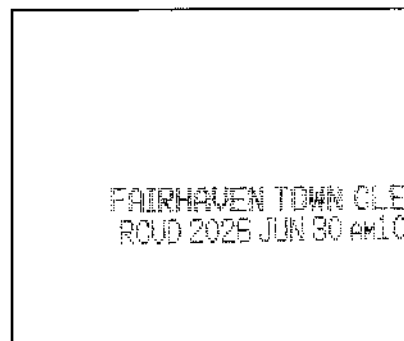


**Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works Meeting  
June 15, 2026**



**Present**

Brian Wotton, Commissioner  
Robert Hobson, Commissioner  
Anne Morton Smith, Commissioner  
Hillary Rotondo, Commissioner  
Mr. Ferro, Commissioner  
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent  
Rebecca Vento, Business Manager  
Ainslee Dillon, Bubble Bar  
Bob Hannan, Green Lanterns  
Colleen Brewer, Green Lanterns

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Wotton called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Mr. Wotton motioned reconvene in open session at 6:19 p.m.

**II. Routine Matters**

**A. Signing of Departmental Bills**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**A. June 1, 2026**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of June 1, 2026. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

**B. 14 Cherrystone Road – 11 Executive Sessions**

- June 3, 2024 Executive Session A
- July 1, 2024 Executive Session A
- November 4, 2024 Executive Session C
- March 31, 2025 Executive Session B
- April 14, 2025 Executive Session B
- August 11, 2025 Executive Session A
- December 15, 2025 Executive Session A
- January 12, 2026 Executive Session B
- March 2, 2026 Executive Session B
- March 23, 2026 Executive Session A

Ms. Smith motioned to approve the Executive Session Minutes for 14 Cherrystone Road from June 3, 2024 Executive Session A, July 1, 2024 Executive Session A, November 4, 2024 Executive Session C, March 31, 2025 Executive Session B, April 14, 2025 Executive Session B, August 11, 2025 Executive Session A, December 15, 2025 Executive Session A, January 12, 2026 Executive Session B, March 2, 2026 Executive Session B and March 23, 2026 Executive Session A. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

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**IV. Reorganization of the Board**

**A. Chairman**

Mr. Hobson motioned to nominate Mr. Wotton as the chairman. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

**B. Vice-Chairman**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to nominate Mr. Hobson as the Vice-Chairman. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

**C. Secretary**

Mr. Ferro motioned to nominate Ms. Smith as the Secretary. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**V. Executive Session**

- A. Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2) "To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel": (Water Superintendent)**

**VI Appointments**

**A. Green Lanterns – Rail Trail Sign Design**

Mr. Furtado – The Green Lanterns have submitted three sample designs for the new sign they are proposing to install on the rail trail.

The Board discussed the sign options with those present.

Ms. Smith - I believed the signs should simply say "Fairhaven, MA" rather than "Pierce Park," since the bike path extends throughout the Town.

The Board provided feedback to Ms. Brewer and indicated a preference for Option 3, with a dark blue background and the wording "Fairhaven, MA."

Ms. Brewer - Now that we have a better understanding of the Board's preference, I will prepare a final draft for the Board to review and approve at a future meeting.

**B. The Bubble Bar LLC., Sell Non-Alcoholic "Dirty Soda"**

Mr. Furtado - Ms. Dillon is here tonight to request permission to sell non-alcoholic "dirty soda" at various locations throughout the Town.

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Ms. Smith – What is “dirty soda”?

Ms. Dillon is a refreshing non-alcoholic drink that it is currently a major trend around the country. There is nothing similar available locally, so they believed it would be a good opportunity. We are looking to operate pop-up sales on Thursdays and Saturdays using a 6' x 10' horse trailer that has been converted into a mobile food trailer.

Mr. Ferro – I think that this is a great idea and I think that this is great for our residents.

Ms. Rotondo motion to allow The Bubble Bar to sell non-alcoholic dirty soda in all parks and beaches in the Town of Fairhaven. Mr. Ferro seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**C. Christin Ritz, Native Plant Garden Macomber Park**

Mr. Wotton – Ms. Ritz is requesting approval to name the native plant garden at Macomber-Pimentel Park.

Ms. Ritz – We would like to name the garden the “Sconticut Neck Native Plant Garden. “I believe that giving the garden a name would assist with fundraising efforts when seeking donations. Also, the CPC grant approved at Town Meeting included funding for educational signage explaining the purpose of the garden and providing information about the plants. I believe that the first sign in the garden should be welcoming visitors.

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the naming of the Garden at Macomber Pimentel Park the Sconticut Neck Native Plant Garden. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

**VII. Items for Action**

**A. Tata & Howard TC Corrective Action Assistance Payment #4 \$628.25**

Mr. Ferro motioned to approve Tata & Howard TC Corrective Action Assistance Payment #4 in the amount of \$628.25. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**B Tata & Howard Risk & Resilience Assessment Round 2 Payment #7 \$1,220.19**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Tata & Howard Risk & Resilience Assessment Round 2 Payment #7 in the amount \$1,220.19. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

**C. Apex Companies, WPCF Peer Review Payment #11 \$1,658.75**

Ms. Smith motioned to approve Apex Companies, WPCF Peer Review Payment #11 in the amount of \$1,658.75. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**D. Apex Companies, WPCF Peer Review Payment #12 \$1,770.00**

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Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Apex Companies, WPCF Peer Review Payment #12 in the amount of \$1,770.00. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

**E. 2026 Authorized Signatures**

Mr. Ferro motioned to approve the list of BPW Authorized Signatures. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**F. Road Opening Moratorium Revisions**

Mr. Furtado – the Town has a standard road opening moratorium. Mr. Crabb is seeking to formalize the policy while also making a few revisions.

Ms. Smith – Does this impact residents doing their driveway over?

Mr. Crabb – The resident would be responsible only if the work encroached into the roadway.

Mr. Wotton – It is uncommon for driveway work to require entering the roadway.

Mr. Crabb – I would like to adopt the moratorium as a policy for the time being, with the goal of eventually establishing it as a bylaw.

Ms. Smith motioned to approve the Road Moratorium Policy as presented. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**G. Dig It Construction, Glenhaven Avenue Water Main Replacement Project, Payment #1 \$40,865.70**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Dig It Construction, Glenhaven Avenue Water Main Replacement Project, Payment #1 in the amount \$40,865.70. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

**H. FTI Consulting, WPCF Upgrades, Payment #5 \$29,819.92**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve FTI Consulting, WPCF Upgrades, Payment #5 in the amount \$29,819.92. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

**I. FY27 Annual Bids**

Mr. Furtado – Requested that he Board approve the FY27 Annual Bids to the lowest bidders with the exception of Bid #59. Bid #59 Ductile Iron Pipe is still under review.

Ms. Smith motioned to award FY27 Annual Bids #13–75 to the lowest bidders, with the exception of Bid #59, which remains under review. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

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**J. Pao Construction, Phoenix Rail Trail Rehabilitation, Payment #2 \$270,696.81**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Pao Construction, Phoenix Rail Trail Rehabilitation, Payment #2 in the amount of \$270,696.81. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

**K. Tighe & Bond, WPCF Upgrades Payment #32 \$120,941.33**

Mr. Ferro motioned to approve Tighe & Bond, WPCF Upgrades Payment #32 in the amount of \$120,941.33. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**L. Dep Pay Req #26A (CWP 22-67A) \$120,941.00**

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Dep Pay Req #26A (CWP 22-67A) in the amount of \$120,941.00. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

**M. Methuen Construct, WPCF Upgrades, Payment # 30 \$876,192.78**

Ms. Smith motioned to approve Methuen Construct, WPCF Upgrades, Payment # 30 in the amount of \$876,192.78. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**N. Dep Pay Req #30 (CWP 22-67) \$876,193.00**

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Dep Pay Req #30 (CWP 22-67) in the amount of \$876,193.00. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

**O. Sign Contract Agreement, Tata & Howard 2026 Emergency Response Plan Update \$15,000.00**

Mr. Wotton - We are going to skip over this tonight because we are still waiting for the contract from Tata & Howard.

**P. Hire Water Superintendent**

Mr. Ferro motioned to hire Mr. Michael Sanford as the Water Superintendent at a Grade 20 Step 8 pending pre-employment screenings. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**VI. Tabled Matters**

**A. N/A**

**VIII. Old Business / New Business**

**A. Superintendent**

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**Superintendent Report for June 15, 2026**

- Water Supt. Interviews Continued
- Department Head Meeting
- Chair Monthly MRV
- Multiple meetings with Counsel re Mediation
- POTW Upgrade Progress meetings
- Labor Counsel re Highway Change in duties
- Earle St meetings
- Unibank projects borrowing meeting
- Buzzards Bay Steering Committee Meeting
- Bell Meeting with Historical Commission
- POTW Schedule Meeting

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

**B. Board Members**

Mr. Hobson – There is a sinkhole on Middle Street near Bridge Street that needs repair. There are rusted guardrails on the Causeway that require maintenance. The overgrowth along the stone wall on Sconticut Neck Road near Winsegansett needs to be cut back. The street sign on Saltmarsh Road still needs to be replaced.

Ms. Smith – I would like to request that the Board consider seeking pricing for trash collection services now so that we have a better understanding of the potential costs associated with those services.

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

Mr. Hobson – We have not met since our last meeting.

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

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

Ms. Smith motioned to set the date of the next meeting on June 29, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

**X. Adjourn**

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Mr. Hobson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. and enter into executive session to conduct Water Superintendent Interviews and reconvene in open session. Ms. Smith seconded. Rollcall Vote: Mr. Wotton, Mr. Hobson, Ms. Smith, Ms. Rotondo and Mr. Ferro in favor.

Mr. Wotton motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rebecca L. Vento*

Rebecca Vento  
Business Manager

Minutes approved on 6/29/26