



FAIRHAVEN SELECT BOARD
Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2024

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
ROUD 2024 JUN 25 AM 10:25

Present: Chair Stasia Powers, Vice-Chair Charles Murphy Sr., Clerk Andrew B. Saunders, Members Keith Silvia and Andrew Romano, Town Administrator Angie Lopes Ellison

Ms. Powers opened the Select Board meeting at 6:31p.m.

A moment of silence was observed for Dorothea Machado

APPOINTMENTS AND COMMUNITY ITEMS

Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District (SRPEDD) Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG)

The Town appoints a representative and an alternate to SRPEDD's JTPG

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Joshua Crabb as Fairhaven's JTPG representative and Vincent Furtado as Fairhaven's JTPG alternate representative for a term to end May, 2025. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Ms. Powers added that Mr. Saunders apologizes for his absence tonight due to a meeting on a work project that could not be rescheduled.

Appointment of Constables

The five applicants for appointment as Constables for the Town of Fairhaven have paid the fee and left a copy of their insurance bond with the Town Clerk.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Robert F. Jones, Lawrence Machado, David Miller, Milan Whitaker and Joseph Latimer as Constables for the Town of Fairhaven for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Appointments to Boards, Committees and Commissions

Brief discussion ensued regarding the order of appointments and the list of boards with multiple applicants and less open spots. The Board will take each board with multiple applicants, have each applicant speak to their request and then appointment members.

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)

Ken Kendall, Patrick Carr, Amy Goyer and Katharine MacPhail were present and addressed the Board. Each candidate described their interest in an appointment to the ZBA. Mr. Romano asked Ms. MacPhail about her experience serving on other boards in other communities. She described her past board memberships in towns she has lived in including being a town meeting member.

Ms. Ellison suggested the Board streamline the process similarly to the way they have in the past. Mr. Romano asked to clarify which motion was first and then added that his motion is based on past experiences with ZBA, Town Counsel and Town Administrator recommendations and potential legal issues the ZBA may face and not due to anyone as a human.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Amy Goyer and Katharine MacPhail as Full Members of the Zoning Board of Appeals. No second to the motion was made and Mr. Romano rescinded his motion.

Discussion ensued regarding candidates, recommendations, concerns on past ZBA meeting votes and experience.

Mr. Carr asked if he and Mr. Kendall could rebut the concerns mentioned. Ms. Powers set ground rules and asked for the comments to be concise, not back and forth and without argument.

Mr. Carr spoke to the concern on lawsuits and said members are committed and have done nothing wrong. They have not been named in lawsuits, there was one within the last two years that was dropped. Litigation is due to appeal of decisions due to disagreement with the decision and not due to wrongdoing. He stated to his knowledge there have been six appeals in forty-five years.

Mr. Kendall restated his interest in remaining on the ZBA, having served for fifteen years and as a sixty-one-year resident in town.

The Board expressed appreciation for the years of experience discussed and Ms. Powers suggesting taking one appointment at a time.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Amy Goyer as a Full Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a five-year term. Mr. Murphy seconded. The motion passed (3-2-0) Mr. Silvia and Mr. Saunders opposed.

Motion: Mr. Silvia motioned to appoint Patrick Carr as a Full Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a five-year term. Mr. Murphy seconded. The motion passed (4-1-0) Mr. Romano opposed.

Mr. Kendall addressed the Board and stated he would be resigning effective immediately from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Katharine MacPhail as an Associate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed (4-1-0) Mr. Silvia opposed.

Historical Commission

Two applicants were received for one open position. Richard Martin and Sean Lafferty submitted applications. Mr. Martin addressed the Board stating his interest in being reappointed to the Historical Commission. Mr. Lafferty was not present to speak to his application.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Richard Martin to the Historical Commission for a three-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Board of Assessors

Two applicants were received for one open position from Sharon Simmons and Joseph Almeida. The applicants were not present to address the Select Board.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Sharon Simmons to the Board of Assessors for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Commission on Disability

Chair of the Commission on Disability Eleanor Chew addressed the Board regarding the terms and the preferences of the members currently serving.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Pam Whynot and Donna Lavalley to the Commission on Disability for a three-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Glenn Gabbard and Cara Viveiros to the Commission on Disability for a two-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Jennifer Cardoza to the Commission on Disability for a two-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Appointments to Boards, Committees and Commissions

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Mark Badwey as Art Curator for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Doug Brady, Lee Baumgartner, Nils Isaksen, Jacqueline Kenworthy and Helene Oliveira to the Bell Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Jessica Fidalgo, Alliea Group, Laura Barillaro, Rachel Medeiros and Gregory Weider to the Belonging Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Kelly Ochoa to the Belonging Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Sean Powers to the Broadband Study Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-1) Ms. Powers abstained.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Erik Baumann to the Broadband Study Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Barbara Acksen, Ronald Medina and John Methia to the Cable Advisory Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Roger Marcoux to the Community Preservation Committee for a three-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Karen Isherwood and Caroline Hawthorne to the Conservation Commission for a three-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Erik Baumann and Wendy Drumm to the Conservation Commission for a three-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Erik Theresa Pereira, Susan Oiestad and Carol Burt to the Council on Aging Board of Directors for a three-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Kristine Medeiros to the Dog Park Study Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Cathy Melanson, Karyn Ferreira, John Hinds and Nils Isaksen to the Economic Development Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Despina Longinidis to the Lagoa Friendship Pact Committee for a two-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Tim Garcia, Will Gardner, Chip Hawthorne and Miles Grant to the Livable Streets Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Bob Espindola to the Livable Streets Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Michael McNamara, Robert Pink, David Hebert and Andrew Jones to the Marine Resources Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Pamela Kuechler as a Millicent Library Trustee for a four-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Kim Hylan as Registrar of Voters for a three-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Susan Loo, Doug Brady, Nils Isaksen and Beverly Rasmussen to the Rogers Reuse Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Bob Espindola to the South Coast Bikeway Alliance for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to appoint Ann Richard, Karen Gent, Tim Garcia and Laura Gardner to the Sustainability Committee for a one-year term. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Use of Town Hall and Fee Waiver Request: Fairhaven Improvement Association Concerts Under the Stars

The Board reviewed the application submitted by Frank Fostin on behalf of the Fairhaven Improvement Association (FIA). The fee would apply only if the FIA moved the concert into the auditorium due to rain. The custodian fee applies because a custodian is scheduled rain or shine for access. Mr. Silvia advised the Board that the FIA had advised him that they would not use the auditorium in case of rain.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to approve the application with fees waived. Mr. Romano rescinded his motion.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to approve the application as written. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed (4-0-1) Mr. Silvia abstained.

Flag/Banner Request: Commission on Disability Banner, Disability Pride Month: July

Commission on Disability Chair Eleanor Chew addressed the Board regarding the request submitted. The application and policy indicate that 60 days' notice is required. Based on the date of submission, the banner can be flown for half the month of July.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to approve the Flag/Banner request starting July 17, 2024. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Revere Bell Housing Update and Paint Color Choice

Doug Brady addressed the Board and showed a scaled replica of the Bell Housing and wood slabs with the paint. He thanked Mr. Silvia for his time, resources and work on this project. The project is currently on hold until the retaining wall issue is resolved. Mr. Brady also asked the Historical Commission and North Fairhaven Improvement Association for input. He explained the recommended choice based on the reflection in the paint colors.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to accept choice number two, CC-212 Dance du Soleil. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Parking Request: Hoppy's Landing: Inclusive and Adaptive Fishing Derby, June 21, 2024 from 1-5p.m.

Ms. Ellison spoke to the request; the fishing derby is funded by a grant. The office plans to work with Marine Resources for a pass to place on the dash indicating parking for the event.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to approve the request to waive the parking fees at Hoppy's Landing for the Inclusive and Adaptive Fishing Derby on June 21, 2024 from 1:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed (4-0-1) Mr. Murphy abstained.

MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to accept the Open Session minutes of May 13, 2024. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to accept the Executive Session minutes of May 13, 2024. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Ellison reported:

- Eversource Distributed Energy (DER) Program: Anthony Veilleux
Mr. Veilleux reviewed the proposal (*Attachment A*) and answered questions on location, double poles will be seen during the process and removed once completed, target completion is April of 2025. The solar canopy project at the Recreation Center/Council on Aging lot is not impacted or connected to this project.
- Staff Updates: Conservation Agent Bruce Webb will be assisting with interim tasks of the Planning Department like signing documents, the Planning Board Chair will assist as needed and Stephanie Fidalgo will assist with managing the office. Ms. Ellison thanked Ms. Melanson for her focus on keeping the office moving forward.
- Permitting Department Proposal: Ms. Ellison reviewed the proposed restructure and the financial salary cost is less than the current with the proposed changes to staff roles. The goal is to centralize and cross train staff to make the process of applying for permits more efficient for residents and staff. The job descriptions in the packet reflect the proposed Director of Community Development would replace the Director of Tourism position and takes some of the components of the current Planning Director and Director of Tourism job descriptions.

Human Resource (HR) Director Cam Durant addressed the Board and described the potential staffing changes and the job descriptions (*Attachment B*). He advised the Board on roles in other towns that use a Director of Inspectional Services versus a Building Commissioner. In Massachusetts, the number of building commissioners is less than the positions needed across the 351 cities and towns. Moving the economic development responsibilities from planning allows for a Planning Director to focus on planning.

Mr. Saunders asked about the Town Administrator (TA) Act, Section 2j, reorganization structure authority would be with the approval of the Select Board and in compliance with the TA Act, the Board would vote on the proposal. Ms. Ellison said current and past practice has not had a Board vote unless the Board wanted to veto a candidate brought forward and if they prefer to vote the Board can vote.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

- Open Enrollment details for Town and School employees as well as retirees were shared and any questions, please contact the HR Department.
- Select Board email protocol: Ms. Ellison brought this forward to clarify and confirm for moving forward with emails sent to the selectboard@fairhaven-ma.gov email address based on discussions in March, 2023 and ensuring a response from the Chair that would be blind carbon copied to the other Board members for awareness.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to reestablish the Select Board protocol on emails sent to selectboard@fairhaven-ma.gov to direct to each email to the Select Board members individually with the Chair providing the response and delegation of action, there will be a response from the Chair and/or Town Administrator staff. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

- Other: Ms. Ellison referred to an email from the Chair of the Broadband Study Committee (*Attachment C*) regarding financing for town fiber. She asked the Board to consider a feasibility study based on the expertise

needed to review the project and potential for multi-million dollar borrowing. It is unclear if a feasibility study had been done previously and the concerns are the financial risks to the Town and the unknowns. Ms. Powers suggested this be a discussion with the Broadband Study Committee. Mr. Romano advised the Board that Sean Daly from Broadband Study volunteered to work with the Town and the Committee also discussed using grant funds to join the American Association of Public Broadband to help with concerns that came up during budget season. Ms. Ellison reminded the Board that the state took the funds back when the project scope change was not approved.

Ms. Ellison reiterated the request for a feasibility study and that the Board would need to approve it based on the cost which she estimated to be about ten to twenty-five thousand dollars which she can work to find a source for and engage the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) to help find a contact for a study. Mr. Saunders supports the study prior to seeking funding. Mr. Silvia asked about the cost, if it can be confirmed or should the Board put a cap on the amount. Ms. Ellison asked for no cap to allow moving forward.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to authorized the Town Administrator to acquire an organization to perform a feasibility study for Municipal Broadband for Fairhaven. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed (4-1-0) Mr. Silvia opposed.

- Other: the solar canopy project is not moving forward at this time because the representative from Solect has not been able to engage Eversource in taking their fee from the electricity credits we have in the Eversource account. At this time Solect is not willing to add funds to move the project forward and the Town is not financing. The sales pitch was to fund with credits and no bill to the Town.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE OPT-OUT POLICY

Mr. Durant addressed the Board and reviewed the proposed policy details (*Attachment D*). At this time unions representing Fire, Town clerical, highway and custodial are on board. Waiting for the Teamsters (water/sewer) and teachers' union. If the policy moves forward it would cover non-union employees as well. The Board asked for clarification on the payout amount and the language. Mr. Durant said he would bring it back to Labor Counsel who provided it and clarified that the amount would be divided by twelve. It would be an annual, prorated monthly. The Board asked for clarification on employees who do not take benefits. Mr. Durant advised that those who have not enrolled would not be eligible.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to approve and adopt the employee health insurance opt-out policy with the amendment to the language on monthly payout. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) ALLOCATION REQUEST

Ms. Ellison heard about the potential for additional County Funds and the Board needs to approve applying for additional fund consideration. Public Works Superintendent Vinnie Furtado drafted a letter requesting five hundred thousand for the upgrade of the wastewater plant. Ms. Ellison said the ARPA funds that are not spent by the deadline are not able to be encumbered.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to approve the application to the Bristol County Commissioners for an additional five hundred thousand dollars towards the state and federally mandated nitrogen system upgrade at the wastewater plant. Mr. Silvia seconded. The motion passed (4-0-1) Mr. Saunders abstained.

BROAD-BASED MUNICIPAL GOALS

Ms. Powers explained the list needs to be prioritized and compiled once all Board members have sent their list in. Please send to Ms. Hart this week.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: ZONING BYLAW AND ENFORCEMENT DISCUSSION

Ms. Powers advised that this item would be passed over for clarification and to seek Town Counsel if needed. Discussion ensued regarding engaging Town Counsel, the topic and potential for adding to a future agenda.

Patrick Carr addressed the Board and said he is seeking guidance on Town properties and procedures. Ms. Powers

advised that the Board is not in a position to have the conversation without first understanding the question and without discussing specifics tonight. Mr. Carr said he has received calls about different buildings and has questions. He distributed a handout with questions to the Board (*Attachment E*). Mr. Carr said he compiled it with the previous ZBA Chair and is asking if there is a two-tier standard with one that applies to the Town and one that applies to businesses. Ms. Powers restated that this is why Town Counsel needs to weigh in to ensure we follow the law.

Discussion continued about handling the discussion at the next Select Board meeting, when the next ZBA meeting was, consensus for the use of Town Counsel and transparency. Mr. Carr said the next ZBA meeting is June 4, 2024.

Amy Goyer addressed the Board and said she agreed that clarification was needed.

Ruy daSilva addressed the Board and asked for clarification with ZBA due to ZBA Chair Kendall not being re-appointed. Ms. Ellison advised that in the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair would set the agenda and run the meeting until the board reorganizes.

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS/ COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Romano reported:

The Broadband Study Committee is considering joining the American Association for Public Broadband. The Sustainability Committee discussed an initiative to save our shore birds and an education program, the importance of keeping pets leashed, recognizing businesses on sustainable initiatives and reviewing plantings around town to ensure replication of vegetation that is native. No updates from Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA). The Belonging Committee is hosting the Fairhaven's Got Pride event on Sunday, June 9th outside Town Hall.

Mr. Romano suggested revisiting the flag/banner policy to reduce the number of days' notice needed from forty-five to thirty and asked this be placed on the June 10th agenda.

Mr. Saunders reported:

Marine Resources discussed the dredging, policies on berthing at Union Wharf and language that appears to be vague. Ms. Ellison said the Committee could make a recommendation on updates to the policy for the Select Board to vote on. The Committee also discussed shellfish closures and recommending a change to the fees on some licenses.

Mr. Murphy reported:

Lagoa has not met. The Sister City Committee met and there are classes at the Whitfield Manjiro House this summer, visit their site for details.

Mr. Murphy gave a shout out to Veterans' Service Officer Mike Jenney and team for the Memorial Day Parade.

Mr. Silvia reported:

Mr. Silvia had no meetings to report on with an update from Eleanor Chew who advised him that the adaptive bike that was donated to the Commission on Disability was delivered and they are working on the logistics.

Mr. Silvia added his recommendation to review the Select Board protocols and practice what they say. He asked if the report on Fire and Police overtime was available, it had been asked for by the Finance Committee.

Ms. Powers reported:

The Financial Policy Review Committee has a couple more policies to review and estimate presenting to the Board in July. In drafting Fairhaven policies, they have reviewed other communities' policies and the Division of Local Services-Department of Revenue consensus document recommendations. The Library chimney project work continues, no Library meeting to report on.

Motion: Mr. Romano motioned to approve the Town Counsel to work with the Town Administrator and Zoning Board of Appeals to answer the list of questions on their role.. Mr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Doug Brady of Pleasant Street asked if the Board could enlighten the public on the process for the Police Chief interview process. Ms. Powers advised that it has not been discussed and they will let the public know once a process is developed.

Pat Carr of Pleasant Street said he was unsure of the Select Board's policies based on the recent ZBA appointment of an associate to a full member with three months experience over a fifteen-year full member with experience. He referred to an article in the Neighborhood News referring to Amy Goyer and Andrew Romano. Mr. Romano said he had called state ethics regarding a disclosure on record and that there is no ongoing financial relationship with Ms. Goyer. Mr. Carr referred to getting an opinion from state ethics and Open Meeting Law regarding a relationship between a Select Board member and appointee because of the concern on making decisions for friends.

CORRESPONDENCE

Eversource DPU 24-35, notice of filing and request for comments.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regularly scheduled Select Board meeting is on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 6:30p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

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

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Eversource Energy Distributed Energy Program
- B. Proposed Permitting Team
- C. Email regarding Broadband financing
- D. Employee Health Insurance Opt Out Program
- E. Handout: Patrick Carr

Approved on June 24, 2024

Enabling Increased Distributed Generation in the Greater Marion Area

Background

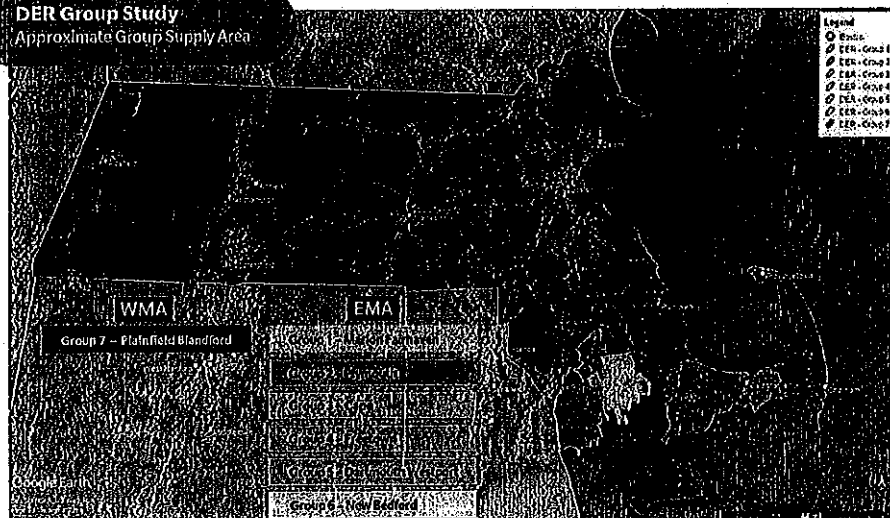
Over the past several years, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of distributed generation facilities (DGF), primarily solar and battery storage, seeking interconnections to the electric grid in Southeastern and Western Massachusetts. These important clean energy resources are needed to help Massachusetts achieve its net-zero carbon emissions goal by 2050.

The electric power system (EPS) in these regions has provided reliable service to the customers it currently serves but substations that are already congested cannot safely and reliably accommodate an incremental 348 megawatts of new distributed generation (DG). Significant upgrades are needed to enable these resources to come online and export at full capacity. Historically, the cost to enhance the electric system's capacity to support new generation was fully funded by the generator requesting to interconnect under a cause-causation policy. The grid enhancements needed are significant and have proven

cost prohibitive for the generators. As a result, several ready-to-go DGFs have been stalled.

Recognizing the need to address this problem, the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) is investigating an alternative approach for planning and funding these system upgrades called the Provisional System Planning Program. This program would allow the cost of EPS upgrades needed to interconnect DGFs to be shared by the interconnecting DGF and all customers of the electric distribution company. Electric customers would pay the initial capital investment costs through a charge on their electric bills. Each DG facility that connects to the system would pay a portion of the costs. Costs collected from the DG facilities will be credited back to electric customers on their bills. In addition to enabling new clean energy resources, these system upgrades will also provide improved electric system reliability and resiliency for customers.

DER Group Study
Approximate Group Supply Area



Eversource has conducted extensive system planning studies in seven affected areas where electric system upgrades are needed to support the interconnection of 348 MW of new distributed generation facilities.

Enabling Increased Distributed Generation in the Greater Marion Area (cont.)

Eversource's Proposed Capital Investment Project

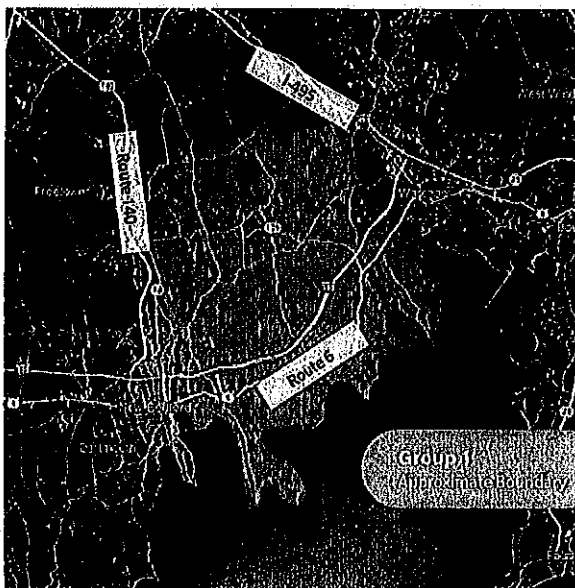
The greater Marion area is one region that needs electric system enhancements to enable DGs to interconnect. After an extensive series of steady-state and dynamic system studies, engineering and design activities and cost estimation, Eversource recently filed a proposal with the DPU to fund a capital investment project (CIP) that would benefit DGF interconnections in and around Marion, Fairhaven, Acushnet, Mattapoisett, and Rochester, MA.

The CIP proposal includes upgrades to distribution lines and substations located in Fairhaven, Acushnet, Marion and Rochester, totaling approximately \$119 million in distribution substation and distribution line infrastructure improvements. The cost allocation proposal stipulates that \$54 million be paid by the DG facilities on a pro-rata basis and the remainder be borne by Eversource customers. A typical residential customer using an average of 514 kWh per month would experience a monthly bill increase of \$0.24.



Benefits of Eversource's Proposal:

If approved by the DPU, the CIP will enable interconnection of the 49 MW of new ground-mounted DG seeking in the Provisional Program in the greater Marion area, representing a total of 17 projects that could otherwise face significant hurdles. It will also improve overall reliability for customers in the region, while adding capacity to support 91 MW of additional ground-DG in the future as well as 11 MW of roof-top solar DG.



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This map shows the area where Eversource proposes upgrading four of its distribution substations and associated distribution lines to increase the ability to interconnect more DG.

EVERSOURCE

Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Program: Marion-Fairhaven Open House

Eversource Energy invites you to join upcoming in-person events to discuss proposed projects in your area. As part of the DER Program, the Marion Fairhaven group of projects consists of plans to install new infrastructure within existing Rights of Way as well as upgrade existing substations in or near your community. Throughout each of these events, it is our goal to discuss proposed work in your area, answer your questions regarding the project, and, most importantly, gain your valuable input.

April 11, 2024

5:00 – 7:00 PM

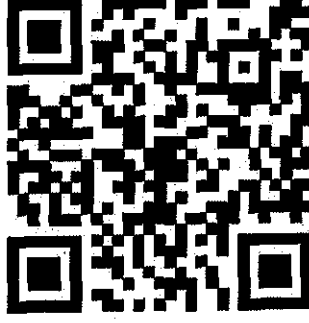
Mattapoisett Fire House
62 County Road
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

April 18, 2024

5:00 – 6:30 PM

American Legion Post
71 Hope Street
Acushnet, MA 02743

RSVP by Scanning Here!



April 16, 2024

12:00 – 1:00 PM

Webinar
Presentation with Q&A:



EVERSOURCE

Questions? or Need this Translated?

Email Eversource at

ProjectInfoMA@eversource.com or about "DER 1"
or call 833-836-0302.

¿Tiene preguntas? ¿Traducciones?

Envíe un correo electrónico a Eversource
a ProjectInfoMA@eversource.com
y escriba "DER 1" en el asunto o llame al
833-836-0302.

Perguntas? Traduções?

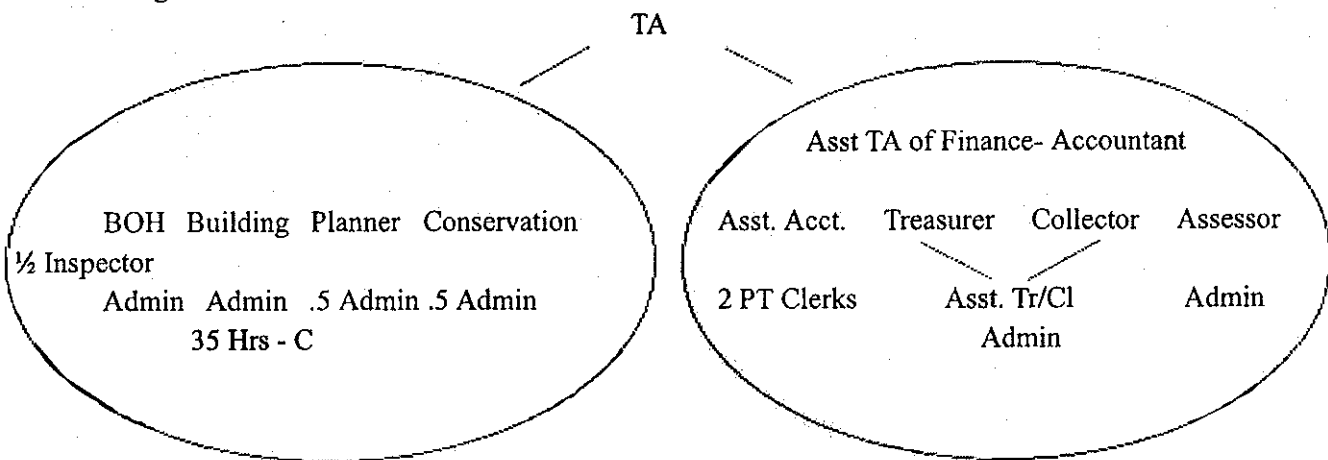
Envie um e-mail para a Eversource pelo
endereço ProjectInfoMA@eversource.com e digite, "DER 1"
na linha do assunto, ou ligue para 833-836-0302.

We're Always Working to Serve You Better

Permitting Department Proposal

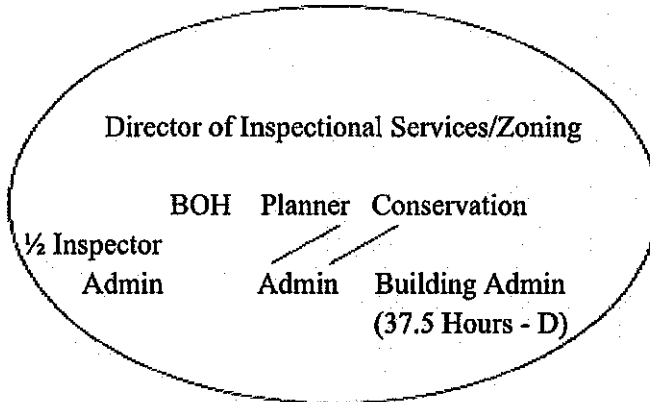
Current State: Due to the recent vacancies with the Building Commissioner and Town Planner Positions, it is an opportune time to restructure our organizational chart and job descriptions. The labor market is tight and Fairhaven's wage and classification scale has not been updated for five years. There is a known shortage of Building Commissioners. Our previous Commissioner left for a neighboring Town and an increase of just under thirty thousand dollars (and a \$10,000 sign on bonus). Fairhaven is a less attractive location for Building Commissioner candidates because of our relatively large commercial property base, the lack of a local inspector to assist with inspections, and the salary. Creating a department of inspectional services will allow for a restructuring to decrease costs and increase the level of service for residents.

Current organizational structure at Town Hall FY25:



Department	Current State (FY25)
BOH Agent	\$91,247
BOH Inspector	\$26,734
BOH Admin	\$44,750
Conservation Agent	\$86,855
.5 Conservation Admin	\$21,989
Econ Dev & Planning Director	\$107,010
.5 Planning Admin	\$18,517
Tourism Director	\$81,850
Building Commissioner	\$103,872
Building Admin	\$45,842
Total Amount:	\$628,666

Proposed Restructuring of Permitting Department:



- Note: The BOH Agent reports to the BOH. They are included in this visual to show how they will discuss permit issues with the Director of Inspectional Services/Zoning and to give a visual as to how the department's administrative assistant will be cross trained to support the newly formed permitting department. This does not change the reporting mechanism of the Agent.

Cost:

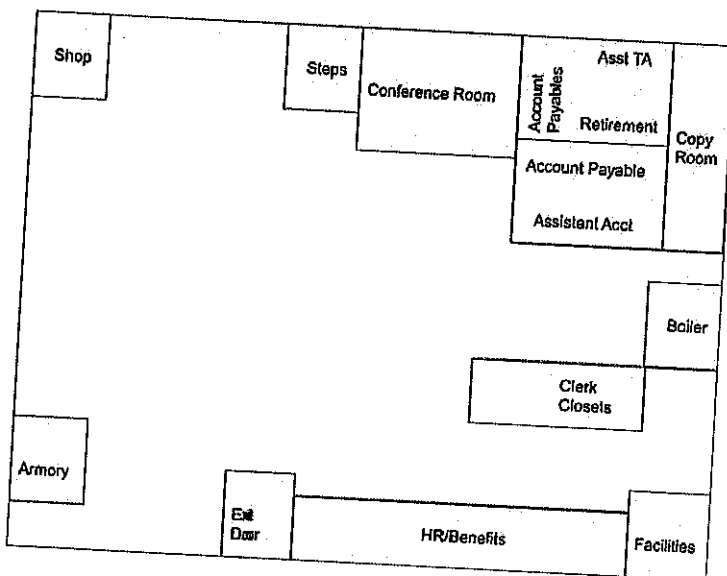
Department	Proposed Change (FY25)	
Director of Inspectional Services	\$119,063	Grade 21, Range (\$102,642-125,068)
BOH Agent	\$91,247	Fixed
BOH Inspector	\$26,734	Fixed
BOH Admin	\$44,750	Fixed
Conservation Agent	\$86,855	
Conservation Asst	\$21,989	
Planning Director	\$89,065	Grade 17, Range (\$78,307-95,407)
FT Planning/Conservation Admin	\$43,152	New Full Time Support
Community Development Director	\$52,305	Total salary \$64,305 (\$12k from Cable Access to support Social Media) Grade 13
Building Admin	\$51,675	(Change E1 - 37.5 hours)
Total Amount:	\$626,835	Savings of \$1,831

Differences with the new departmental structure:

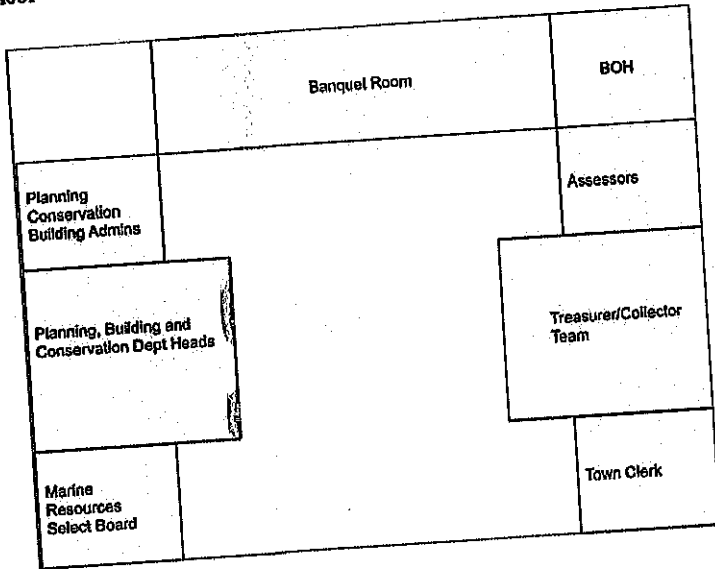
- The Director of Inspectional Services will oversee the traditional responsibilities of a building commissioner, including permits and zoning, while also ensuring the operational efficiency of the Planning and Conservation Departments and managing the entire permit life cycle.
- The Planning Director will no longer be solely responsible for Economic Development. This responsibility will be shared with the newly established Community Development Director, previously the Director of Tourism. New job descriptions will be developed for both roles.
- The Director of Community Development will retain the core functions of the Tourism Department while introducing new initiatives to support arts and culture, business development, and town promotion to enrich the community. Additionally, they will serve as the liaison to the Historic Commission and the Economic Development Committee.
- Currently, the Administrative Assistant position within the Building Department is classified as a grade-C union role with a 35-hour workweek. The proposed changes will reclassify this role to a grade-E position with a 37.5-hour workweek. This change will enable the position to provide comprehensive support to the Director in their expanded role and effectively manage the increased workload.
- The introduction of a dedicated permitting office will facilitate seamless cross-training opportunities, similar to the successful model used by the Board of Public Works. This model ensures that multiple individuals are capable of handling customer service tasks across various departments. By reorganizing the space and swapping the locations of the Assessors and Building Departments, we will create a permitting office on one side of the hallway and a financial suite on the other. This strategic layout will optimize workflow and enhance service accessibility for residents. Sharing the responsibility of the service desk will allow administrative assistants more time to complete projects without constant interruptions from walk-ins and phone calls.

Office Locations

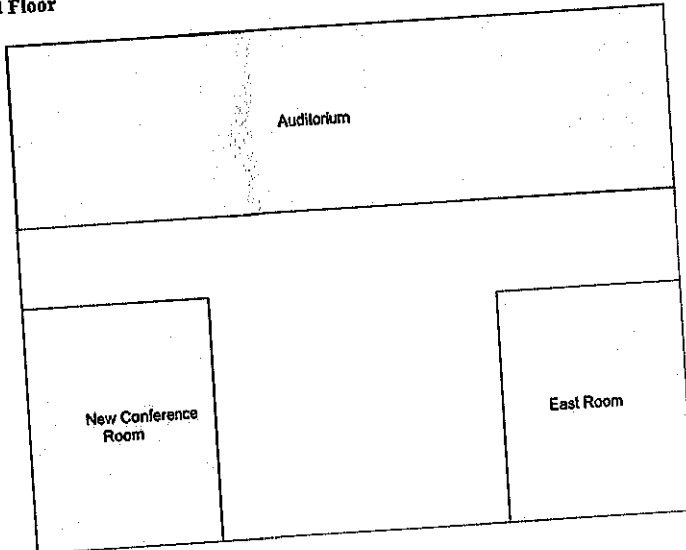
Lower Level



First Floor



Second Floor



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Director of Community Development

Position Overview:

The Town of Fairhaven is transitioning its Tourism Director role to the Office of Community Development, focusing on enhancing residents' quality of life through activities, arts, and local business promotion. We are seeking a dynamic, creative, and collaborative individual to serve the Creative Economy. This role will be pivotal in developing, implementing, and managing a comprehensive arts and culture program strategy for the Town, as well as fostering collaboration between the Town and businesses with the specific focus of promoting economic development.

Responsibilities:

- Develop, implement, and oversee all aspects of the Town's arts and culture program, including public art installations, cultural events, and creative initiatives.
- Act as a liaison between the Town and various cultural and creative entities, fostering partnerships and collaborations (Culture Council, Historic Commission, EDC, etc).
- Develop and enforce public art policies and procedures.
- Conduct community outreach efforts to solicit input and participation from residents.
- Plan and promote special events and initiatives, including collaboration with local community groups.
- Lead social media, marketing and publicity efforts for Fairhaven.
- Cultivate partnerships with businesses, organizations, and schools to promote Fairhaven.
- Actively seek and manage grants to support local businesses, arts and culture activities, ensuring compliance with reporting requirements.
- Prepare reports and presentations to support department goals and objectives.
- Offers support to the Department of Planning and Economic Development, and other interdepartmental initiatives and projects
- Schedule and supervise staff and volunteers, tourism activities, vendors, deliveries, maintenance of building, equipment etc.
- Maintain the Visitor Center; interact with patrons, guests, residents, conduct tours, and provide information and direction regarding commercial, cultural, historical, recreational resources and services. Communicate and work with businesses, travel agents, tour groups, non-profit organizations, community groups and other town departments to help develop new ideas, services, activities, events regarding entertainment, dining, lodging, shopping, and historical and natural resource interests, beaches, fishing, boating, tours, parades, museums, fairs, festivals, concerts and other public attractions.
- Direct and control the expenditure of fund allocations within constraints of approved budgets, purchase of equipment and furnishings.
- Research to identify potential new sources of revenue and fund raising for the Office and seek out grant opportunities and prepare grant applications for federal, state, regional and private for profit and non-profit organizations and manage all grant funded activities.
- Oversee the maintenance of an up to date informative Office of Tourism website / social media outlet to promote Town and public activities and provide resources to current or potential visitors to enhance their experience in the town.

DRAFT

- Develop promotional material, art work, write press releases and copy for tourism guides/newsletters; setup and attend exhibitions and holiday shows, organize special / seasonal events; devise / coordinate marketing campaigns, market research with the public. Cooperate with community groups and town officials to implement Office of Tourism sponsored programs, meetings and fundraising events, initiate and supervise Tourism events and activities, (entertainment / tours/ lectures / educational programs / workshops), set up tables, chairs, decorations, signage, refreshments and displays, advertisements and posters at local business' and town facilities.

Qualifications:

- 3-5 years of experience in creative industries or related fields.
- Strong knowledge of public art principles, practices, and procedures.
- Demonstrated success in grant writing and management.
- Bachelor's Degree in arts, marketing, or a related field.
- Experience in planning, programming, and marketing.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends.
- Self-motivated with the ability to work independently and collaboratively.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills.
- Experience in government or nonprofit organizations preferred.
- A sense of humor and passion for community development.

Physical Requirements:

- Ability to sit, stand, walk, and lift up to 15 pounds.
- Proficiency in using standard office equipment and computer software.
- Supervision:

- Reports directly to the Town Administrator.
- Works under the general direction of the Town Administrator, with autonomy in decision-making within municipal policies.
- No direct supervision of staff.

Environment:

- Work primarily in an office setting with occasional community engagement events.
- Interact with various stakeholders, including residents, artists, businesses, and government officials.

Access to confidential information; adherence to legal and ethical standards is crucial. This job description outlines the essential functions and requirements of the Director of Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy role. The position offers an exciting opportunity to contribute to the cultural vitality and economic development of the Town of Fairhaven.

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Supervision: *Supervision Scope:* This position performs various duties requiring a thorough knowledge of departmental operations and the ability to complete assigned tasks according to established procedures and protocol.

Supervision Received: Works under the general direction of the Town Administrator.

Supervision Given: Department staff.

Job Environment:

§ Work is generally performed under typical office conditions; occasionally, work is conducted in the field with exposure to various weather conditions and the hazardous conditions associated with construction sites. Required to attend numerous regular evening meetings with various town boards and committees. In addition, may be required to work on weekends and may be contacted at home at any time to respond to important situations and emergencies.

§ Operates and automobile, computer and general office equipment, such as calculator, copier, facsimile machine, and telephone.

§ Makes frequent contacts with the general public, the media, town departments, boards, and committees, as well as regional, state, and federal agencies.

§ Has access to department-related confidential information, including bid proposals, pending law suits, private development plans and proposals, collective bargaining negotiations, and department personnel records. Has access to some town-wide confidential information.

§ Errors in planning procedures or the interpretation of state and local legislation, community development attitudes and regional and local development impacts could result in recommendations adversely affecting orderly community development, the local economy, conservation efforts, and long-range planning and have financial and/or legal repercussions.

(This job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employers and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.)

CURRENT

Planning Director

Position Purpose: The primary function of this position is to provide professional management and administrative functions for the Department of Planning and Economic Development and the Planning Board, administering and enforcing regulations, interpreting and explaining relevant statutes, regulations, by-laws and case law, in a timely manner, abiding by all municipal, state and federal guidelines, regulations and quality standards and ensuring safe, courteous and professional behavior is observed in all situations. Provides grant application administration and assists on various special projects as directed by the Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen. This position is responsible for maintaining and improving upon the efficiency and effectiveness of all areas under his/her direction and control; performs all other related work as required.

Essential Functions:

(The essential functions or duties listed below are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.)

- Meet with and answer questions from employees, residents, visitors and other interested individuals as required.
- Answer inquiries from the general public and applicants regarding town board and permitting procedures and ongoing and potential projects.
- Provide access to public records on file and make copies as requested.
- Work with the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and the Building Commissioner to administer the Town's zoning bylaws, General By-Laws, Massachusetts General Laws and subdivision control regulations.
- Respond to inquiries from the public, professional consultants and local agencies; reviews applications for special permits and subdivisions; requests for additional information; interprets relevant statutes, regulations, bylaws and case law.
- Organize and conduct site visits; prepare technical information for board members, attend meetings, draft permit decisions and maintain records.
- Work with Planning Board to update/maintain zoning bylaws, subdivision control ordinance and master plan; conduct research, drafts and revise documents and perform public presentation work.
- Supervise office clerical staff; administers Board activities; oversee compliance with Special Permit conditions; coordinate local review of private development proposals; prepare agenda and schedules meetings; follow up on decisions and actions taken by the Board; schedule and post meetings; coordinate Board activities with other town departments.
- Maintain communication with the Planning Board to ensure that each is aware of all activities of the others; provide advice and make grant applications on behalf of the Planning Board, Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, and assist other departments on grant applications as needed.

CURRENT

- Prepare and assist in presentation of articles to Town Meeting under direction of the Board of Selectmen, planning board, Town Administrator, Community Preservation Committee and Economic Development Committee, analyze petition articles for potential impact.
- Assist and advise landowners, developers and other interested persons seeking information of the town's zoning bylaw and subdivision rules and regulations and the application of M.G.L. Chapter 40A, and 41 Subdivision Control Law.
- Attend all Planning Board meetings and hearings, all meetings of the Economic Development Committee, Community Preservation Committee, and Board of Selectmen meetings as needed and any other relevant Town meetings as required.
- Retain and manage applicant's fee escrow account during review process as required.
- Monitor national, state and municipal community development trend, interpret trends to Planning Board and recommend priorities and projects for physical, environmental and economic development; maintain and update planning data including land use maps, overlays, and statistical information; implement and oversee and keep accurate files on projects approved by the Planning Board.
- Prepare and administer annual departmental operating budget; maintain complete records of expenses and accounts; work on projects as may be assigned through the Town Administrator by the Planning Board, Community Preservation Committee, Economic Development Committee, and Board of Selectmen.
- Coordinates and facilitates public and private efforts to retain and expand existing businesses; assists in enticing and recruiting development and business projects to the Town; coordinates Town resources in completing joint projects with the regional partners and other economic development associations or agencies; assists in the development and implementation of economic revitalization strategies for the Town and neighborhood business districts; provides information and technical assistances to the business and development communities, staff, public, community, Planning Board and Zoning Board.
- Seeks federal, State, and private grant programs to meet community and economic development objectives of the Town; prepares and submits applications; administers programs upon award of funding.
- Assist members of the public with a wide array of development projects; participate in administrative staff meetings.
- Provide staff support to the Planning Board, Economic Development Committee, and Community Preservation Committee, drafting and editing land use, and open space plans and by-laws, facilitating economic development.
- Supervise personnel, develop and implement operational budget, policies and procedures for the department; and perform a variety of administrative and public relations functions, research and compile data, process materials for special projects and reports.
- Complete special projects and perform any and all similar or related work as required, directed or as situation dictates.
- Review mail, email, voice mail and other communications, schedule /calendar for meetings and appointments.
- At end of shift, secure office, equipment and perform general housekeeping duties as required.
- Performs similar or related work as required, directed or as situation dictates.

CURRENT

Recommended Minimum Qualifications:

Education, Training and Experience:

Bachelor's Degree in Planning, Public Administration, or related field and (5-7) years of relevant municipal experience or Master's Degree in Planning, Public Administration, or related field and minimum of (3) years of relevant municipal experience; or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience is preferred. AICP Certification is desirable. Must have / maintain a valid Massachusetts driver's license.

Knowledge, Ability and Skill:

Knowledge: Thorough knowledge of the techniques of comprehensive planning, zoning, and other land use regulations, housing programs, real estate and economic development, and state and federal grants. Thorough knowledge of Massachusetts General Laws Chapters 40A and 41. Knowledge of the economic, sociological and environmental aspects of planning, housing and community development.

Ability: Ability to interpret regulations accurately. Ability to conduct independent research and to analyze and interpret results. Ability to plan, organize and direct the preparation of comprehensive research studies, analyze problems, prepare reports and formulate recommendations concerning planning and community development. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with subordinates, board/committee members, officials and the general public. Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing. Ability to prepare and administer budgets and to prepare financial reports.

Skill: Excellent oral and written communication skills. Proficiency in the use of computers and software applications. Strong organizational, planning, management and supervisory skills. Superior persuasiveness, resourcefulness, discretion, and negotiating skills. Sensitivity to political issues.

Physical Requirements:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Minimal physical effort generally required in performing duties under typical office conditions. Occasional moderate physical effort required when conducting field inspections. Ability to maneuver stairs and uneven terrain for field inspections during all types of weather conditions. Position requires the ability to operate a keyboard and standard office equipment at efficient speed. The employee is frequently required to use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls, and reach with hands and arms. The employee is frequently required to sit and talk. Vision and hearing at or correctable to normal ranges. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move objects weighing up to 10 pounds. Vision and hearing at or correctable to normal ranges. This position requires the ability to operate a keyboard and calculator at efficient speed.

CURRENT

DIRECTOR OF TOURISM

FAIRHAVEN, MA

Position Purpose:

The primary function of this position is to provide professional management, promotion, planning, direction, administration, evaluation and accountability of all tourism functions, events, staff and services through the Office of Tourism, to inform, attract, entice and encourage travelers to the make the Town of Fairhaven a destination and effectively promote and publicize the diversity of commercial, cultural, historical, recreational, informational, and educational attributes of the Town, in a timely manner and in accordance with town policies, legal boundaries and any funding service regulations, abiding by all Municipal, State and Federal guidelines, regulations and quality standards and ensuring safe, courteous and professional behavior is observed in all situations. This position is responsible for maintaining and improving upon the efficiency and effectiveness of all areas under his/her direction and control; performs all other related work as required.

Essential Functions:

(The essential functions or duties listed below are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.)

- Attend scheduled training sessions, and staff meetings and attend Board of Selectmen and other related meetings as required, prepare reports for Board of Selectmen /Town Administrator and serve on other relate town, regional boards and committees as requested.
- Recruit, train, supervise and provide guidance, direction and continuing education for volunteers.
- Offers support to the Department of Planning and Economic Development, as instructed, to support interdepartmental initiatives and projects
- Maintain records for collected fees and expenditures related to supplies, operating and maintenance expenses, in a timely manner and prepare payroll and bills for submission to the Town.
- Schedule and supervise staff and volunteers, tourism activities, vendors, deliveries, maintenance of building, equipment and
- Maintain Visitor Center hours, ensure coverage of daily business hours, interact with patrons, guests, residents, conduct walking and other tours, and provide information and direction regarding commercial, cultural, historical, recreational resources and services. Communicate and work with businesses, travel agents, tour groups, non-profit organizations, community groups and other town departments to help develop new ideas, services, activities, events regarding entertainment, dining, lodging, shopping, and historical and natural resource interests, beaches, fishing, boating, tours, parades, museums, fairs, festivals, concerts and other public attractions.
- Direct and control the expenditure of fund allocations within constraints of approved budgets, purchase of equipment and furnishings.
- Research to identify potential new sources of revenue and fund raising for the Office and seek out grant opportunities and prepare grant applications for federal, state, regional and private for profit and non-profit organizations and manage all grant funded activities.

CURRENT

DIRECTOR OF TOURISM

FAIRHAVEN, MA

- Apply for and oversee the administration of grants awarded, review and implement new promotional material and new technologies, accept / acknowledge gifts of money, materials, artifacts, etc. and pursue additional funds via grants and fundraising.
- Maintain all financial / statistical records and reports, present annual budget for the Town Administrator to review reports, collect and analyze data and statistics; evaluate current programs- services and recommend changes to meet emerging needs.
- Oversee the maintenance of an up to date informative Office of Tourism website / social media outlet to promote Town and public activities and provide resources to current or potential visitors to enhance their experience in the town.
- Develop promotional material, art work, write press releases and copy for tourism guides/newsletters; setup and attend exhibitions and holiday shows, organize special / seasonal events; devise / coordinate marketing campaigns, market research with the public. Cooperate with community groups and town officials to implement Office of Tourism sponsored programs, meetings and fund raising events, initiate and supervise Tourism events and activities,(entertainment / tours/ lectures / educational programs / workshops), set up tables, chairs, decorations, signage, refreshments and displays, advertisements and posters at local business' and town facilities.
- Maintain current knowledge of new legislation, regulations, and changes in tourism services and procedures through publications review, attendance at meetings, conferences and peer associations.
- Review email, voice mail and other communications, calendar for meetings and appointments.
- Supervise and schedule custodial activities, ensure Visitor Center location is clear, clean and in a safe condition inside and outside, secure premises, equipment, set alarms as required.
- Performs similar or related work as required, directed or as situation dictates.

Recommended Minimum Qualifications:

Education, Training and Experience:

High School Diploma/GED. Bachelor's degree in a related field of endeavor: Business Management / Marketing / Communication. Three to four (3 - 4) years of closely related and progressively responsible experience in travel / tourism / marketing / office-record keeping or the combination of education, training and experience that enables performance of all aspects of the position. Must have / maintain a valid Massachusetts driver's license.

Knowledge, Ability and Skill:

Knowledge: Thorough knowledge of town procedures and general hospitality procedures, practices and terminology. Thorough knowledge of departmental operations. Familiarity with hospitality and tourism principles and procedures. Knowledge of the operation of computer software applications.

Ability: Ability to communicate effectively and tactfully with staff and the public. Ability to compose correspondence. Ability to prioritize and complete multiple tasks at one time with frequent interruptions. Analytical ability. Must be able to operate a personal computer and display intermediate to advanced skill when using software programs for word processing, database,

CURRENT

DIRECTOR OF TOURISM

FAIRHAVEN, MA

spreadsheets and other software as required by the position. Ability to maintain and create spreadsheets and records.

Skill: Excellent customer service skills. Strong organizational skills. Skill in all of the above listed tools and equipment.

Physical Requirements:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to sit, communicate, or hear; occasionally required to walk, must be able to handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls; and reach with hands and arms. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move objects weighing up to 15 pounds. Vision and hearing at or correctable to normal ranges. This position requires the ability to operate a keyboard and calculator at efficient speed.

Supervision:

Supervision Scope: This position works under the administrative direction of the Board of Selectmen / Town Administrator. This role will work from municipal policies and objectives to establish short-range plans and goals and assumes direct accountability for department results. The Director consults with the Town Administrator where clarification, interpretation, or exception to municipal policy is required.

Supervision Received: Works under the general direction of the Town Administrator.

Supervision Given: None.

Job Environment:

- Work is performed in an office environment. Majority of work is performed in a moderately noisy work environment, with frequent interruptions.
- Operates computer, printer, telephone, copier, facsimile machine and all other standard office equipment.
- Makes contact with school department staff. May have contact with the public, students, parents, vendors, and outside agencies and organizations.
- Employee has access to all departmental confidential information.
- Errors could result in delay or loss of service and possible legal or financial ramifications.

(This job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employers and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.)



Town Fiber Financing

3 messages

Sean Powers <seanmpowers@yahoo.com> Tue, May 21, 2024 at 8:32 PM

To: Angeline Lopes Ellison <alopesellison@fairhaven-ma.gov>, Sean Daly <seanxdaly@gmail.com>
Cc: Anne Carreiro <acarreiro@fairhaven-ma.gov>, Derek Frates <dfrates@fairhaven-ma.gov>

Hi Angie,

Sean Daly has agreed to be our point person to help research funding options for the Municipal Fiber Project. Who should he work with on your finance team?

Thanks,

Sean

Angeline Lopes Ellison <alopesellison@fairhaven-ma.gov> Thu, May 23, 2024 at 11:44 AM

To: Sean Powers <seanmpowers@yahoo.com>
Cc: Sean Daly <seanxdaly@gmail.com>, Anne Carreiro <acarreiro@fairhaven-ma.gov>, Derek Frates <dfrates@fairhaven-ma.gov>, Amy Hart <ahart@fairhaven-ma.gov>

I am unclear what funding source? Are you referring to grants? or other options? There isn't anyone with expertise in fiber optics funding; maybe you and Mr. Daly can set up a time to discuss further. I am cc'ing Amy to set that up.

Thanks and take care,

Angie



Angeline Lopes Ellison
Town Administrator
Town of Fairhaven
40 Center Street
Fairhaven, MA 02719
508-979-4023 x 2
alopesellison@fairhaven-ma.gov

Please note that e-mails to and from municipal officials are considered public records by the Secretary of the Commonwealth. Confidentiality should not be expected

[Quoted text hidden]

Sean Powers <seanmpowers@yahoo.com> Fri, May 24, 2024 at 8:17 AM

To: Angeline Lopes Ellison <alopesellison@fairhaven-ma.gov>
Cc: Sean Daly <seanxdaly@gmail.com>, Anne Carreiro <acarreiro@fairhaven-ma.gov>, Derek Frates <dfrates@fairhaven-ma.gov>, Amy Hart <ahart@fairhaven-ma.gov>

Hi Angie,

We were last talking about Revenue bonds vs General Obligation bonds.

Some of the questions that came up was grace period, how long?

How to borrow and what amounts and the timing of those amounts?

Rate comparison for both Rev and Gen?

Payback period?

I was thinking this is a conversation with Bond council and or town financial advisor. Key Bank has some expertise here and we should bring them in on the conversation. I believe his name was Tom, but i will forward his contact info in another email.

Thanks,
Sean

[Quoted text hidden]

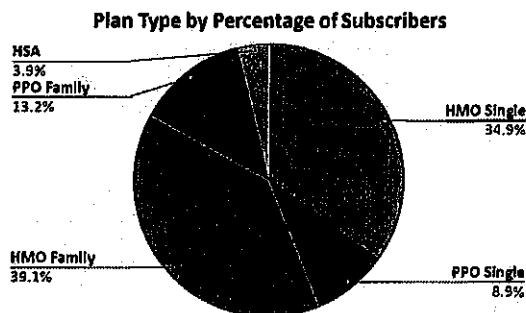
Summary of Insurance Opt-Out Incentive Proposal

Definition: A health insurance opt-out arrangement is a financial incentive for employees to decline employer-provided health coverage. Employers use these incentives to reduce benefit costs.

Ask: The Select Board is being asked to ratify/approve the opt-out policy for union and non-union employees to defray costs for the Town and offer an additional voluntary benefit to employees.

Details: As of 4/1/24 the Town had 281 subscribers:

- The Town pays 60% of an employee plan
- The HSA (added 10/23) is the most affordable
- The HMO plan is the most popular
- The PPO plan is the most expensive



Comparable Communities: Milton, Woburn, Needham, Wellesley, Sudbury, maynard, Lexington, Grafton, Everett, Weston, Kingston, Westborough, Medford, Freetown, Andover Scituate, East Bridgewater

Savings:

Plan Type	Annual Town Cost per Subscriber (as of 9/1/25)	Savings to Town per Opt-Out Incentive, Year 1	Savings to Town per Opt-Out in Subsequent Years
HMO Single	\$7,022	\$5,022	\$6,022
PPO Single	\$8,883	\$6,883	\$7,883
HMO Family	\$17,272	\$13,272	\$15,272
PPO Family	\$21,120	\$17,120	\$19,120

- With the opt-out incentive, the Town will save between \$5,000-\$17,000 in the first year per subscriber. Subsequent years would be \$6,000 to \$19,000 per subscriber.
- If 5% (15 people) of subscribers choose to take the opt-out incentive the first year's savings would be \$153,383. Subsequent years would have an annual savings to the Town of \$176,883.
- If 10% (30 people) of subscribers choose to take the opt-out incentive the first year's savings would be \$297,708. Subsequent years would have an annual savings to the Town of \$343,208.

Define:

What is the reason for this meeting and why are you all here?

(questions direct to the point and not directed at anyone)

- If a matter requiring a variance comes before the ZBA, What is the role of the ZBA as it pertains to erecting buildings on town owned property? Is there a different set of procedures / rules if it is town property vs. private property?
- What is the role of the Select Board when it comes to ZBA authority? Can the select board bypass or supersede the zba? Can the select board vote and override town bylaws?
- The TA has arranged for specific training on the 5 criteria's and what is allowed in order to issue a variance. But we have individuals who are by passing the ZBA and and not following the policy and procedures. What are and how are the consequences of violation of bylaws being addressed by the Select Board and TA?
- ZBA has policy and rules in place just like the Select Board does. How is the Select Board going to ensure these policies are followed by everyone?

We now have 3 buildings erected on town property each with a different aspect, each requiring to apply and appear before the ZBA for a variance and yet they did not follow the process nor consult with the appropriate town departments and went ahead without permits and constructed a building.

The ZBA is seeking transparency from across the select board and asking for answers to these questions to ensure our decisions will not put the town at risk.

If you do not have the answers tonight, we are available and can be placed on the next agenda and to allot the needed time to discuss in depth and resolve these issues.