



FAIRHAVEN SELECT BOARD

Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2026

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
ROUD 2026 MAY 12 AM 8:22

Present: Charles Murphy Sr., Andrew Romano, Natalie A. Mello, Keith Silvia, Andrew Saunders and Keith R. Hickey

Mr. Murphy opened the Select Board meeting at 8:10am

ACTION / DISCUSSION

Review Select Board Article Recommendations

Preparation for Town Meeting

Mr. Hickey addressed the Board about his discussion with the Town Moderator and potential alternate motions that Town Meeting Members may propose on the floor for Article 19: FY27 Community Preservation Appropriations. Questions were raised as to whether Community Preservation Act funds could be used for the Tripp School Roof and at this time, they cannot. Other discussion included responsibility of the owner to maintain the property. The current lease was extended for a year through the School Committee. An assessment of the Tripp School roof showed several spots of wet insulation and at least ninety spots of water penetration.

The Historical Commission Chair and former Tourism Director have been contacted about the historical significance of the Tripp School.

Discussion ensued regarding how alternate motions would be handled.

Annual Town Election Ballot Question for June 9, 2026 regarding the Charter

The Governor needs to sign the Bill. The Board posted an emergency meeting for Monday, May 4, 2026

Annual Town Election Ballot Question for June 9, 2026 regarding Proposition 2 ½ Override

The Board will recess until after Town Meeting adjourns and discuss based on Article 9's vote

The Board recesses from 8:27am to 4:00pm

Mr. Romano called the meeting to order at 4:00pm

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

Not Present: Charles Murphy Sr.

Annual Town Election Ballot Question for June 9, 2026 regarding Proposition 2 ½ Override

Town Meeting voted in the affirmative for Article 9 with a total Override of \$649,178 with \$15,561 to Fire Overtime; \$76,532 to Tourism Wages, \$25,709 to Tourism Expenses; \$50,000 to Highway Wages and \$481,376 to Education.

Motion: Mr. Saunders motioned to approve the language of the ballot question, shall the Town of Fairhaven be allowed to assess an additional \$649,178 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of Public Safety Salaries and Wages; Fire Overtime; Community Services Salaries and Wages; Tourism Department Wages; Community Services Operating Expenses; Tourism Department Operating Expenses; Public Works Highway wages and Education; Fairhaven Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning on July 1st, 2026? Yes or No. Ms. Mello seconded. The motion passed (4-0-1) Mr. Murphy not present.

The Select Board adjourned at 4:04pm

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

Accepted on May 11, 2026