



FAIRHAVEN SELECT BOARD AGENDA ADDENDUM OPEN SESSION

October 27, 2025 6:30 p.m.

Town Hall – 40 Center Street – Fairhaven

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

On March 28th, 2025, the bill to extend Open Meeting Law regulations governing remote participation has passed MA legislation and been signed by the Governor. This bill will allow remote and hybrid meeting options for public bodies through June 30, 2027.

Pursuant to an amendment to Town By-Law Chapter 50-13, all government meetings are available through web/video conference and are recorded.

This meeting is being recorded by the Government Access Channel. It will be replayed on Channel 18 and posted on FairhavenTV.com. Anyone intending to make an audio or video recording of this meeting should notify the Chair at this time.

Due to recent security breaches, Fairhaven TV has implemented a new protocol: Zoom camera video for all participants is disabled. If participants would like to speak or be recognized, click “raise hand” under “reactions”, and change your name to a full name to be unmuted. Thank you for your cooperation in protecting the integrity of Fairhaven government meetings.

- For anyone interested in volunteering, there are several vacancies on various boards committees and commissions. To see a complete list of the openings, please visit our website at www.fairhaven-ma.gov
- Due to a recent resignation from the Planning Board, the Planning Board and Select Board are seeking candidates interested in filling the open seat until the next town election in the June of 2026.

Interested candidates must submit a volunteer application no later than October 31st at NOON. Volunteer applications can be electronically submitted online at <https://fairhaven-ma.gov/volunteer-opportunities/> Any questions, please call the Select Board office.

All candidates will be interviewed at a joint Planning Board / Select Board Meeting on Monday, November 10th at 6:30pm.

A. SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT INTERVIEWS (Joint with Fairhaven School Committee)

1. Interview Candidates for One School Committee Vacancy and Consider appointment.

Candidates: Donna McKenna, Krystal Lunn

Due to the resignation of Colin Veitch, interested candidates were asked to apply by October 17th. The Select Board and School Committee selected a spokesperson to conduct the interview of candidates.

Suggested Motion:

“Move to appoint ____ to the Fairhaven School Committee for a term through Town Elections in June, 2026.”

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Suggested Motion:

“Move to enter Executive Session pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation where the chair declares that an open session would have a detrimental effect on the Town's litigating position (NEPD v. Town of Fairhaven) and s. 21(a)(6) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease,

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Subject matter listed in the agenda consists of items reasonably anticipated (by the Chair) to be discussed. Not all items listed may be discussed and other items not listed (i.e. urgent business not available at the time of posting) may also be brought up for discussion in accordance with applicable law.

or value of real property where the chair declares that an open session may have a detrimental effect on the Town's negotiating position (Rogers School property) and return to Open Session.” ROLL CALL VOTE.

C. PUBLIC HEARING: 7:30PM

The Fairhaven Select Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday October 27, 2025 at the Town Hall, Banquet Room, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA to consider approval for 3 concurrent transactions:

1. An application submitted for the transfer of an All-Alcohol License from Gamache Restaurant dba Courtyard Restaurant previous owner Matthew Gamache to Sail House Tavern, LLC new owner Howard S and Linda L Plaud located at 109 Middle St, Fairhaven;
2. Thereafter a change in location from 270 Huttleston Ave. to 109 Middle St Fairhaven, MA;
3. and lastly a pledge of license in the amount of \$100,000 to Matthew Gamache.

“The Public Hearing is opened at ____pm”

The public hearing is to consider approval for 3 concurrent transactions:

1. An application submitted for the transfer of an All-Alcohol License from Gamache Restaurant dba Courtyard Restaurant previous owner Matthew Gamache to Sail House Tavern, LLC new owner Howard S and Linda L Plaud located at 109 Middle St, Fairhaven;
2. Thereafter a change in location from 270 Huttleston Ave. to 109 Middle St Fairhaven, MA;
3. and lastly a pledge of license in the amount of \$100,000 to Matthew Gamache.

Public comment on the hearing, please state your name and address for the record.

“The Public Hearing is closed at ____pm”

Suggested Motion:

“Move to (approve/not approve) three concurrent transactions as follows, (approve/not approve) the transfer of an All Alcohol License from Gamache Restaurant dba Courtyard Restaurant previous owner Matthew Gamache to Sail House Tavern, LLC new owner Howard S and Linda L Plaud located at 109 Middle St, Fairhaven, AND, (approve/not approve) a change in location from 270 Huttleston Ave. to 109 Middle St Fairhaven, MA, AND, (approve/not approve)a pledge of license in the amount of \$100,000 to Matthew Gamache.”

D. APPOINTMENTS AND COMMUNITY ITEMS

1. Discussion on Traffic Impact due to the Route 18/Interstate 195 Interchange Project - Livable Streets

Committee member Tim Garcia submitted a request through Select Board member Saunders for discussion on potential traffic increases on several streets in Town due to the Interstate 195/Route 18 project and the future Fairhaven/New Bedford Bridge work estimated to start in 2028.

Lt. Kevin Swain will attend the Board meeting to discuss any future plans to mitigate possible increased traffic in the area due to the ongoing project.

Suggested Motion:

“No motion necessary”

2. Request to Establish a Veteran Membership Category at the Fairhaven Recreation Center -

Recreation Center Director Bernadette Barreira is asking the Board to consider establishing a Veteran Membership Category to allow the veteran rates to be same as the fees charged to the senior membership.

Suggested Motion:

“Move to establish a Veteran Membership Category at the Recreation Center and have the rates be consistent with those charged to the senior membership as outlined in the request.”

3. Consider Appointment of David Darmofal to the Marine Resources Committee - David Darmofal is requesting to be appointed to the open seat on the Marine Resources Committee. The Harbormaster supports the appointment.

Suggested Motion:

“Move to (appoint/not appoint) David Darmofal to the Marine Resources Committee for a term through May, 2026.”

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

F. ACTION / DISCUSSION

1. Discussion on Atlas Tack Working Group meetings

Chair of the Atlas Tack Working Group (ATWG) Rick Trapilo will address the Board regarding public attendance at the ATWG meetings; the members were recently polled after the October 14th Select Board meeting and agreed to continue their work and have their meetings open to the public.

Suggested Motion:

“No motion necessary”

2. Request by Resident to Change the Atlas Tack Working Group to a Committee

President of the Hands Across the River Coalition, Inc. Karen Vilandry submitted correspondence to the Board asking for the ATWG to be made an official committee to allow public attendance at their meetings. Based on the previous topic on the agenda, future meetings will be open to the public. Maintaining the working group status will allow the group have more flexibility in determining their meeting dates. The Select Board should decide whether to waive the requirement to televise the meetings live. Waiving that requirement will eliminate the need for the cable staff to attend their meetings.

Suggested Motion:

“Move the Select Board to (waive/not waive) the requirement to broadcast the working group meetings live on local access tv.”

3. Ratify Collective Bargaining Agreements: Highway, Clerical - Council 93 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees AFL-CIO (AFSCME) has submitted a signed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Clerical Unit and Highway Unit effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028. If the Board ratifies one or both of the agreements, the proposed contract will be voted on by the bodies of each union.

Suggested Motion:

“Move to (ratify/not ratify) the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Fairhaven and Council 93 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees AFL-CIO (AFSCME), Clerical.”

and

“Move to (ratify/not ratify) the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Fairhaven and Council 93 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees AFL-CIO (AFSCME), Highway.”

4. Open Meeting Law Complaint received October 15, 2025: Patrick Higgins

A request under the Open Meeting Law for Executive Session minutes was received from Patrick Higgins on October 4, 2025, the Board placed a review of the requested minutes on their agenda for October 14, 2025 and provided all released minutes within the requested timeframe on October 15, 2025. An Open Meeting Law complaint was received from Mr. Higgins on October 15, 2025.

Town Counsel is reviewing the allegations and drafting a response.

Suggested Motion:

“Move to delegate the Select Board’s response to the Open Meeting Law complaint filed by Patrick Higgins on October 15, 2025 to Petrini & Associates.”

G. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

H. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS / COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

I. MINUTES

1. Accept the Select Board Open Session minutes of October 14, 2025

Suggested Motion:

“Move to (accept/not accept) the open session minutes of October 14, 2025 (as presented/as amended)”

2. Accept the Select Board Executive Session minutes of October 14, 2025

Suggested Motion:

“Move to (accept/not accept) the executive session minutes of October 14, 2025 (as presented/as amended)”

J. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Atlas Tack Working Group Email: Karen Vilandry, President, Hands Across the River Coalition, Inc.
2. Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society, Inc. letter: Gerald P. Rooney, Chairman & CEO
3. Philbrick Talk Email

Suggested Motion:

“Move to (enter/not enter) the Select Board correspondence as listed into the record.”

K. NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting: *Monday, November 10, 2025* at 6:30pm

L. ADJOURN