



Fairhaven Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

June 3, 2020

Present: Chairman Charles Murphy, Town Administrator Mark Rees, and Cable Access Director Derek Frates

Present via Zoom: Selectman Robert Espindola, Selectman Daniel Freitas, Finance Director Wendy Graves, Public Works Superintendent Vinnie Furtado, Administrative Assistant Vicki Oliveira, and Cable Access Production Coordinator Erick Sa.

The meeting was videotaped on Cable Access and Zoom meeting application.

Chairman Murphy offered a moment of silence for Retired Fairhaven School teacher and Coach Glen Gardner, who recently passed away after an illness.

Chairman Murphy opened the meeting at 6:34 pm and read the following statement:

“This Open Meeting of the Fairhaven Board of Selectmen is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker’s Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the “COVID-19 Virus.”

In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor’s Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

The Order, which you can find posted with agenda materials for this meeting allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting.

Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. This meeting will allow public comment related to the posted agenda items only. For this meeting, Fairhaven Board of Selectmen is convening by telephone conference/video conference via Zoom App as posted on the Town’s Website identifying how the public may join.”

Mr. Rees explained that in preparation for Town Meeting the Board will have to make their recommendations for the articles on the warrant. In a last minute email he received word that the FEMA Flood Insurance maps deadline has been extended. This article was the main reason for holding Town Meeting on June 27, 2020. With this new information Town Meeting may be able to be delayed until the fall when the COVID pandemic may be better and an in person town meeting can be held. Because the warrant has already been signed it is now up to the Town Moderator to make the decision whether to post pone town meeting. Town Meeting Moderator Mark Sylvia will meet with the precinct chairs tomorrow to discuss the option of delaying Town Meeting.

Because it is uncertain if town meeting will be delayed, the Board will need to vote for a 1/3 budget based on the FY20 budget amounts in order to meet deadlines for printing and mailing the finance warrant book.

Selectmen agreed they would all like to see Town Meeting postponed until the fall in the hope that the COVID pandemic will be better and the Town can have a traditional in person Town Meeting versus a virtual meeting.

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve *Article 1: Measurer of Wood and Bark*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve *Article 2: Town Report*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to pass over *Article 3: Report of Committees*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to pass over *Article 4: Amendment to Zoning Map: Flood Insurance Rate Map*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve *Article 5: Bills of Prior year*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to recommend at town meeting *Article 6: Setting of salaries*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve the 1/3 budget of *Article 7: FY21 General Fund Operating Budgets*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve the 1/3 budget of \$ 992,654 for *Article 8a: FY21 Water Enterprise Fund Operating Budget*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve the 1/3 budget of \$1,318,342 for *Article 8b: FY21 Sewer Enterprise Fund Operating Budget*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve the 1/3 budget of \$ 66,093 for *Article 8c: FY21 Fairhaven Cable Enterprise Fund Operating Budget*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve the 1/3 budget of \$ 53,333 for *Article 8d: FY21 Fairhaven Public Schools Enterprise Fund Operating Budget*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve the 1/3 budget \$516,473 for *Article 9: State Aid to Highways*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Public Works Superintendent Vinnie Furtado said he has concerns with this article because by waiting until the fall to approve this money for the nitrogen digester there is a deadline imposed by the State.

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve the 1/3 budget *Article 10: Sewer Enterprise Capital Plan* for the Design of the Sewer Treatment Plant Nitrogen Upgrade (\$2,000,000) the Ultraviolet Light Replacement (\$35,000) and the Pump upgrades at Causeway Road (\$25,000). Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve *Article 11: Revolving Funds Plan*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve *Article 12: Social Day Care Center*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to recommend at Town Meeting *Article 13: Transfer from Surplus Revenue* Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to approve *Article 14: Memorandum of Understanding – Federal Title IV – E Reimbursement*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Espindola made a motion to recommend at Town Meeting *Article 15: Amendment to Zoning Map- Crows Island, Mixed Use Zoning*. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor

Mr. Freitas made a motion to yield to petitioner *Article 16: Hard Surface: Robert Street from Castle Ave to terminus*. Mr. Murphy seconded. Mr. Espindola abstained because he owns property in the neighborhood. Vote carried. (2-0-1)

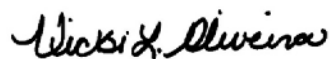
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor, Mr. Espindola abstained

Notes and Announcements

Board members expressed how nice the Fairhaven High School Graduation parade was for all the students, their families and town residents

Mr. Freitas reminded residents to come out and vote on Monday, June 8, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Vicki L. Oliveira
Administrative Assistant
(Approved 8/17/2020)