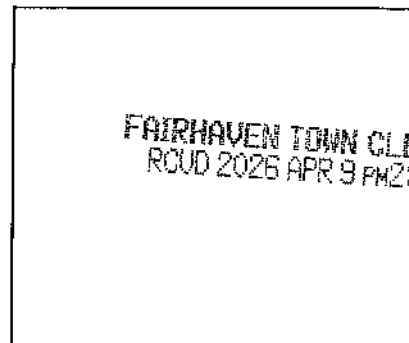


Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
March 23, 2026



**Present**

Brian Wotton, Commissioner  
Robert Hobson, Commissioner  
Hillary Rotondo, Commissioner  
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent  
Joshua Crabb, Highway Superintendent  
Jeffrey Furtado, Water Superintendent  
David Farland, Highway Department  
Bill Bachant, New Drainlayer

**Absent**

Anne Morton Smith, Commissioner  
Daniel Lopes, Commissioner

**I. Call to Order**

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

**II. Routine Matters**

**A. Signing of Departmental Bills**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**A. March 9, 2026**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of March 9, 2026. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**IV. Appointments**

**A. Interview / Hire Working Foreman Highway Maintenance Man**

Mr. Furtado – As you know, we currently have a vacancy for a Foreman in the Highway Department. Mr. Farland, who is an operator in the Highway Department, has been with the Town for nine years now. He is a great employee, and both Mr. Crabb and I would like to recommend him to the Board to be promoted to this position.

Mr. Hobson, I know that he is a great worker, and I am confident that he will do a great job as a foreman.

Mr. Hobson motioned to promote Mr. Farland to the Working Foreman Highway Maintenance Man at a Grade 9 Step 6, to be revisited at his six-month review for a possible step increase at that time. Ms. Rotondo seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

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**B. New Water and Sewer Drainlayer – Bachant Builders Corp.**

Mr. Furtado – Mr. Bachant has applied to be a drainlayer for both Water and Sewer. He has submitted all the necessary paperwork and has paid all of the associated fees. Do you currently have a job lined up?

Mr. Bachant – That is correct, we will be building two houses on Scoticut Neck Road. I have been doing water and sewer tie ins for forty years.

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Bachant Builders Corp. as a Town approved water and sewer drainlayer pending completion and inspection of the first job. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**V. Item for Action**

**A. Cellphone Tower Carrier**

Mr. J. Furtado - A cellphone carrier has approached the Town regarding the potential use of the Scoticut Neck Water Tower as a site for an antenna. In the past I had been hesitant to allow independent entities on Town equipment, particularly the water tower, but time have changed and this presents a potential revenue opportunity for the town. With Board approval, the Town would like to move forward to evaluate rental terms and feasibility. At this time, only Verizon has expressed interest, though additional carriers often follow. We all know that Scoticut Neck Road currently experiences cellular dead spots, making this a beneficial opportunity for the Town.

Mr. Hobson – I am in favor of this and have been trying to get something like this for several years now.

Mr. J. Furtado – Also, the maintenance contractors that maintains the water towers will coordinate with any cellphone carriers to ensure that all equipment is properly installed and maintained.

Mr. Hobson motioned to allow the Board of Public Works to move forward with an RFP for a cellphone tower carrier antenna on the Scoticut Neck Road Water Tower. Ms. Rotondo seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

**B. FTI Consulting, WPCF Upgrades, Payment #2 \$19,995.84**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve FTI Consulting, Payment #2 in the amount of \$19,995.84 for WPCF Upgrades. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**C. Gravity Construction, Hedge Street Phase 4 Roadway Improvement Project**

**1. Change Order #1 \$99.99**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Gravity Construction Change Order in the amount of \$99.99. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

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**2. Payment #1 \$350,312.74**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Gravity Construction Payment #1 in the amount of \$350,312.74. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**D. Tata & Howard, Fairhaven Supply Capacity Evaluation, Wolf Island Well #3  
Payment #25 \$3,264.08**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Tata & Howard, Payment #25 in the amount of \$3,264.08 for Supply Capacity Evaluation, Wolf Island Well #3. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**E. Tata & Howard, Risk and Resilience Assessment Round 2 Payment #4  
\$1,409.20**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Tata & Howard, Payment #4 in the amount of \$1,409.20 for Risk and Resilience Assessment Round 2. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**F. iStroll Southcoast, Parents Fitness Class at Cushman Park from April to  
October**

Mr. Furtado – We have received an application from iStroll Southcoast to host their Parents Fitness Class at Cushman Park from April to October. This is the second year that they are looking to do this.

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve iStroll Southcoast, Parents Fitness Class at Cushman Park from April to October from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Monday, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**G. Methuen Construction, WPCF Upgrades**

**1. Change Order #7 \$300,384.64**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Methuen Construction Change Order #7 in the amount of \$300,384.64 for WPCF Upgrades. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

**2. Payment #27 \$1,073,698.88**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Methuen Construction Payment #27 in the amount of \$1,073,698.88 for WPCF Upgrades. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**H. DEP Pay Req #27 (CWP-22-67) \$1,073,699.00**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve DEP Pay Req #27 (CWP-22-67) \$1,073,699.00. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

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**I. Tighe & Bond, WPCF Upgrades, Payment #29 \$85,333.49**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Tighe & Bond Payment # 29 in the amount of \$85,333.49 for WPCF Upgrades. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous

**J. DEP Pay Req #22A (CWP-22-67A) \$85,333.00**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve DEP Pay Req #22A (CWP-22-67) \$85,333.00. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

**K. Conrad Henri Roy, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Walk/Run, Saturday, September 12, 2026**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the Conrad Henri Roy, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, September 12, 2026. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous

**VI. Public Comments / Open Forum**

Mr. Wotton read a letter addressed to the Board from Steve Riley, who is a previous BPW Commissioner (Attachment a).

**VII. Old Business / New Business**

**A. Superintendent**

Superintendent Report for March 23, 2026

- Attend BOH Meeting re POTW Odors
- Chair capital planning committee
- Meeting with contractor and engineer re PCO's
- POTW Upgrade Meeting
- Work with labor attorney re finalizing Highway CBA
- Park assessment meeting
- Chair MRV Monthly Meeting
- Meet with residents on Earle St
- Work with labor attorney re AFSCME Agreement
- Fincom appearances
- Department Head Meeting

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

**B. Board Members**

Mr. Hobson – Could you check that drain again on Bayside Street?

Mr. Crabb – We were there last week.

Mr. Hobson – I believe there is an issue again today.  
Also, there is a plastic chair in front of the pizza place on Sconticut Neck Road.

Mr. Crabb – We will send a letter.

Mr. Hobson – When you pull in the parking lot a Hoppy’s Landing there are potholes, could you please put some more shells there?

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

Mr. Hobson – The Marine Resources Committee hasn’t met since our last meeting.

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

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

Mr. Hobson motioned to set the date of the next meeting on April 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

**X. Adjourn**

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m. and enter into executive session and not to reconvene in open session. Rollcall Vote: Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson and Ms. Rotondo in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rebecca L. Vento*

Rebecca Vento  
Business Manager

Minutes approved on April 6, 2026