

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 29, 2020**

Present

Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Cameron Durant, Commissioner
Frank Coelho, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Rebecca Vento, Office Manager
Craig Demers, 105 New Boston Road
Gary Lavalette, 4 Bellevue Street



I. Call to Order

Mr. Wotton called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. June 22, 2020

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of June 22, 2020. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. Craig Demers, 105 New Boston Road – Driveway

Mr. Wotton - It looks like Mr. Demers is looking for a waiver to extend his current driveway to 37 feet.

Mr. Hobson – 37 feet seems to be a lot. I do not recall ever giving a waiver for a driveway that big.

Mr. Wotton – It looks like the existing driveway is 26 feet and he is looking to extend it another 11 feet.

Mr. Coelho- Is Mr. Charbonneau ok with this?

Mr. Furtado – Yes, as long as he is 5 feet from the hydrant.

Mr. Coelho motioned to approve the driveway waiver for a 37-foot opening at 105 New Boston Road.
Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

V. Items for Action

A. Covid-19 Matters

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Mr. Wotton – Mr. Lavalette did you notice any conflict this weekend?

Mr. Lavalette – There were approximately half dozen people that were argumentative but other than that the gate attendants held their own and did a great job. I found that there is a problem with the permits. The stickers have to be placed on the outside of the window and they are already fading. In the future, we should look into getting different stickers. As far as the parking lot, I feel that we can get 160 cars into the parking lot without any issues. Since we have sold so many stickers, I would like to suggest that we make Fir Street from the house to Bass Creek Road overflow parking in case the parking lot is filled up. Another situation that we had is the kite boarders come to the beach, they go to set up the system, and they get very close to people’s heads. I do not think that it should be allowed. I would like to know if the Board would like to give me the authority to tell people that are kite boarding that they cannot do it during beach hours.

Mr. Hobson - I just want to say that I went down there this weekend and the gate attendants and Mr. Lavalette did a great job. I think that we should have a specific area that the kite boarders can go. As far as the parking on Fir Street, people without a permit are just going to park on the street and try to walk in. In other cities and towns, if the parking lot is full you have to wait until someone comes out before you can go in.

Mr. Coelho – Mr. Lavalette when you stopped by on Tuesday you said that your name was on the list to be hired. I found the list and your name was not on it. We heard about you being hired after you were appointed to the position. Did you get a copy of the rules and regulations for the beach?

Mr. Lavalette - What rules are you speaking of? I was present for a meeting with the Police Department and Mr. Furtado. At that meeting, we went over the dos and don’ts for the beach. I did not receive any type of handbook. I am parking cars and making sure people can get out of the parking lot. I am not sure what rules I would need.

Mr. Coelho - I had a few phone calls and I was asked what the rules and regulations were because they had some concerns. I told them to call into the meeting and discuss this with the Board.

Mr. Lavalette – Over the weekend I had three individuals complain about how I was parking cars. The first thing I do is make sure everyone parks around the perimeter and then after that I set up cones and fill in the middle of the lot row by row. I can create about seven lanes. People were complaining that I had them park on the perimeter and the middle of the parking lot was open. All I am asking is for people to have patience so I can get as many cars in the parking lot as possible.

Mr. Coelho - I have heard pros and cons about the parking lot.

Mr. Durant – Mr. Lavalette do you feel there is enough signage for the beach?

Mr. Lavalette - I think that there should be another sign like the one on Bass Creek Road because that one is hard to see.

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Mr. Durant - When people were waiting to get into the parking lot did the cars back up to Bass Creek Road?

Mr. Lavalette - We reached 136 cars in the parking lot over the weekend and we did not reach capacity.

Mr. Furtado - As far as the no parking signs on Fir Street that is on the Selectmen's agenda for tomorrow night and the signs will be put up based on their vote. In years past, we have a meeting with all of the beach personnel and at the meeting, we go over all of our expectations.

Mr. Lavalette – The gate attendants are checking the bathrooms every hour to make sure they are clean and stocked.

Mr. Wotton - How many cars do you think that you would be able to fit on one side of Fir Street?

Mr. Lavalette - I would say 30-35 cars. I would only use that for overflow parking if needed.

Mr. Wotton – If it got to the point that you had to park cars on Fir Street would you be on monitoring it?

Mr. Lavalette- Yes, I would. I would have them drop off their stuff for the beach and then go park their cars on the street.

Mr. Hobson - I do not believe that the street is wide enough. We are talking maybe 1-2 times a year. It does not make any sense to me. I think that they should have to wait until a spot opens in the parking lot.

Mr. Lavalette – When we met with the Police Department I mentioned this idea and they liked the plan of the overflow parking on Fir Street. I just would like to have a plan in place just in case the parking lot reaches capacity.

Mr. Durant - I do not have a problem with overflow parking as long as the Selectmen are ok with it.

Mr. Coelho - I agree with the overflow parking as long as the Police Department agrees.

Mr. Hobson motioned to assign a designated area with signs for kite boarding at the West Island Town Beach. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Durant motioned to allow overflow parking on the east side with proper signage and approval from the Selectmen and Police Department on Fir Street. Mr. Coelho seconded. Vote 3-1 with Mr. Hobson opposed.

VI. Tabled Matters

A. Contract Agreement WasteZero

B. Marine Resource Representative

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VII. Public Comments / Open Forum

VIII. Old Business / New Business

A. Superintendent

Superintendent Report for June 29, 2020

- Check with ABC re: Bond
- Water Department completed zone flushing - shout out to Jeff who was there every night and his crews
- Meet with Brian at 303 Mill Rd re: brick in roadway issue
- Becky and I have meeting with Beach Personnel
- JC oversaw paving of Bluepoint Rd and Rockland St as well as line painting
- Police have meeting with our Beach Parking Lot Attendant
- Call into State to place barrels at State side of Fort Phoenix
- Review Storm Water Management Plan draft
- Send correspondence to Tighe and Bond seeking status of alternative analysis
- Attend to various sign requests
- Agree to invoice from NPDES Legal Counsel
- Attend insurance meeting as District Chair
- Send MRY Solar Project approval letter

B. Board Members

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Mr. Hobson - I watched the Highway Department pick up the barrels and I think that it is ridiculous that they use the small dump truck and they have to come back to the yard to dump them a few times. The city of New Bedford has a small dump truck if we had something that fit the description of what I am describing I think we would be more productive.

Mr. Wotton - Why can't we dump the barrels directly into the truck and then go to the landfill and dump them?

Mr. Coelho - I think that is a good suggestion that they dump the barrels into the truck.

C. Marine Resources Committee – BPW Related Matters

Mr. Coelho - We have a meeting this Thursday.

IX. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Durant motioned to set the date of the next meeting on July 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

X. Adjourn

Mr. Coelho motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

XI. Executive Session

n/a

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Vento
Office Manager

Minutes approved on July 13, 2020