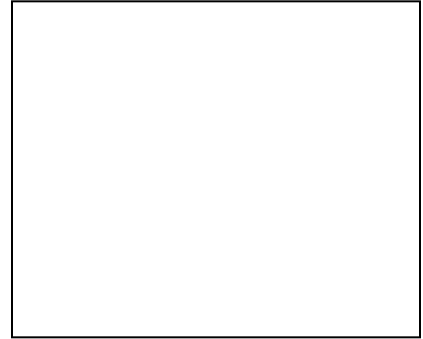


**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
July 12, 2021**



**Present**

Brian Wotton, Commissioner  
Robert Hobson, Commissioner  
Frank Coelho, Commissioner  
Marcus Ferro, Commissioner  
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent  
Rebecca Vento, Office Manager  
Karen Vilandry, 34 Huttleston Avenue  
Mike Rotondo, BMX Pump Track  
Chip Hawthorne, BMX Pump Track  
Joseph Ingoldsby, Cooke Park  
Doug Brady, 97 Pleasant Street  
Sam Chapin, Brown and Caldwell

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Wotton called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

**II. Routine Matters**

**A. Signing of Departmental Bills**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**A. June 28, 2021**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of June 28, 2021. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

**IV. Appointments**

**A. Joseph Ingoldsby, Cooke Park Gift Account – Watering Shrubs & Flowers**

Mr. Ingoldsby - There have been many changes that have taken place since the last time I've been before the Board. I just wanted to thank everyone for supporting me over the past few years while I've beautified Cooke Park. This year we weeded the area and then we built up a berm around the drainage basin, we then added some plantings and bulbs that can sustain drought conditions. The neighbors have been very generous with donating to the gift account that was set up. I have done what I can but now it is up to the neighbors to keep up the park. This year I have found that one of the donor's children is home for the summer and I asked him to water. I asked him to put a billing together for me for the work that he has done over the last few weeks. I have been paying him \$15 an hour to water which I think is fair and it takes him about 2 hours a few times a week. Since we have had quite a bit of rain the water is done on an as needed basis and will need to be done through August. I asked the Town Accountant if I could pay him through the gift account and she said that I had to get approval from the Board as they

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oversee the gift account. The question is will the Board approve for me to pay the gentleman to water from the gift account?

Mr. Hobson - We have some openings for summer help that he could apply for. I do not believe that we can take money from the gift account to pay for someone to water.

Mr. Furtado - I think that it would be easier for us to hire him as a temporary employee rather than using the gift account. There are Department of Revenue guidelines for the gift account that we have to follow.

Mr. Coelho - I know that you are using a neighbor's faucet. Why don't you use the pump station and run a hose to the park?

Mr. Ferro motioned to hire a temporary employee to water the plants at Cooke Park. Mr. Coelho seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Ingoldsby - I would like to ask if I could purchase some of the cobblestones and bluestones from you folks that you have in the backyard.

Mr. Coelho - Is this for Cooke Park?

Mr. Ingoldsby – No, it would be for personal use. I am looking for 50 cobblestones and 10 bluestones. I was hoping this could be done because I used my own accounts and my own funds to do the park over and never asked for any extra.

Mr. Furtado - The only way for this to be done is for the Board to declare these items surplus and then it would have to go to the Town Auction.

**B. Michael Rotondo, BMX Pump Track**

Mr. Rotondo – We are looking to move the pump track to a different location at Macomber Park and start fresh. We would remove the current track and replant grass. Once it is rebuilt in the new location we would eventually like to have it paved.

Mr. Wotton - They are looking to move the location to higher grounds because when it rains it washes out the track. I spoke with the neighbors that were originally opposed to the pump track being at Macomber Park and they are in favor of moving it and having it paved.

Mr. Furtado – The Town recently received 1.6 million dollars. I have to go to a meeting on Thursday night and one of the requests that I put in for was a request to pave the pump track.

Mr. Hawthorne – I know that we spoke with Paul Foley and he mentioned that there were a few grants that we would be able to apply for to help us with the paving.

Mr. Durant - Where did this estimate come from? \$100,000 - \$150,000 sounds high.

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Mr. Hawthorne – We contacted three companies that do this type of work and this is what they estimated that it would cost for us to redo the pump track.

Mr. Furtado - Before we received the quote from the BMX Committee I asked Mr. Charbonneau what he thought it would cost and he thought it would be around \$150,000.

Mr. Wotton - They would like to meet Mr. Furtado at Macomber Park and show him where they would like to put the new pump track so he can go to Conservation and get their approval so they can hopefully move forward with this.

Mr. Coelho - I think the new pump track would be an asset to the Town since the current one is always being used.

Mr. Durant motioned to support the BMX Pump Track Committee to relocate and pave the BMX Pump Track at Macomber Park with approval from Conservation. Mr. Coelho seconded. Vote unanimous.

**V. Items for Action**

**A. Authorized Signatures FY22**

Mr. Furtado – We are going to hold off on this until after the election.

**B. Cooke Park – Anchor**

Mr. Furtado - A few weeks ago Mr. Lavalette contacted me asking if we could pick up an anchor that was dredged from the harbor. The Highway Department picked it up and it is being stored in the backyard. I was then asked to bring the anchor to Cooke Park but I did not want to bring it there without the Boards permission.

Discussion ensued amongst all present.

Mr. Coelho motioned to table the discussion of the anchor being placed at Cooke Park until the next meeting. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

**C. Brown & Caldwell, Update Recycling Center Bridge Street**

Mr. Chapin- I am hoping that everyone had a chance to read over the report that we sent. We agree with the Board with moving the Recycling Center from its current location to Bridge Street. There are obstacles that need to be overcome. Over 20 years ago we went in front of MassDEP and at that time there were so many obstacles that the Town chose to not move forward with relocating the recycling center to the Bridge Street location. I am hoping that now MassDEP is more receptive to moving the recycling center to this location. The next step is to get a meeting with MassDEP and find out what needs to be done to move forward. We are looking to do a file review at MassDEP and we think that this is worth pursuing.

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Mr. Furtado - Is MassDEP back in the office?

Mr. Chapin - I have not heard that they are. The first thing to do is to request a meeting with MassDEP.

Mr. Furtado -Do we need another proposal from you folks to keep this moving?

Mr. Chapin - I will have to take a look at that. Could you put us on the next agenda and we will bring more information and contact MassDEP before then.

Mr. Ferro motioned to table the Recycling Center Bridge Street Update until the next meeting. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**D. Sign Memorandum of Understanding, Highway Department Hours of Works**

Mr. Coelho motioned to Sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Highway Department Hours of Works. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

**E. Hart Engineering, West Island Treatment Plant Upgrades, Payment #1 \$177,317.50**

Mr. Furtado - This is the first payment for the upgrades at the West Island Treatment Plant.

Mr. Coelho motioned to approve Hart Engineering Payment #1 in the amount of \$177,317.50 for the West Island Treatment Plant Upgrades. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

**VI. Tabled Matter**

**A. Water & Sewer Abatement Policy**

Mr. Ferro motioned to bring the Water and Sewer Abatement Policy back to the table for discussion. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Wotton - The changes that we requested at the last meeting are reflected in this draft.

Mr. Coelho - I think that the plumber should come into the meeting so we can ask them questions about the leak.

Mr. Hobson – I agree, I think that the plumber should come before the Board.

Mr. Wotton - How about changing the verbiage to say that the leak must be verified by a licensed plumber and an employee from the water department.

Mr. Hobson - Why can't the plumber come in front of the Board?

Mr. Ferro - I do not think we can compel a plumber to come in front of the Board.

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Mr. Coelho – I think that will be good if the leak is verified by a license plumber and a town official.

Mr. Durant - I would like a line added stating that a second meter is available for outdoor usage because watering shrubs does not qualify for an abatement.

Mr. Wotton - I think that the abatement policy should be sent out with the water bills.

Mr. Ferro motioned to table the water and sewer abatement policy until the next meeting and have the language added for both the plumber and town official to verify the leaks and information for the second meter. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

**VII. Public Comments / Open Forum**

**VIII. Old Business / New Business**

**A. Superintendent**

**Superintendent Report for July 12, 2021**

- Apply for 319 grant with State - for Jerusalem Rd designed stormwater system - copy in packet
- Working group of Planning and BPW received \$183,000 grant for safety improvements for streets
- Attend to lots of fiscal year end logistics
- Sent Crotty's opinion of Treasure Bay lead on letterhead
- Work with Union and Labor Attorney re: Work Hour change for Highway
- Voluntary water ban posted
- Rene, Chris and I meet with Stantec re: Force Main Project
- Attended scanner training
- Review and sign various engineering agreements for MRV
- Various preparation for storm
- Revise water abatement policy per Board's vote
- Meet with Bldg Department re: Fence on Bayside to ascertain if we have issues as well (plowing)
- Attend meeting re: American Recovery Act \$\$ - Town has received \$800 k, will receive another \$800k next year - put forth project requests for all departments - I will attend Bristol County Commissioners meeting next Thursday night

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- Attend Solar Meeting with AMP - they will meet with Board in the future

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

**B. Board Members**

Mr. Coelho - I think that we should have Derek Frates come in so we can get a better setup of cameras and audio for the meetings.

Mr. Furtado - They are looking to get us the same setup as town hall.

Mr. Hobson – I just want to remind the residents that unless their trash is in the town issued barrel ABC will not pick it up. Also, there is a TV that was dumped on Potter Street if you could have someone pick it up. On the end of Union Wharf in the southwest corner, the garbage barrel was removed and never brought back.

Mr. Wotton – On Gellette Road at the bike path is a bunch of broken glass if you could have someone pick it up before someone gets hurt.

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

Mr. Hobson - At the last meeting I brought up the Causeway Road Bridge and they would like an update of what is going on.

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

Mr. Ferro motioned to set the date of the next meeting on June 26, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Coelho seconded. Vote unanimous.

**X. Adjourn**

Mr. Ferro motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. and enter into executive session to discuss BPW Superintendent's Employment Agreement and not to reconvene in open session. Mr. Durant seconded. Rollcall Vote: Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Coelho, Mr. Durant and Mr. Ferro in favor. Motion passes 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rebecca L. Vento*

Rebecca Vento  
Office Manager

Minutes approved on July 26, 2021