



FAIRHAVEN SELECT BOARD
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2026

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2026 FEB 9 AM 9:21

Present: Andrew Romano, Natalie A. Mello, Keith Silvia and Keith R. Hickey

Present via zoom: Charles Murphy Sr.

Not Present: Andrew B. Saunders

Mr. Romano opened the Select Board meeting at 6:30pm

APPOINTMENTS AND COMMUNITY ITEMS

Consider Appointment: Principal Assessor: Bruce Cabral

Mr. Hickey introduced Bruce Cabral to the Board. Mr. Cabral thanked the Board and the interview panel.

The Board welcomed Mr. Cabral and thanked former Assessor Joanne Correia who has been working intermittently after Town Hall hours since her resignation to limit the backlog of work.

Motion: Ms. Mello motioned to appoint Bruce Cabral as Principal Assessor. Mr. Murphy seconded. Roll Call Vote. Mr. Murphy, Ms. Mello and Mr. Romano in favor. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

Use of Town Hall: Fairhaven's 214th Birthday Celebration: Sun., Feb. 22, 2026

Community Development Coordinator Alyssa Botelho applied to use Town Hall on Sunday, February 22nd for the Town's 214th Birthday Celebration. The event is planned for outside, weather permitting; the organizers will move inside if there is inclement weather. Ms. Botelho submitted a revised memo (*Attachment A*). The memo also asks the Board to approve changing the lights in the clock tower to blue and white for the event.

Motion: Ms. Mello motioned to approve the Discover Fairhaven request to use the Town Hall on Sunday, February 22, 2026 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm as outlined in the memo from Alyssa Botelho (*Attachment A*). Mr. Murphy seconded. Roll Call Vote. Mr. Murphy, Ms. Mello and Mr. Romano in favor. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

Special One-Day All Alcohol License: Discover Fairhaven: Fairhaven's 214th Birthday Celebration: Sunday, February 22, 2026 from 1:00pm to 4:30pm

The time for the Special One-Day All Alcohol license was updated to 1:00pm to 4:30pm.

Motion: Ms. Mello motioned to approve the Special One-Day All Alcohol License on Sunday, February 22, 2026 from 1:00-4:30pm. Mr. Murphy seconded. Roll Call Vote. Mr. Murphy, Ms. Mello and Mr. Romano in favor. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

Special One-Day All Alcohol License: Saint Joseph's PTO Charcuterie Making Event: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

The Saint Joseph School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) applied for a Special One-Day All Alcohol License on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm for a PTO Charcuterie Making Event. The Board clarified that the applicant for a Special One-Day Liquor License is the organization because a vendor with a liquor license has it for on-premise use only.

Motion: Ms. Mello motioned to approve the Special One-Day All Alcohol License on Sunday, February 22, 2026 from 1:00-4:30pm. Mr. Murphy seconded. Roll Call Vote. Mr. Murphy, Ms. Mello and Mr. Romano in favor. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

Use of Town Hall: Fairhaven Dollars for Scholars: Scholarship Awards Ceremony: Wednesday, May 20, 2026 from 6:30-8:30pm

Fairhaven Dollars for Scholars applied to use Town Hall for their scholarship awards ceremony.

Motion: Ms. Mello motioned to approve the request to use the Town Hall on Wednesday, May 20, 2026 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm for a Scholarship Awards Ceremony. As a Town Affiliated group, only custodial fees apply. Mr. Murphy seconded. Roll Call Vote. Mr. Murphy, Ms. Mello and Mr. Romano in favor. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

Mr. Silvia joined the meeting at 6:13pm

MINUTES

Motion: Ms. Mello motioned to accept the Open Session minutes of January 12, 2026. Mr. Silvia seconded. Roll Call Vote. Mr. Murphy, Ms. Mello, Mr. Romano and Mr. Silvia in favor. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

Motion: Ms. Mello motioned to accept the Executive Session minutes of January 12, 2026. Mr. Silvia seconded. Roll Call Vote. Mr. Murphy, Ms. Mello, Mr. Romano and Mr. Silvia in favor. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

Motion: Ms. Mello motioned to release the Executive Session minutes of January 12, 2026 as accepted. Mr. Silvia seconded. Roll Call Vote. Mr. Murphy, Ms. Mello, Mr. Romano and Mr. Silvia in favor. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next regular Select Board meeting will be on Monday, January 26, 2026 at 6:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Discover Fairhaven memo regarding time of the 214th Fairhaven Birthday event on February 22, 2026

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Select Board Clerk (ah)

Accepted on February 2, 2026



A

TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN
Office of Tourism, Community & Economic Development
Discover Fairhaven
40 Center Street • Fairhaven, MA 02719

Dear Members of the Fairhaven Select Board,

I am writing to provide context in support of the upcoming requests related to Fairhaven's 214th Birthday Celebration, planned for Sunday, February 22, from 1:00–5:00 PM, in the Town Center.

This event is being organized by the Office of Tourism, Community & Economic Development with a specific focus on the *community* aspect of our work—creating opportunities for residents to gather, reflect, and reconnect with Fairhaven's shared identity and history.

The celebration, held on the date of Fairhaven's incorporation as a Town in 1812, is intentionally designed as a relaxed, family-friendly winter event, centered on Center Street and potentially inside Town Hall. Plans include a small number of Fairhaven-focused vendors, minimal food trucks, community groups with tables, fire pits with s'mores, music, and a tented gathering area. In the event of inclement weather, the event will move fully indoors at Town Hall.

We are also exploring the possibility of appearances by notable Fairhaven historical figures to add a fun, educational element.

To further commemorate this anniversary, it would be wonderful if the Select Board would approve changing the clock tower lights to blue and white for February 22nd. If approved, I will coordinate with Building Manager Kevin Fournier.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support. I am happy to provide any additional information as needed.

Respectfully,

Alyssa Botelho
Director of Tourism, Community & Economic Development
Town of Fairhaven

