



FAIRHAVEN SELECT BOARD

Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2023

Present: Chair Leon Correy, Vice-Chair Charles Murphy Sr., Clerk Stasia Powers, Select Board member Keith Silvia, Select Board member Robert Espindola and Town Administrator Angie Lopes Ellison

Also Present: Christopher Petrini of Petrini & Associates via zoom
Fairhaven School Superintendent Tara Kohler, School Committee members Colin Veitch, Brian Monroe, Erik Andersen, Stephanie Pickup and Donna McKenna

Mr. Correy opened the meeting at 6:30p.m.

Mr. Correy wished Mr. Murphy Happy Birthday

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to enter into Executive Session Pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 30A, Section(s) 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to potential litigation (Rasputin Tavern) and return to open session. Ms. Powers seconded. Roll Call Vote, Mr. Espindola in favor, Ms. Powers in favor, Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Silvia in favor and Mr. Correy in favor. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

The Board left the Banquet Room at 6:32p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:15p.m.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to take Action Items D1, D2 and D3 out of order. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

FAIRHAVEN POLICE IAN FURTADO

Chief Michael Myers introduced Officer Ian Furtado who was sworn in by the Town Clerk. His father Jeff Furtado pinned his badge.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to take Action Item E2 out of order. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT (joint with School Committee)

School Committee Chair Colin Veitch called the Fairhaven School Committee meeting to order at 7:19p.m. and took a roll call of members.

Applicants, Tracey Francis (via zoom), Nicole Pacheco (via zoom), Brendalee Smith, Erik Bauman and Eleanor Chew introduced themselves and reviewed their background, qualifications and interest in the position.

The School Committee and Select Board asked each candidate questions. The term of the appointment was clarified, for this appointment would be through the April 2024 Town election and then on the April 2024 Town election ballot there would be a one-year School Committee term to complete the term vacated by Kyle Bueno's resignation.

Ms. Ellison led the School Committee and Select Board through an exercise process for the nomination.

Motion: Mr. Monroe motioned to appoint Nicole Pacheco to the School Committee through April 2024. Mr. Veitch seconded. The motion passed (6-4-0) Mr. Correy, Ms. Powers, Mr. Silvia and Mr. Andersen opposed.

The School Committee adjourned at 9:05p.m.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Ms. Ellison updated the Board on:

- Staff Update: Veteran Service Officer Michael Jenney was introduced in person

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to take Action Item D4 out of order. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Street Sign Request

Fairhaven Police Lieutenant David Sobral addressed the Board and reviewed two street sign requests for the Board to consider and one informational update for a deer crossing street sign request. (*Attachment A*)

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to approve the street signs as described by the police department. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to take agenda items under section D out of order in whatever order is necessary. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

CULTURAL COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Applicants, Beth Ann Gallagher (via zoom) and John Walker (via zoom) introduced themselves and reviewed their background, qualifications and interest in the position.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to appoint Beth Ann Gallagher and John Walker to the Cultural Council for a term to end May 2026. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

LIBRARY TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT

Applicant Meredith Lodge Smith (via zoom) introduced herself and reviewed her background, qualifications and interest in the position.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to appoint Meredith Lodge Smith to the Millicent Library Trustee for a term to end May 2027. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

BIKEWAY COMMITTEE NAME AND CHARGE

Will Gardner addressed the Board on behalf of the Bikeway Committee to review the proposed change to the committee name and charge. He summarized the changes and answered questions from the Board as to why.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to accept and rename the Bikeway Committee to the Fairhaven Livable Streets Committee and to accept the charge as written. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Mr. Gardner was thanked for his energy and leadership.

CHANGE OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS: PAUL'S SPORTS CORNER, INC.

An application was submitted by Paul's Sports Corner, Inc. for a change of directors from Nancy Gordon to Michael Landry.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to approve the change in Paul's Sports Corner, Inc. Director from Nancy Gordon to Michael Landry. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

2024 SELECT BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

The Select Board reviewed the 2024 calendar and will change to the second and fourth Monday starting in January 2024, if a holiday falls on a Monday the meeting will be on Tuesday.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to approve the Select board meeting dates in 2024 to be the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, and if the date falls on a holiday it will be the Tuesday. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

RASPUTIN'S TAVERN DELIBERATION

Mr. Correy explained that the matter was tabled during Executive Session. Atty. Henseler was advised that Atty. Petrini will be on contact.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to table this item from Executive Session. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

DEDICATION REQUEST: ANIMAL SHELTER GARDEN

Ms. Ellison referred to the memo submitted by Animal Control Officer Terry Cripps for dedication of a garden at the Animal Control Shelter to Brittany Tavares, a longtime resident and volunteer who recently passed away.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to dedicate the garden at the Animal Shelter to Brittany Tavares, a longtime resident and volunteer. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

REVENUE AND EXPENSE REPORT

Ms. Ellison referred to the reports included in the packet that include FY22 and FY23 actuals. Budget season for FY25 will be starting and the Finance Team has George Samia consulting on budget matters and to prepare the budget model.

Mr. Espindola asked if any concerns had been raised in FY24 to date. Ms. Ellison advised currently overtime in the Fire Department is a concern due to day-to-day needs and National Guard call-ups. Ms. Powers asked about variances and if transfers between the categories had been completed. Mr. Espindola asked for a percent variance and summary of concerns. Ms. Ellison will review with Ms. Carreiro.

MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to accept the October 23, 2023 Open Session minutes. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to accept the October 23, 2023 Executive Session minutes. Ms. Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Ms. Ellison continued her update:

- There will be appointments within the Police Department due to the recent identification of a new Chief and upcoming retirements.
- Peter DeTerra submitted his resignation from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). Volunteer applications can be submitted online and current associate ZBA members can apply to move to a full member of ZBA. Mr. Silvia asked for the Board to be provided the attendance of the current associate members.
- The state certified Fairhaven's Surplus Revenue (Free Cash).
- The repairs at Union Wharf have started and have been funded through about two million in grant money with a target completion date of April 2024.
- Town Hall exit doors are in violation of fire and building codes due to no push-bars to exit. There are unaccounted for master keys and a solution is being looked into with the Facilities Manager.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Kizuna Magazine Autumn 2023 Edition is on file in the Select Board Office

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Espindola reported on:

Fairhaven Bikeway Committee (*Attachment B*)

Ms. Powers reported on:

The Bristol County Advisory Board meets on November 9, 2023.

Mr. Murphy reported on:

Mr. Murphy had no meetings to report on

Mr. Silvia reported on:

Marine Resources met and discussed the Union Wharf project. The parking fees at Hoppy's Landing are being reviewed. The Board of Public Works is working on the walkways at the Old Stone School.

Mr. Correy reported on:

Digital Equity is having a stakeholder meeting. Stakeholders were identified by the consultants from various departments.

PUBLIC COMMENT – none received

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Mr. Espindola said in the budget process last year he asked for an emphasis on financial policies and was told to wait until after Town Meeting. At the July retreat it was discussed and since then he has asked several times and also for an agenda item on the Financial Policy Committee. He stated that it appears that the administration and the Board differ on getting it done and at this point it will not have a bearing on this next budget. He stated he felt it would make sense for someone else to represent the Board and remove himself so that there can be continuity.

Mr. Silvia asked if the new Planning Director was close to his ninety-day review. Ms. Ellison said that the Department Heads will be rotated through future Select Board meetings to provide a read out from their department and does not want to single out one department.

Ms. Powers suggested future meetings with joint appointments be done in a separate meeting.

Mr. Murphy said he was encouraged with the new faces that have applied.

Mr. Correy reminded everyone to get involved and serve the Town and the people of the Town in a professional manner leaving personal feelings or grudges aside.

Meeting adjourned at 10:19p.m.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Select Board Clerk (ah)

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Fairhaven Police Department Street Sign Requests
- B. Committee Liaison Report – Robert Espindola

Approved on November 20, 2023

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Location: _____

Intersection of: _____

Control: _____

Approval Date: _____

Requested by: PATRICIA Duxbury

Location: Pape Beach

Address: 62 Manhattan Ave

Intersection of: End of Manhattan Ave

Fairhaven MA 02719

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Date: 2/23/23

Type of Control Requested: _____

Sign Placement regarding
No overnight parking

Reason for Request: _____

Multiple cars of people + Dogs have been spending
the night at the end of Manhattan Ave. They
have been requested to leave by Police on multiple
occasions but do return. Hoping a sign may help deter

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Approved: _____

Investigated by: _____

Dated: _____

Investigation: " See SUPPLEMENT REPORT "

[Signature]
Patricia Duxbury
Date: _____

[Signature]
11/11/22
Board of Selectmen




FAIRHAVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC OR PARKING CONTROL

****OFFICIAL USE ONLY****

Location: _____
Control: _____

Intersection of: _____
Approval Date: _____



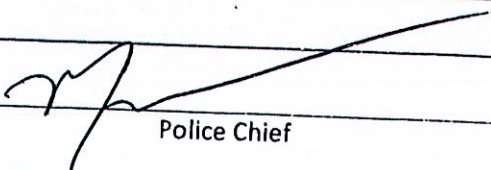
Requested by: BPW-HWT - Josh Crabb Location: Bridge Street, south side
 Address: 11 Bridge St Intersection of: west of main st
 Telephone:  Intersection: intersection
 Date: 8/15/23
 Type of Control Requested: No parking restriction Mon-FRI
8:00AM - 4:30PM
Approximately 50 ft no park zone @ address
 Reason for Request: Eliminate on street parking conflict for sewer
dept. maintenance, & chemical deliveries during
normal working business hours

****OFFICIAL USE ONLY****

Approved: _____
Denied: _____

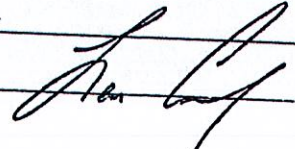
Investigated by: _____

Investigation: " See Supplement Report "



Police Chief

Approval Date



Board of Selectmen
11/6/2023

Compliance Date



**FAIRHAVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC OR PARKING CONTROL**

****OFFICIAL USE ONLY****

Location: _____
Control: _____

Intersection of: _____
Approval Date: _____

TO BE FILLED IN BY REQUESTING PARTY

Requested by: <u>LINDA GALLANT</u>	Location: <u>BRIDGE ST - SECTION EAST OF MILL ROAD</u>
Address: <u>361 BRIDGE ST FAIRHAVEN, MA 02719</u>	Intersection of: <u>EAST BOUND LANE AT 345 BRIDGE AND WEST BOUND LANE AT 366 BRIDGE</u>
Telephone: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	Date: <u>12/29/22</u>
Type of Control Requested: <u>DEER CROSSING SIGNS TO BE PUT ON EAST AND WEST BOUND LANES OF BRIDGE ST</u> <u>(ATTACHED LETTER SUBMITTED TO DPW HIGHWAY DEPT 12/2/22)</u>	
Reason for Request: <u>HEAVY VOLUME OF TRAFFIC USING BRIDGE ST AS ACCESS ROAD TO RT. 240 ARE UNAWARE OF DEER CROSSING BRIDGE ST BETWEEN FIELDS ONE EITHER SIDE DEER HAVE BEEN HIT CREATING A HAZZARD FOR DRIVERS</u>	

****OFFICIAL USE ONLY****

Approved: _____
Denied: _____

Investigated by: _____

Investigation: "See SUPPLEMENT report"

[Signature]
Police Chief

[Signature]
Board of Selectmen
11/6/2023
Compliance Date

Approval Date

Bob Espindola – Committee Liaison Report 11-6-2023

The Fairhaven Bikeway Committee met on Thursday night, November 2nd. Staff Liaison Kelley Ramirez, from the REC Department, attended her first meeting as Staff Liaison and Joshua Crab and Vincent Furtado from Public Works also attended.

Several members of the Friends of Mattapoissett Rail Trail. It was a good opportunity for the Fairhaven Committee members and Mattapoissett Committee members to share information about what is going on in each community and to see if there are opportunities for collaboration.



The Mattapoissett contingent wanted to explain a program that they are involved in called “Bikes for All” program where they work to gather gently used bicycles, recondition them and get them into the hands of those less fortunate.

They are looking for volunteers from Fairhaven to join their effort, including people willing to work on repairing bicycles, running basic repair clinics, locations where bikes can be stored temporarily, etc. Anyone interested can reach out through the Towns Bikeway Committee webpage.

Teaming up with Tabor Academy

On April 19th, our program Bikes for All collaborated with faculty member Noel Pardo and his students at Tabor Academy. The students repaired and cleaned our donated bikes as part of their community service.

A huge thank you goes out to all who donated bikes, to Noel (far left in photo) and his students, and to our volunteer Jim Finnerty for transporting the bikes to and from Tabor. The bikes were then transported to New Bedford, where our regional partners distributed them to children and adults in the area.

We are looking for more volunteers with trucks who could help transport the donated bikes.

Please contact Jane Finnerty at jane.mattrail@gmail.com if you would like to help.



The members of the Fairhaven and Mattapoisett committees also jointly discussed the concept of working with a company that would install signs along the bike path at no cost to the Town in exchange for a sign sponsorship, similar to what you see on State Highways. The photo here is an example of what they would look like, with the sponsor sign shown on the bottom. The signs would be custom designed to meet the interest of the community and can show trails, provide information on local points of interest, history, etc. There would also be a QR code on the signs and mile markers that would allow people to relay their location quickly to public safety in the event of an emergency. This could be especially helpful for people who are not from Fairhaven and may not know which cross road they are near. In some cases, in addition to the sponsorship covering the cost of the sign installation, there may be an opportunity for the sponsorship to provide funding above and beyond that and to serve as a potential revenue source to help offset the cost of trail maintenance or other Town expenses. The concept was originally introduced through the South Coast Bikeway Alliance, of which I am a member and the Alliance is making an effort to share the information with all member communities, such as Fairhaven and Mattapoisett in an effort to establish uniform signage along the South Coast. The South Coast Bikeway Alliance is interested in establishing uniform messaging about “rules of the road” in the interest of promoting safer use most enjoyment of the bike paths in our area.



FBC member Will Gardner led a discussion about how the group could focus on key initiatives and then have individual members lead the effort on each initiative.

Topics included advocating for safety improvement on the bike path and roads in Town, encouraging more people to get out on the bike path and in our community in general through social groups, etc. The group also talked about the prospect of working with Mattapoisett to consider adding regulations regarding E-Bikes and speed control on the bike path. Several members were absent from this meeting so the discussion is to be continued.

There was one bit of disappointing news as Mr.Crab and Mr. Furtado broke the news that, although the Bike Path Overlay project was originally scheduled to be completed this fall, the project will now be delayed until the spring because they have to wait for a Force Main repair project (sewer pipe partially under the bike path) to be completed first and then for the overlay

take place after. The Force Main project has been delayed due to high cost of the bids and is currently in a rebidding stage. Mr. Furtado said he is very confident that, even with delays, there will still be adequate funds to complete the project in the spring.