

**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
March 17, 2025**

**Present**

Brian Wotton, Commissioner  
Robert Hobson, Commissioner  
Anne Morton Smith, Commissioner  
Daniel Lopes, Commissioner  
Hillary Rotondo, Commissioner  
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent  
Rebecca Vento, Office Manager  
Joshua Crabb, Highway Superintendent

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK  
ROUD 2025 APR 2 AM 11:59

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Wotton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Wotton reconvened in open session at 6:25 p.m.

**II. Routine Matters**

**A. Signing of Departmental Bills**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**A. March 3, 2025**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of March 3, 2025. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

**B. January 27, 2025 – Executive Session A**

Mr. Lopes motioned to approve the minutes of January 27, 2025 – Executive Session A. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

**C. March 3, 2025 – Executive Session A**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of March 3, 2025 – Executive Session A. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

**D. March 3, 2025 – Executive Session B**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of March 3, 2025 – Executive Session B. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

**IV. Executive Session**

**A. Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares (Sewer Department Personnel)**

**V. Appointments**

**A. Soul Flower Yoga & Wellness, Full Bloom Festival at Cushman Park on June 29, 2025**

Mr. Wotton – We are going to skip over this until the next meeting.

**VI. Item for Action**

**A. 2025 Eversource Work**

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Mr. Crabb presented the 2025 Eversource Work to the Board (Attachment A)

**B. Misc. Sidewalk Projects**

Mr. Crabb presented Misc. Sidewalk Projects to the Board and answered any questions that the Board had.

**C. Board of Public Works ADU (Accessory Dwelling Units) Policy**

Mr. Furtado - We had a meeting on Friday to discuss the ADU Policy. We are looking for the Board to adopt a policy on how we are going to handle these utility requests. We are of the mindset that there should be separate water and sewer lines going to these units if they are not attached to the original dwelling. The Building Department has started receiving permits for these units and we just want to make sure we know how to proceed on our end.

Mr. J Furtado – If there are multiple dwellings on a lot we are requesting that each unit has separate utilities. I am bringing this up because if they have separate utilities than they would have to pay development fees.

Mr. Wotton – Yes, if the dwelling is detached from the original dwelling then they should have to pay the fees. Mr. Furtado will you draft a policy and present it to the Board at a future meeting?

Mr. J Furtado – Yes, we will hope to have a draft ready for the next meeting.

**D. Sign Contract Agreement TEC Sconticut Neck Road Corridor Improvement Project \$140,000.00**

Mr. Crabb – This is a project that we are exploring with MassDOT to utilize the transportation improvement program. This is a grant program where the State will come in and construct a project and the municipality would pay for the engineering, which is usually around 10% of the overall construction. This project would run Sconticut Neck Road from Route 6 to Goulart Memorial Drive.

Ms. Smith motioned to Sign the Contract Agreement with TEC for the Sconticut Neck Road Corridor Improvement Project in the amount of \$140,000.00 pending the Town Accountant's approval. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Rollcall Vote: Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Lopes, Ms. Rotondo and Ms. Smith in favor.

**E. Water & Sewer Rates**

Mr. Furtado – I know that the Board doesn't want to raise the rates but we are going to have to start paying on the loan for the upgrades and we need to make sure that we have enough money. If you look at the rate study it recommends that we go up 10%. Currently we are at \$9.25 per hundred cubic foot and I recommend that we raise the sewer rate to \$10.00 per hundred cubic feet effective immediately. As far as the water we do not have to go up at this time.

Mr. Hobson motioned to increase the sewer rate to \$10.00 per hundred cubic foot effective immediately. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Rollcall Vote: Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Lopes, Ms. Rotondo and Ms. Smith in favor.

Ms. Smith left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**F. 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Buzzards Bay Watershed Ride on Sunday, October 5, 2025**

Mr. Lopes motioned to approve the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Buzzards Bay Watershed Ride on Sunday, October 5, 2025. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**G. The Nemasket Group, 12<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Walk/Run, Saturday, May 3, 2025**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve The Nemasket Group, 12<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, May 3, 2025. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**H. Certify the List of Assessments to the Assessor for Sunset Sewer Road Betterment**

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Mr. Furtado – We have been working on this with Town Counsel and our engineer GCG Associates calculated what the betterment fee was going to be for the low pressure sewer system that was put in on Sunset Beach Road, Leeward Way and Winward Way. The betterment that will be assessed to each property will be in the amount of \$12,793.00 and tonight we need the Board to vote to Certify the List of Assessments to the Assessors.

Mr. Lopes motioned to Certify the List of Assessments to the Assessors presented in Exhibit A for the Sunset Beach Road Betterment(Attachment B). Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**I. Methuen Construction Co., WPCF Upgrades, Payment #15 \$1,869,053.02**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Methuen Construction Co., Payment #15 in the amount of \$1,869,053.02 for WPCF Upgrades. Ms. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**J. DEP Pay Req #15 (Loan CWP-22-67) \$1,869,053.00**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve DEP Pay Req #15 (Loan CWMP-22-67) in the amount of \$1,869,053.00. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

**K. Tighe & Bond, WPCF Upgrades Construction Services, Payment # 21 \$130,942.00**

Mr. Lopes motioned to approve Tighe & Bond Payment #21 in the amount of \$130,942.00 for WPCF Upgrades Construction Services. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**L. DEP Pay Req #15A (Loan CWP-22-67A) \$130,942.00**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve DEP Pay Req #15A (Loan CWMP-22-67A) in the amount of \$130,942.00. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

**M. Tata & Howard, Meter Pit Evaluation, Payment #55 \$1,246.16**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Tata & Howard Payment #55 in the amount of \$1,246.16 for Meter Pit Evaluation. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

**N. Blue Diamond Equipment Company, Sconticut Neck Road Water Main Replacement Project**

**1. Payment #1 \$558,793.04**

Mr. Lopes motioned to approve Blue Diamond Equipment Co., Payment #1 in the amount of \$558,793.04 for the Sconticut Neck Road Water Replacement Project. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**2. Sign Certificate of Substantial Completion**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to Sign the Certification Completion for Blue Diamond Equipment Co., for the Sconticut Neck Road Water Replacement Project. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**O. Dagle Electrical Payment #2 Complete Streets Improvement Project \$8,645.00**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Dagle Electrical Payment #2 in the amount of \$8,645.00 for Complete Streets Improvement Project. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

**P. Spring Street Water Main Replacement Project, Dig It Construction, LLC.**

**1. Sign Contract Agreement \$1,262,126.87**

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Mr. Lopes motioned to Sign the Contract Agreement with Dig It Construction LLC. in the amount of \$1,262,126.87 for Spring Street Water Main Replacement Project. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**2. Sign Notice to Proceed**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to Sign the Notice Proceed with Dig It Construction LLC. for Spring Street Water Main Replacement Project. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**VI. Table Matters**

**A. n/a**

**VII. Public Comments / Open Forum**

**VIII. Old Business / New Business**

**A. Superintendent**

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

**B. Board Members**

Ms. Rotondo – We do we stand with the filters at the Water Treatment Plant

Mr. Furtado – It is going as scheduled, if all goes as planned the filters will be installed by April 30<sup>th</sup>. Once they are complete we will have to flush and scour the pipes.

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

**D. Community Preservation Committee – BPW Relate Matters**

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

Ms. Rotondo motioned to set the date for the next meeting on March 31, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

**X. Adjourn**

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. and to enter into executive session to discuss Sewer Department Personnel and to reconvene in open session. Rollcall Vote: Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson, Ms. Smith, Mr. Lopes and Ms. Rotondo in favor. Vote unanimous.

Mr. Hobson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Mr. Lopes seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca L. Vento

Rebecca Vento  
Business Manager

Minutes approved on March 31 ,2025