

**Town of Fairhaven
Board of Public Works Meeting
July 20, 2026**

Present

Brian Wotton, Commissioner
Robert Hobson, Commissioner
Anne Morton Smith, Commissioner
Hillary Rotondo, Commissioner
Vincent Furtado, BPW Superintendent
Rebecca Vento, Business Manager
Eleanor Chew, 180 Main Street

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2026 AUG 4 AM 11:00

Absent

Marcus Ferro, Commissioner

I. Call to Order

Mr. Wotton called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Routine Matters

A. Signing of Departmental Bills

III. Approval of Minutes

A. June 29, 2026

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of June 29, 2026. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. June 29, 2026 – Executive Session A

Ms. Smith motioned to approve the minutes of June 29, 2026 – Executive Session A. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. July 13, 2026

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve the minutes of July 13, 2026. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

D. July 13, 2026 – Executive Session A

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve the minutes of July 13, 2026 – Executive Session A. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

IV. Appointments

A. n/a

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V. Items for Action

A. FTI Consulting Services, WPCF Upgrades, Payment #6 \$28,938.00

Ms. Smith motioned to approve FTI Consulting Services, WPCF Upgrades, Payment #6 in the amount of \$28,938.00. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Methuen Construction, WPCF Upgrades, Payment #31 \$873,438.20

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Methuen Construction, WPCF Upgrades, Payment #31 in the amount of \$873,438.20. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

C. Dep Pay Req #31 (CWP 22-67) \$873,438.00

Mr. Hobson motioned to approve Dep Pay Req #31 (CWP 22-67) in the amount of \$873,438.00. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

D. Tighe & Bond, WPCF Upgrades Payment #33 \$127,314.18

Ms. Smith motioned to approve Tighe & Bond, WPCF Upgrades, Payment #33 in the amount of \$127,314.18. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

E. Dep Pay Req #27A (CWP 22-67A) \$127,314.00

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Dep Pay Req #27A (CWP 22-67A) in the amount of \$127,314.00. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

**F. Sign Contract Agreement, Beta Group, GIS Services Hydrant Flushing
\$23,900.00**

Mr. Furtado – We are looking to enter into agreement with Beta Group to digitize the flushing program s plans so we can access them digitally.

Mr. Hobson motioned to Sign the Contract Agreement with Beta Group in the amount of \$23,900.00 for GIS Services – Hydrant Flushing. seconded. Vote unanimous.

G. BPW Superintendent Vacation Carryover

Mr. Furtado – I am requesting to carryover eighty hours (10 days) of vacation.

Ms. Smith motioned to approve the BPW Superintendent to carryover eighty vacation hours. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

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H. Sign Contract Agreement, CYVL, Pavement Management Plan \$12,825.00

Mr. Furtado – We are not proceeding with at this time so we are going to skip over this.

I. Gravity Construction, Hedge Street Phase IV Roadway Improvement Project

A. Payment #3 \$71,871.60

Ms. Rotondo motioned to approve Gravity Construction Hedge Street Phase IV Roadway Improvement Project Payment #3 in the amount of \$71,871.60. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

B. Sign Certificate of Substantial Completion

Ms. Rotondo motioned to Sign Gravity Construction Hedge Street Phase IV Roadway Improvement Project Certificate of Substantial Completion. Mr. Hobson seconded. Vote unanimous.

J. Award Cleaning & Redevelopment of Tinkham Lane Bid

Mr. Smith motioned to Award the Cleaning & Redevelopment of Tinkham Lane Well Bid to Maher Services in the amount of \$23,465.00. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

K. Acushnet/Non-Resident West Island Beach Permits

Mr. Furtado – When the Board initially discussed the fees for the 2026 beach season, it voted to allow 150 beach passes to be sold to Acushnet residents at the Town's resident rate. All 150 passes have been sold. In addition, the Board capped the number of non-resident beach passes at 150; however, Acushnet residents were not permitted to purchase non-resident passes. We received an email from an Acushnet resident, which is included in the meeting packet, requesting that Acushnet residents be allowed to purchase additional permits.

Mr. Hobson – I think that they should be able to purchase them at the non-resident price.

Mr. Wotton – I agree, I think that we should sell what we have left of the non-resident permits until they are sold out.

Ms. Smith – Did we sell out of non-resident permits last year?

Ms. Vento – Yes, we did. Last year the Board allocated 100 non-resident permits.

Mr. Hobson motioned to allow Acushnet residents to purchase the remaining 59 non-resident beach permits on a first-come, first-served basis at the regular non-resident rate. Ms. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous.

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VI. Tabled Matters

A. n/a

VII. Public Comments / Open Forum

Ms. Chew - I am a member of the Historical Commission, which is why I am here tonight. I wanted to address the concerns, questions, and comments that were made at last week's meeting. I felt that some of the information presented was not accurate, and I wanted to provide some background for the record. The Town Administrator referred an individual who was interested in having the bell displayed in parades to the Historical Commission and just to clarify the bell in question is the Rogers School bell, not the Oxford School bell. The Rogers School bell has been stored at the Board of Public Works facility for more than 10 years. A few months ago, an individual approached the Historical Commission expressing interest in using the bell in parades and community events. The Commission first went to the Select Board, as the Select Board has ownership of the bell. The Historical Commission then formed a subcommittee, which met with the individual to answer questions and determine whether it would be possible to mount the bell on a trailer. The subcommittee also met with Mr. Crabb and Mr. Furtado to discuss the logistics of the project, including the need for private funding, as no Town funds were available, and the possibility of placing a 20-foot storage container at the Board of Public Works facility to store the bell and trailer. It was later determined by Town Counsel that only Town employees would be permitted to transport the bell in parades or to other events. At its July meeting, the Historical Commission voted not to pursue the project any further.

Mr. Wotton – It sounds like you just want to make sure that the bell stays here and remains safe.

Ms. Chew – Yes.

Mr. Wotton – The bell will remain stored at the Board of Public Works until the Historical Commission requests otherwise.

VIII. Old Business / New Business

A. Superintendent

Superintendent Report for July 20, 2026

- Mediation debrief and project scheduling review meeting
- Meeting with WIIA re speed bumps
- Department Head Meeting
- Meeting with TA re West Island Sewer
- Bid opening for Tinkham Lane Well

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- Chair monthly MRV
- Appear before BOH re odors - everything suggested by the engineer has been completed
- Bi-Weekly Treatment Plant Progress Meeting
- Meeting with Synagro Rep re contract extension
- Park Assessment Update
- Bikepath accidents
- Training on camera system

Mr. Furtado - There will be a speed study done on West Island and it will be done at no cost to the Town.

Mr. Wotton - If the speed study determines that speed bumps would be beneficial, I want to make sure that the property owners whose properties would be directly affected are properly notified. I also want to ensure that no Board of Public Works funds are spent on this project.

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

B. Board Members

Mr. Hobson - Did we get an answer about the no parking signs on David Drown Blvd.

Ms. Smith - I met with Cathy Melanson, Chair of the Economic & Development Committee, to begin the process of planning a ribbon cutting ceremony for the rail trail. What is the status of obtaining bids for the trash contract?

Mr. Furtado - We will be addressing that soon.

C. Marine Resources Committee - BPW Related Matters

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 August 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Rotondo seconded. Vote unanimous.

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X. Adjourn

Mr. Hobson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Mr. Wotton seconded. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca L Vento

Rebecca Vento
Business Manager

Minutes approved on August 3, 2026