



Town of Fairhaven

Town Hall - 40 Centre Street - Fairhaven, MA 02719

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TOWN CLERK

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MEETING NOTES

FAIRHAVEN,
MASS.

Date, Time, Location:

October 20th, 2020 @ 6:00 P.M., Remote through ZOOM

Meeting Overview:

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Approval of Past Minutes
3. Review of remaining articles (3.B, 17, 26, 31)
4. Closing comments with vote for Town Administrator board
5. Meeting Adjourn Vote

-Key-

#) = Issue being discussed

● = Notes, indentation for more notes

- = Decrease in detail budget item

+ = Increase in detail budget item

○ = Questions and discussions below

◆ = Votes (Nom/Second)

! = Change in attendance

Member Attendance (10):

- Padraic Elliot, Lisa Plante, Chris Fidalgo, Bernard Roderick, Carolyn Roberts, Kevin Gallagher, Tracey Diggins, Jessica Dwelley, Jennifer Dupras, Kathi Carter

Town of Fairhaven (4):

- Wendy Graves (Collector/Treasurer/Finance Director)

Meeting called, 6:00PM

PAST MINUTES

- March 12th
 - Isn't usually handled by someone not present
- ◆ Bernie, Carolyn, (9 - 0), Lisa Plante was absent during the vote
- July 1st (was 15th)
 - Minor corrections, formatted, can be moved forward without additional votes
- October 14th
- ◆ Bernie, Tracey, (9 - 0), Lisa Plante was absent during the vote

! Lisa Plante's connection was intermittent during this voting

TONIGHT'S AGENDA

Article 3.B. - Town Clerk Wage Assessment

- Selectmen have voted and approved this measure
- Wage has been adjusted and below average
- This is an increase, but it seems within reason
- Kathi: How were wages compared including experience/qualifications? Bernie: The town clerk has worked at town hall for more than 10 years

◆ Recommend TO town meeting, Kevin, Chris (10 - 0)

Article 17 - West Island Treatment

- Bid opening for that project, BPW would need more money for contingency
- Amendment will be made at town meeting
- Pad: Has the cost of the project increased as well? Mark: Unsure
- Kevin: Appears to be a 30% increase over the last value, seems unclear
- Pad: Should we rescind the last amount? Chris: Probably not, since we were okay with that approval

No action from FinCom, will wait for the motion on the floor

! Jessica Dwelley stepped away from the computer and did not vote

Article 26.b - Town street lights

- Expert (John Cottrill, wire inspector) has provided advice to FinCom
- Speaks to general practice of how to light poles
- This advice runs counter to past votes

◆ Motion to reconsider the article, Bernie, Chris (9 - 0)

◆ Indefinite postponement Bernie, Chris, (7 - 2)

Article 31 - Solar panels

- Over 20 yr of the agreement, under normal taxes, \$600k
- Annual payment would be \$33k
- Has been reviewed by the assessors, aligns with past practices
- Will bring in tax revenue
- Carolyn: Selectmen voted? Mark: Yes, approval
- Pad: How is the projection done? Mark: 2 trends, depreciation of the value & increasing tax rates during the 20 years

◆ Recommend TO town meeting, Chris, Carolyn, (9 - 0)

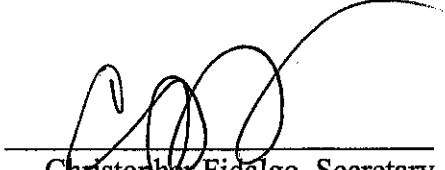
CLOSING REMARKS

- Pad: Want to thank the committee members for their work during this years
- Expectation is to meet in February
- Want to thank Mark for the last 5 years & Wendy as well

Continued on 10/21/2020, since Town Meeting was adjourned...

- Selectmen are looking for a new Town Administrator
 - Bernie, Kevin, & Lisa were interested
 - Capital Planning committee, FinCom previously discussed members rotating to sit in on those meetings
 - Carolyn: I thought that was just a participating role, rather than a voting? Pad: Yes
 - Lisa: Conservative, haven't always agreed with the town administrator, but been on FinCom for 10 years
- ◆ Nomination Lisa for Town Administrator search committee member, Chris, Carolyn (2 - 5)
- Bernie: Previously worked on the town administrator job search, school superintendent, on FinCom for 4 year
- ◆ Nomination Bernie for Town Administrator search committee member, Carolyn, Kevin (5 - 2)
- Kevin offered to take the role for Capital Planning Committee
- ◆ Nomination Kevin for Capital Planning Committee attendee, Chris, Lisa, (7 - 0)

◆ Motion to adjourn at the close of town meeting, Chris, Lisa, (9 - 0), 6:34 PM



Christopher Fidalgo, Secretary