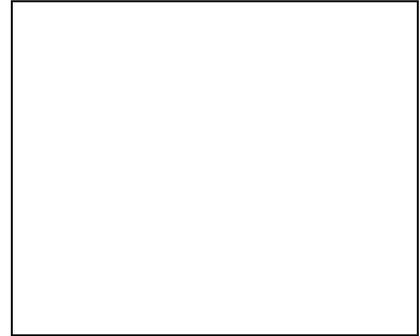


**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
February 12, 2024**



**Present**

Brian Wotton, Commissioner  
Robert Hobson, Commissioner  
Anne Morton Smith, Commissioner  
Daniel Lopes, Commissioner  
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent  
Rebecca Vento, Office Manager  
Robert Bishop, JC Engineering

Mr. Rapoza absent.

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Wotton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Wotton reconvened in open session from executive session at 6:58 p.m.

**II. Routine Matters**

**A. Signing of Departmental Bills**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**A. February 5, 2024**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of February 5, 2024. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

**IV. Executive Session A**

**A. To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Rubbish & Recycle Contract)**

**B. To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual (Assistant Sewer Superintendent)**

**V. Appointments**

**A. JC Engineering Inc. – New Contractor Water, Sewer, Drainage & Driveways, Sidewalks and Curbing**

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Mr. Bishop – I am here tonight because I work for JC Engineering and we have applied to be a Town approved water and sewer drainlayer. I am the site supervisor and foreman, I have been with the company for 15 years. We have worked in surrounding communities doing water and sewer work. We are looking to get approved so we can tie in 1 Boulder Court to the sewer system.

Ms. Smith motioned to approve JC Engineering as a Water & Sewer Drainlayer pending completion and inspection of the first job. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

**VI. Item for Action**

**A. Articles for Town Meeting**

**1. Approve Additional Articles**

Mr. Furtado reviewed the Additional Article for Town Meeting and answered any questions.

Mr. Lopes motioned to approved the additional article presented for Town Meeting. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

**2. Roadwork**

Mr. Furtado – In the past we have received approximately \$425,000 for Roadwork and it looks like this year we will be allotted \$200,000. With that reduction we have been preliminary approved for the tub grinder for the recycle center.

Mr. Furtado reviewed the Street Locations with the Board.

Mr. Hobson – There is a big problem on Fir Street by Bluepoint Road where we finished off last year. The water goes down Fir Street and floods people’s yards.

Mr. Furtado – We did not receive a hard surface petition for that location. I can ask Josh to do a take off and the Board could vote on this at a later date.

Ms. Smith – Robert Street was not rated. I remember that they were trying to get this street approved and there was an issue between residents that live there.

Mr. Furtado – Yes, in order to get a street paved the street has to be accepted and there was someone that did not want it accepted.

Ms. Smith - Beachwood Street would be affordable and I know Hathaway Street was already approved. Could these be done together to make it more affordable?

Mr. Wotton - What if we do Chase Road and Beachwood Street and we could kick the other \$30,000 back to the general fund for this year only.

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Mr. Hobson – I think that we should spend it all.

Ms. Smith – If we are getting the tub grinder I agree with Brian.

Mr. Wotton - The tub grinder is going to be an initial upfront cost to the Town but in the long run we have the potential to make the Town money with it.

Ms. Smith motioned to approve Chase Road & Beachwood Street for FY25 Roadwork. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote 3-1 with Mr. Hobson opposed.

**B. 2024 Beach Fees**

Mr. Furtado – We are looking to discuss the 2024 Beach fees. The only fee that I feel should go up is for the Transferable pass.

Mr. Hobson motioned to keep the fees for the Residential and Non-Residential Passes the same as 2023 and raise the Transferable Passes to \$200.00. Mr. Lopes seconded Vote unanimous.

**C. Trash & Recycle Agreement**

Mr. Wotton – “As you may be aware, last Wednesday night, the Town Administrator presented the FY 25 Budget to a joint meeting of the Select Board an Fincom and there is currently a 2-million-dollar shortfall. Although we don’t directly oversee the general fund budget, we do serve the Town, per Mass General Law, as the Sanitation Commissioners. As a result, we were asked to vote on the imposition of an annual trash fee, invoice quarterly, without the requirement of purchasing a special bag. For the sake of full transparency, this vote will occur at our next meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup>.”

**D. Assistant Sewer Superintendent Evaluation**

Ms. Smith motioned to move Mr. Parker to a Grade 16 Step 2 effective immediately and to a Grade 16 Step 3 on his 1-year anniversary. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**E. Tata & Howard, Lead Service Line Inventory Payment #7 \$4,244.07**

Ms. Smith motioned to approve Tata & Howard Payment #7 in the amount of \$4,244.07 for Lead Service Line Inventory. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

**F. Tata & Howard, Water Tank Maintenance Program RFP, Payment #6 \$4,505.14**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Tata & Howard Payment #6 in the amount of \$4,505,14 for Water Tank Maintenance Program RFP. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

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**G. DEP Pay Req #1 (Loan CWP-22-67A) Revision**

Mr. Furtado – We are going to skip over this tonight.

**VI. Table Matters**

**A. n/a**

**VII. Public Comments / Open Forum**

**VIII. Old Business / New Business**

**A. Superintendent**

**Superintendent Report for February 12, 2024**

- Treatment Plant Upgrade Meeting
- Meet with TA re budget
- Meet with Sewer Engineer re potential design changes
- Attend Stormwater By-law Meeting
- Attend Open Space Meeting
- Meet with Beth David re Recycle Center Move
- Meet with Town Insurance Rep re SN tank RFP
- Continue with document submittal for water and wastewater plant borrowings
- Meet with Highway Union

Mr. Furtado answered any questions that the Board had regarding the Superintendent Report.

**B. Board Members**

**C. Marine Resources Committee – BPW Related Matters**

Mr. Hobson – We met but there was nothing that had to do with the BPW.

**D. Community Preservation Committee – BPW Related Matters**

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**IX. Set Date for the Next Meeting**

Ms. Smith motioned to set the date for the next meeting on February 26, 2024. Mr. Lopes seconded.  
Vote unanimous

**X. Adjourn**

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. and enter into executive session to conduct negotiations with non-union personnel and to reconvene in open session. Rollcall Vote: Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson, Ms. Smith and Mr. Lopes in favor

Mr. Lopes motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rebecca L. Vento*

Rebecca Vento  
Office Manager

Minutes approved on February 26, 2024