

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
September 7, 2021**

Present

Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Cameron Durant, Commissioner
Marcus Ferro, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Rebecca Vento, Office Manager
Jeffrey Furtado, Water Superintendent
Jessica Jeffrey, 4 Century Drive
Leon Correy, 12 Harbormist Drive
Antone Medeiros, A. Medeiros Contractors



Mr. Wotton and Mr. Coelho not in attendance

I. Call to Order

Mr. Hobson called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. August 23, 2021

Mr. Durant motioned to approve the minutes of August 23, 2021. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. Jessica Jeffrey, 4 Century Drive – Abatement Request

Ms. Jeffrey – When I was here in June I was told to have a licensed plumber come to my property and check for leaks. I had a license plumber come and check for leaks and he found a hose that had a leak in my backyard that was near the bushes. I understand I cannot get an abatement on the water portion of my bill but I am here tonight looking to see if I can get an abatement on the sewer.

Mr. J Furtado - In March when we noticed that this property had high usage we had a technician go back to the property and verify the read before we notified Ms. Jeffrey of the high usage. That is when we discovered that there was a leak somewhere at the property. The technician went to the property a few days later to help Ms. Jeffrey check for leaks. At that time the meter was spinning and the technician the noticed that the washing machine was on. They turned the washing machine off and the meter stopped spinning. We then went back a few weeks later to get another read from the meter and saw that the usage was back to normal.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
September 7, 2021**

Ms. Jeffrey - When I received the call about the high usage I went around the house and shut off all the faucets.

Mr. Durant - If we found nothing leaking in the system after checking for leaks I do not know what we can do for you.

Mr. Ferro – As much as I sympathize with you I do not see anything that can be done.

Mr. Durant motioned to deny the abatement request for 4 Century Drive. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Leon Correy, Portable Bathroom on Bike Path

Mr. Correy - I am here tonight because I had a few women approach me and ask me how to go about getting a portable restroom on the bike path. I think that this is a good idea because there are a lot of people that use the bike path and for women in general it is hard to find a place to go to the bathroom. I understand that there are protocols that need to be followed and I am just wondering if this is something that the Board is interested in pursuing.

Mr. Furtado – Typically it cost \$135 per month per restroom

Mr. Ferro - Where would they be placed?

Mr. Furtado – We could put it somewhere around the half way point.

Mr. Ferro – If possible I would like to see more than one.

Mr. Hobson –How long are we talking about having these restrooms for? Are we talking year round or for 6 months?

Mr. Furtado - I think that we should keep them there year round.

Mr. Correy – I agree. It seems like in the winter if there are any nice day's people use the bike path.

Mr. Furtado - As Park Commissioners the Board would have to decide if this is something that they want to pursue. If it is we would have to make sure that there is money in the budget to do so.

Mr. Durant – Could we start with a temporary structure and possibly put a permanent structure like they have at the playground in New Bedford?

Mr. Ferro – Do we think that we should survey the residents asking them where they think the best location to put the portable restroom would be?

Mr. Hobson - I think we should start with one restroom to make sure people are not going to vandalize it.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
September 7, 2021**

Mr. Correy - What about putting it in the parking lot here on Arsene Street behind the building?

Mr. Furtado – I like that idea because we have cameras so we can monitor it.

Mr. Durant - Could we ask the Bikeway Committee if there is any way they can contribute to this?

Mr. Durant motioned to put a temporary restroom in the vicinity of the parking lot at the Board of Public Works when the funds are available. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. A. Medeiros Contractors, 125 Bridge Street – Driveway Waiver 3rd Opening

Mr. Medeiros - I am here tonight representing the property owners at 125 Bridge Street. They are looking to put a third opening so they can put their boat and another vehicle there. They are looking to do this so they do not have to keep backing up over the curb.

Mr. Ferro motioned to approve the third driveway opening at 125 Bridge Street. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

V. Item for Action

A. AMI Notification Process

Mr. Furtado - I consulted with Town Counsel because I wanted to make sure that the town would be ok with the way we were looking to do the notification process for the AMI. We would send out up to three letters to the residents to change out their meters. The first letter will announce the meter program and in that letter, it will ask the residents to call or go online and make an appointment to have their meters changed out. If a resident fails to respond to the first letter then a second letter will be sent out and if they fail to respond to the first two letters a third letter will be sent out. We will give a few weeks in between sending out letters.

Mr. Hobson – When will we be starting this and sending out the letters?

Mr. Furtado - We would like to start this as soon as possible but before we are able to do so, the Board needs to vote and approve the AMI Notification Process that has been drafted by Town Counsel. If a resident does not respond to the third letter then we will have the right to shut off their water.

Mr. Ferro - I think that this is fair and hopefully we will not have to shut off anyone's water.

Mr. J. Furtado - Before we shut off anyone's water we will make numerous attempts to gain access to the property.

Mr. Ferro motioned to adopt the AMI Notification Process that was drafted by Town Counsel. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
September 7, 2021**

B. Sign Contract Agreement, Hazardous Waste Day \$20,100.00

Mr. Furtado – Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled for October 23, 2021 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. This year we can accept 230 cars and then we will be at our total allotted allowance.

Mr. Ferro motioned to Sign the Contract Agreement with MXI Environmental Services in the amount of \$20,100 for Household Hazardous Waste Day. Mr. Durant seconded. Vote unanimous.

**C. Hart Engineering, West Island Treatment Plant Facility Upgrades, Payment # 3
\$169,575.00**

Mr. Durant motioned to approve Hart Engineering Payment #3 in the amount of \$169,575.00 for the West Island Treatment Plant Facility Upgrades. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous

**D. Stantec Consulting Services, Town-Wide Sanitary Sewer Force Main Condition
Assessment, Payment # 5 \$9,232.54**

Mr. Durant motioned to approve Stantec Consulting Services Payment #5 in the amount of \$9,232.54 for the Town-Wide Sanitary Sewer Force Main Condition Assessment. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

E. Cooke Park – Anchor & Sign

Mr. Furtado - We are going to skip over this because I have not heard back from the EPA.

F. Sign Contract Agreement, Tata & Howard, Emergency Response Plan Update

Mr. Furtado - The EPA requires all the Cities and Towns in the State to have this training every year incase an emergency happens.

Mr. Durant motioned to approve Tata & Howard's Emergency Response Plan Update with the amount not to exceed \$9,500.00. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

G. Sign Agreement for Engineering Services, GCG Associates, 33 Beach Street \$2,000.00

Mr. Ferro motioned to Sign the Agreement for Engineering Services with GCG Associates in the amount of \$2,000.00 for 33 Beach Street. Mr. Ferro seconded

VI. Tabled Matter

A. N/A

VII. Public Comments / Open Forum

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
September 7, 2021**

VIII. Old Business / New Business

A. Superintendent

Superintendent Report for September 7, 2021

- Reach out to EPA and Consultant re: rain garden/anchor issue
- Meet with Town Counsel - shutoff language - Amp contract - HHW Day
- Logistics of HHW Day confirmed - 10/23/21 - 8am - 12 pm - Police Details requested
- Becky places required stormwater notices on Town website
- Meet resident on Calumet Rd - give him hard surface petition
- Meet with State and Town Counsel re ROW documents and takings required as part of SRTS project
- Selectboard votes on requirement to wear masks in Town buildings if social distancing is not possible
- West Island Improvement Association graciously donates funds to paint beach tower
- Meet with engineer re - SRTS assistance and oversight of water main project
- John and I met with 86 Middle St property owner and engineer re drainage
- Rene and I meet with Buzzards Bay Coalition re resurrection of Marsh island project
- Concom requires us to complete NOI for work on Eaton Rd - all paperwork submitted - need PE signature - reached out to GCG
- Amazon donates traffic cones to Town of Fairhaven
- Storm in Town - minor spot flooding - phones are knocked out at BPW building
- Rene and I meet with Stantec re force main project at Taber and South
- Write/send CDBG letter of support for Hedge St Phase 3
- Meet with Labor Counsel re upcoming arbitration

Mr. Furtado - I want to thank the West Island Improvement Association for being gracious enough to pay for the paint for the tower at the West Island Beach. The Sherriff's Department will be painting it sometime within the next few weeks weather permitting.

Mr. Furtado answered any question the Board had regarding the Superintendent Report.

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
September 7, 2021**

B. Board Members

Mr. Ferro – There is a pothole on the sidewalk in front of Riverside Cemetery.

Mr. Hobson - With all the heavy rain the yard at 55 Grandview Avenue was flooded. Can someone go there and make a suggestion to how to possibly resolve this issue. The boat that hit the causeway did some damage and Mr. Cox said he was going to send you the information. Are there any updates on Bridge Street?

Mr. Furtado - I will ask for an update for Bridge Street since I have not heard anything since the last time we all met with Brown and Caldwell.

C. Marine Resources Committee – BPW Related Matters

IX. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Durant motioned to set the date for the next meeting on September 20, 2021 at 6:15 p.m. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

X. Adjourn

Mr. Durant motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 p.m. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca L. Vento

Rebecca Vento
Office Manager

Minutes approved on September 20, 2021