giving us \$100,000 so I believe it's going to be Wayne and Pleasant and not Dogwood.

Mr. Haworth - \$100,000 is too low.

Mr. Riley – I would like to congratulate Kathy for receiving the NFIA award last week.

Mr. Haworth – There is more landscaping going on. When do we plan on opening the recycle center back up? I don't want to see the residents suffering. We need to be ready for that. Have a plan for the next meeting. The Bicentennial Ball was a great event.

Mr. Furtado – Bill Roth got us quotes to have North Street surveyed for street acceptance from Castle Avenue to Main Street. The lowest cost was \$3,100. The Selectmen are allowing us to use \$2,000 from their engineering account. We would like to use \$1,100 from the Highway Departments Miscellaneous Account.

Mr. Riley motioned to use \$1,100 from the Highway Department Purchase of Services Miscellaneous Account to survey North Street. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote unanimous.

The bike path is still closed. They fired the security today. We will get a copy of their insurance.

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I spoke with Warren from the Rec Center about the tennis pro. He will check on it.

Cushman Park Tennis Courts; the sign has our phone number and someone from the Tennis Association. The lock is missing. I told Bob Foster. He also wanted you to know that they paid the difference between the costs of repairs totaling \$23,000 in which the Town paid \$7,500.

On March 27th I will be going to a meeting in Worcester about Nexamp and the snail trails on the solar panels.

I spoke with Russ Perry from SRPEDD about the street sweeper. I brought this up to the Finance Committee that we could receive 20% off the price if three towns commit to purchasing. I committed us to it. Rehoboth has also committed. We could not go with the lease/purchase option because of the borrowing for Wood School and we don't want to spend \$80,000 for repairs.

Mr. Freitas – Check with the MMA. Other communities may be able to pick up on that information.

Mr. Furtado – I've been working on the Mattapoissett Intermunicipal Agreement. Some of the values do not seem right.

Also, Brandon Faneuf, the engineer who did the work for the Frye's and the wetland replication. He has another client that would like to do the same thing. He will probably be in to see us in a month or so.

VII. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Riley motioned to hold the next meeting on March 26, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Sturtevant seconded. Vote unanimous.

VIII. Adjourn

Ms. Sturtevant motioned to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Mr. Riley seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Tripp
Administrative Assistant