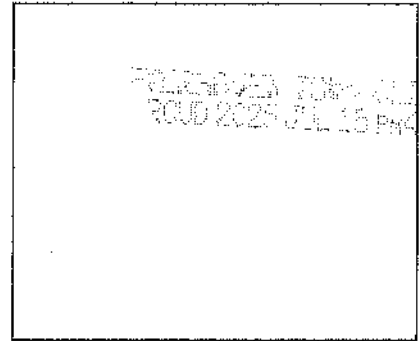


**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
June 30, 2025**



Present

Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Anne Morton Smith, Commissioner
Hillary Rotondo, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Rebecca Vento, Office Manager
Michael Redlon, G.S. Redlon & Sons
Ann Richards
Christin Ritz
Bob Hannan
Brian Messier

Mr. Lopes absent

I. Call to Order

Mr. Wotton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. June 16, 2025

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of June 16, 2025. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. Michael Redlon, G.S. Redlon & Sons, Inc – New Water & Sewer Drainlayer

Mr. Redlon – We are out of Middleboro and I am looking to become a water and sewer drainlayer for the Town of Fairhaven.

Mr. Hobson – Do you have any jobs scheduled?

Mr. Redlon – Yes, 11 Fisherman Road

Ms. Smith motioned to approve G.S. Redlon & Sons as a new water and sewer drainlayer pending completion and inspection of the first job. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

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B. Ann Richard, Gardening Crew for Town Properties

Mr. Hannan – We have put together a group of volunteers that are looking to do some gardening in public spaces throughout the Town. We are starting slowly with some pilot spots to ascertain how difficult this is going to be. We are familiar with some of the challenges that you have had with gardening initiatives in the past and we want to make sure we have people that are committed long term. This year we have identified 4 spots where we wanted to do some work. We are looking to refresh the existing beds and maybe extend one of the beds a little. We are looking to mainly plant perennials and we are leaning toward native plants where possible. We are looking for the Boards approval for these three spots which are two gardens at Civil War Park, the bike path sign at Main Street and South Street, and the sign at Macomber Park.

Mr. Hobson – Mr. Crabb is working on fixing up Macomber Park. As of now it is underutilized. Hopefully once the new BMX Track is there it will get busier.

Ms. Smith – Watering is a key issue, I do not think that we will be able to supply it.

Mr. Hannan – We understand that you would not be able to supply water and that it was an issue in the past.

Ms. Smith – I also want to make it aware that the BPW will not be able to maintain these gardens.

Mr. Hannan – Yes, we understand that. We are getting started late this season and we are hoping to start planning next February for next season.

Ms. Richard – Do you need us to fill out the form?

Ms. Smith – Yes, I think that would be very helpful incase we need contact information.

Mr. Crabb – The location at Main Street and South Street if we get a grant we might end up revamping the area. I will find out in a few weeks if we received the grant. This might also create more green space.

Mr. Messier – Do you have a website? I might have something that could help you with the water issue.

Ms. Rotondo motioned to support Mr. Hannan's proposed locations to clean up the gardens. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. Christin Ritz, Pollinator Garden Macomber Park

Ms. Ritz – I am on the Sustainability Committee and I have been on the committee for 4 years now. I have recently learned that the dirt pump track at Macomber Park is getting relocated in the future and its current location will be getting leveled and revegetated with grass. I have mentioned this to the Sustainability Committee and we just wanted to start the conversation of an alternate idea that would be better for the environment and the Town. My thought would be rather than revegetating with grass

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that we could fill it in with plants that are native to coastal Massachusetts. Ms. Camara and Mr. Webb have applied for a grant and they are also going to look for other grants that might help beautify the park/town.

Mr. Crabb – When we truck the material out we could spend a little extra time and keep the current path that is there.

Ms. Ritz – What is the timeline of the current track being leveled out?

Mr. Furtado – We should be receiving bids for the new track late July.

Ms. Ritz – I will plan on getting more information and get back in touch with the Board.

V. Item for Action

A. Stantec Consulting Services, Town-Wide Sanitary Sewer Force Main Condition Assessment, Payment #35 \$35,439.31

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Stantec Consulting Services Town Wide Force Main Condition Assessment Payment #35 in the amount of \$35,439.31. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous

B. ADU Policy

Mr. Furtado – The policy in front of you is just a draft. Our concern here at Public Works is when the State went ahead and approved the ADU there was very little thought about the utilities. Our concern is the water going into the new building may not be able to serve the people living there if the lines are not upgraded and that there may not be adequate water pressure going to the property. With this policy we would be making it known to the applicant that they may need to upgrade the existing system or add a new service depending on the size of the ADU.

Mr. Hobson – There should be something in the rules about utilities.

Mr. Furtado – The State was trying to help with affordable housing and didn't think about the utilities.

Ms. Smith – Would everyone have to put in a new service?

Mr. Furtado – We could either have a blanket policy or we could take each property on a case by case basis. I will draft up something for the Board to approve at a future meeting.

Mr. Gardner – Would this policy require everyone to put in a new service?

Mr. Furtado – I certainly do not want to make people put in a new service if the property does not require it, but more often than not when a home is built they put in a ¾" service in a single-family residence. We are responsible for the water and I want to comply with the ADU requirements that the State and Town have agreed to while doing the right thing for people that move into an ADU.

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Mr. Wotton – I think that it should be a blanket policy and residents can apply for an exception.

Mr. Gardner – That makes sense. I have been working with a group of people and this should be a case by case basis.

Mr. Furtado will check with Town Counsel regarding a few concerns brought up and draft up an ADU policy to discuss and approve at a future meeting.

C. Graffiti Policy

Mr. Furtado and the Board discussed the draft policy presented.

Ms. Smith – I think that there is another component where if any of the messages involve a hate crime that it also needs to be reported to the police department.

Mr. Furtado will draft up a graffiti policy to discuss and approve at a future meeting.

D. BPW Barricade / Deposit Policy

Mr. Furtado – In the packet there is a form that has been altered.

Ms. Rotondo – I think that if it is a private event than they should have to pay more and the deposit should not be refundable.

Mr. Wotton – I think the fee needs to be assessed by Mr. Crabb. Could come up with a fee for delivery/pick up of the items.

E. Dig It Construction, Spring Street Water Main Replacement Project

1. Change Order #1 \$29,570.52

Ms. Smith motioned to approve Dig It Construction Spring Street Water Main Replacement Project Change Order #1 in the amount of \$29,570.52. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

2. Payment #2 \$580,971.04

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Dig It Construction Spring Street Water Main Replacement Project Payment #2 in the amount of \$580,971.04. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

F. Process Flow for Eversource Petitions / Public Hearings

Mr. Furtado – Mr. Crabb met with representatives from Eversource and Mr. Murphy and Mr. Samia thought that we should have a process in place so that what happened with the Library and knocking down the trees will not happen again. We have set up a policy that when the Select Board gets these

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kinds of request that they contact us and either Josh or I will make comments and approve or deny the request.

Mr. Crabb – We are the keepers of the right of way and what I am trying to achieve here is to make sure it is feasible, is it causing a hindrance, are there any issues with other utilities, are there any conflicts with trees, and what is going on with the sidewalk. Then we will provide our feedback to Eversource.

Mr. Smith – So you would give feedback to Eversource and then it would go back to the Select Board for them to make the final approval?

Mr. Furtado – Yes, the Select Board would have the final say.

Ms. Smith – That makes sense and it would be helpful for the Select Board to have our feedback.

VI. Table Matters

A. n/a

VII. Public Comments / Open Forum

Mr. Messier – There is a cone in front of my property from the sidewalk project.

Mr. Crabb – I will look into it.

VIII. Old Business / New Business

A. Superintendent

Superintendent Report for June 30, 2025

- POTW upgrade Change Order Meeting
- POTW Upgrade Meetings
- Water Filter Upgrade progress meeting ~ all equipment is installed
- Continue Labor Counsel matter ~ numerous meetings during this period
- Attend Arbitration
- Sewer Force Main (under bike path) progress meeting
- CWMP Review - DEP has indicated approval
- Meet with Unibank re borrowing for sewer/water projects

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- SNR Meeting with engineers

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

B. Board Members

Mr. Wotton – Fellway Street & Rt 6 there is a pothole.

Mr. Crabb – I will look into it.

Mr. Wotton – Can we follow up with Eversource about the telephone poles blocking the sidewalk on Rt 6?

Mr. Crabb – This was brought up today. We will reach out to the state and find out what is going on and get it rectified.

Mr. Hobson – The farmer cut the hay at Shipyard Farm if we could weed whack near the wall.

C. Marine Resources Committee – BPW Related Matters

D. Community Preservation Committee – BPW Related Matters

E. Town Administrator Search Committee

IX. Set Date for the Next Meeting

Mr. Hobson motioned to set the date for the next meeting on July 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

X. Adjourn

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m. and enter into executive session to discuss Highway & Sewer Department Personnel and not to reconvene in open session. Rollcall Vote: Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson, Ms. Smith and Ms. Rotondo in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca L Vento

Rebecca Vento
Business Manager

Minutes approved on July 14, 2025