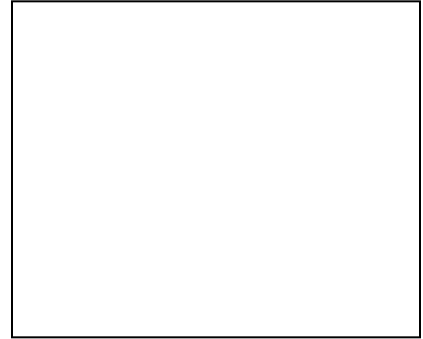


**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
February 7, 2022**



Present

Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Cameron Durant, Commissioner
Marcus Ferro, Commissioner
Steven Riley, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Rebecca Vento, Office Manager
Gary Lavalette,
Al Valle, Fairhaven Pickleball Committee
Justin Sylvia, Mike Andrade Excavation

I. Call to Order

Mr. Wotton called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. January 24, 2022

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of January 24, 2022. Mr. Durant seconded. Rollcall Vote: Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Ferro, Mr. Riley and Mr. Durant in favor.

B. January 24, 2022 – Executive Session B

Mr. Ferro motioned to approve the minutes of January 24, 2022 – Executive Session B. Mr. Durant seconded. Rollcall Vote Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Ferro, Mr. Riley and Mr. Durant in favor.

IV. Appointments

A, Gary Lavalette, Pickleball Courts & BMX Track

Mr. Lavalette – I just wanted to state for the record that I am a member of the CPC but I am not here tonight as a Board Member I am here representing myself. I am in favor of the pickleball courts and the BMX Track. Tonight I am here to make you aware that these projects will cost the town over \$500,000.00. Our Town Planner is the Director of the CPC and he thinks that financially that this is a lot of money. Tonight at the Select Board meeting, they are trying to reactivate a Green Space Committee. I know at the last CPC meeting they discussed condensing the hockey rink and the pickleball courts just like Mr. Valle mentioned at your last meeting. The hockey rink is in tough shape and it is not used to its full potential. If we can consolidate these two activities we could save the town somewhere in the range

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of \$150,000. Our CPC budget this year is \$651,000 and my concern is that we would be spending most of our budget on these activities.

Mr. Wotton - If those two items were taken off the table where would the money go?

Mr. Lavalette - One of the nice things about CPC money is it is not a revolving account and we can carry the money over from year to year. If we did not give the money to those two activities, we then could go out and buy properties and recreational areas.

Mr. Wotton - If you were to buy property with the money where would you buy?

Mr. Lavalette - We could buy waterfront properties.

Mr. Wotton - What would be the use for the waterfront properties?

Mr. Lavalette - For other recreational activities.

Mr. Wotton - How many people are involved in the pickleball association?

Mr. Valle – We have over 400 members.

Mr. Wotton - We have over 400 residents that currently use the pickleball courts and over 100 residents that use the BMX Track. Why would you not provide a better facility for our residents to use?

Mr. Lavalette - The kids today using the hockey rink are using a rubber ball and are on foot. If you could put the pickleball courts in the hockey rink then the rink could have multiple purposes and if we combine the skate park and BMX Track that would save money too. The BMX Track is just looking for some additional jumps to be added to the items already at the skate park. Currently the hockey rink is being used as a dog park.

Mr. Wotton - Where does the CPC money come from?

Mr. Lavalette – I believe it is a percentage from the real estate taxes.

Mr. Ferro – Mr. Lavalette called me after our last meeting and we spoke about this. He mentioned that it would be a cost saving measure with combining these activities at Livesey Park. The one thing that I want to say about the BMX Track is that they are utilizing the space on Bernese Street and they are interested in utilizing more of the green space that is there. If we put everything at Livesey Park the streets might become a nightmare to navigate with all the potential traffic. I think that it is worth the expenditure to keep the BMX Track at Macomber Park. I also believe that CPC money is to be used in investing in the town.

Mr. Durant – Have we reached out to the BMX Committee about this?

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Mr. Furtado - I met with a few members from the BMX Committee and Mr. Foley at Livesey Park. The CPC granted \$200,000 to redo the footprint of the skate park because it has seen better days. At that time, Mr. Foley recommended moving the BMX Track from Macomber Park to Livesey Park.

Mr. Durant – What did the BMX Committee think of this idea?

Mr. Furtado - They were not in agreement.

B. Justin Sylvia – Mike Andrade Excavation

1. New Water & Sewer Drainlayer

Mr. Ferro motioned to approve Mike Andrade Excavation as a New Water & Sewer Drainlayer pending completion and inspection of the first job. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

2. New Driveway Contractor

Mr. Ferro motioned to approve Mike Andrade Excavation as a New Driveway Contractor pending completion and inspection of the first job. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous

V. Item for Action

A. Articles

1. Sign Articles

Mr. Furtado presented the Articles to the Board for their signatures.

Mr. Durant motioned to Sign all Articles presented. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

2. FY23 Roadwork

Mr. Riley recused himself from the discussion of FY23 Roadwork

Mr. Durant motioned to approve Bayview Avenue, Farmfield Street & Bonney Street. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote 4-0-1 with Mr. Riley abstaining.

B. West Island Town Beach 2022 Permit Fees

Mr. Lavalette- I think that we are losing revenue and we should allot a certain number of passes for nonresidents.

Mr. Hobson - I am against letting out of town residents buy permits for the beach.

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Mr. Ferro – In the past before Covid we allowed out of town residents to use the beach. I do not see what the issue would be if we started allowing this again.

Discussion ensued amongst all present.

Mr. Durant- I think that transferable passes and nonresident permits should be \$150 each. I think that anyone should be able to purchase a transferable pass and this should not only be for rentals.

Mr. Wotton - I think we should sell 100 nonresident passes.

Mr. Durant - What is the capacity of cars that can fit in the lot?

Mr. Lavalette – Between 240 and 260 vehicles. I think 220 vehicles was the largest number of vehicles that we had in the lot last year and we never had to use the overflow parking.

Mr. Wotton - I would like to see 100 nonresident passes sold at \$150 each and these permits will be first come first serve.

Mr. Hobson - I think 50 nonresident passes.

Mr. Ferro motioned to keep the 2022 West Island Beach Permit Fees the same as last year and allow 100 nonresident permits to be sold on a first come first serve basis at \$150 each. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote 4-1 with Mr. Hobson opposed

C. Tree Maintenance in Parks

Mr. Furtado - I received an email from the Tree Warden asking for your permission to remove or prune the trees in the parks. If the Board approves his request than I will write a letter. This is something that we are responsible for and previous Tree Wardens have taken care of trees no matter where the tree was located.

Mr. Durant motioned to allow the Tree Warden to remove or prune the trees in the parks. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

VI. Tabled Matter

A. n/a

VII. Public Comments / Open Forum

Mr. Lavalette – I want to commend the Sewer Department for sending two employees to a property that had a plug up. This is not the first time that this has happened at this property and they even had this issue while the property was vacant. Because this has happened numerous times, I think it would behoove the town to camera the line to see if there is a crack in the pipe. My concern is that it will happen again.

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Mr. Furtado – I will have someone camera the main line but if the main is flowing freely then it is the homeowners responsibility from the house to the main.

VIII. Old Business / New Business

A. Superintendent

Superintendent Report for February 7, 2022

- Continue work with Labor Counsel on Union on grievance
- Pickleball CPC support letter
- MRV FY 23 assessment letters
- Becky and I go to Town Counsel office - furniture donation
- Rene and I meet with EPA - permit review
- Review Form A plan for Rochester Property for MRV approval
- Attend BBAC Meeting - begin grant application for Jerusalem Rd
- Storm event preparation - storm event - follow-up to storm event
- Meet with Rick Charon - re Stone St sewer
- Meet with Paul Foley re SRTS update
- Response to resident re Meter Safety
- Meet with Whitney and John Hinds - re brush cutting/path cleating on Fir St
- Meet with GCG - Farmfield/Stetsson/Akin St - project prep and to review SRTS 25% plans
- Rene and I meet with Stantec re Forcemain project update
- Rene and I meet with DEP re SSO reporting State policy change
- Continue with updates of departmental capital plan

B. Board Members

Mr. Riley – I just want to commend the gentlemen that worked during the storm for a phenomenal effort.

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Mr. Ferro – I want to inform everyone that I submitted a letter to the Neighborhood News on behalf of the BPW in regards to making the Tree Department under the umbrella of the BPW.

Mr. Ferro reviewed the letter.

C. Marine Resources Committee – BPW Related Matters

Mr. Hobson – The Marine Resources Committee met and an issue was brought up about the grass cutting at Hoppy’s Landing. Since there is not enough money in the account to pay a private company to cut the grass they are looking to see if the BPW can take care of it.

Mr. Furtado - When I first started and had to meet with the Finance Committee I remember them saying that they allot \$25,000 in their budget and a portion of that money should be used for the grass cutting at Hoppy’s Landing.

Mr. Hobson – I will get more information about this.

D. Town Administrators Screening Committee – BPW Representative

Mr. Durant - The Select Board has voted to interview the last individual that the Committee has selected.

IX. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Ferro motioned to set the date for the next meeting on February 28, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

X. Adjourn

Mr. Ferro motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. and entered into executive session to receive and update regarding Howard Farms and not to reconvene in open session. Rollcall vote Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Durant, Mr. Ferro and Mr. Riley in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca L. Vento

Rebecca Vento
Office Manager

Minutes approved on February 28, 2022.