

NOVEMBER 13, 2014
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The November 13, 2014, Town Council Meeting was called to order by John J. Lewis, Jr., President of the Foster Town Council, at the Foster Town House, Foster, Rhode Island, at 7:03 p.m.

The following members were present:
John L. Lewis, Jr., President
Pamela Fontaine, Vice President,
excused
Neal C. Whitelaw,
Denise DiFranco, and
Roger L. Hawes.

Also present were:
Renee M. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor
William Ziehl, Police Chief
Kelli Russ, Town Treasurer
Patti Moreau, Tax Assessor

- I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

- II. ANNOUNCEMENTS** John J. Lewis, Jr. stated that the notice of the meeting was properly posted on the Secretary of State's web site.

- III. MINUTES** Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve the minutes from the October 23, 2014 Town Council meeting as presented.

John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.

- IV. WARRANTS** Neal Whitelaw moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve Payroll Warrant #16 in the amount of \$27,425.61.

John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.

Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve Payroll Warrant #17 in the amount of \$28,669.29.

John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.

Neal Whitelaw moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve Payroll Warrant #18 in the amount of \$26,544.48.

John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.

Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve General Warrant #9 in the amount of \$264,217.11.

John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.

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- V. MONTHLY REPORTS (Sept.)** Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve the September monthly reports for the Finance Department and the Tax Assessor's office as presented.
- Ms. DiFranco noted that the September Planning Department report was missing, but understandably so.
- John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.
- VI. QUARTERLY REPORTS** Neal Whitelaw moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve the Quarterly reports due the end of September for the Board of Canvassers, Conservation Commission, and Recreation Committee.
- Denise DiFranco inquired about a previous Council discussion to recruit members for the Conservation and Recreation Committees, and any action taken and subsequent reaction. The Town Clerk responded that flyers had been placed around town and an advertisement had been placed in the Foster Home Journal. To date only one volunteer had come forward to serve on the Conservation Commission.
- John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.
- VII. NEW BUSINESS**
- a.) Additions and Abatements** Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to accept the proration abatements to the 2014 tax roll in the amount of \$1,520.53, as presented by the Tax Assessor.
- John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.
- b.) Thanksgiving Proclamation** John Lewis stated that the Thanksgiving Proclamation requested by the Foster Clergy Association to be read at the upcoming Ecumenical service had been prepared (Exhibit A). Denise DiFranco read the Proclamation.
- Roger Hawes moved, Neal Whitelaw seconded, to accept the Proclamation.
- John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.
- c.) F-1 Liquor License, Thornton Beagle Club** John Lewis reported that the Thornton Beagle Club had applied for an F-1 Liquor/event license for December 14, 2014.
- Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to issue the F-1 license for that event being held on December 14, 2014.
- John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.
- d.) Appointment of Winter Snow** Mr. Lewis read a letter from DPW Director Joe Cardillo (Exhibit B) recommending the following list of snow plow drivers: Don Deleare, Jack Lucier, Jr., Daniel Hey and John Mathieu, for the 2014/15 season; contingent on passing a toxicology screen and background check.

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Plow Drivers Roger Hawes moved, Denise DiFranco seconded, to appoint all those drivers listed.

Neal Whitelaw asked if this has been advertised. The Town Clerk responded it had not.

John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

a.) Bid

**Award,
Heating
Oil**

Mr. Lewis read a letter from DPW Director Joe Cardillo (Exhibit C) recommending the Council award the bid for Heating Oil to Superior Plus Energy at \$2.84 a gallon.

Roger Hawes moved, Denise DiFranco seconded, to accept the recommendation and award the bid to Superior Plus Energy.

John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.

b.) Bid

**Award,
Winter
Sand**

Mr. Lewis read a letter from DPW Director Joe Cardillo (Exhibit D) recommending the Council award the bid for Winter Sand to P.J. Keating at \$14.70 a ton delivered, and \$9.00 a ton picked up. Alternatively, Mr. Cardillo recommended Rawson at \$12.99 a ton delivered and \$8.99 a ton picked up.

Discussion: Mr. Lewis also stated that the DPW Director knew these weren't the lowest or highest bidders, but tests had been completed with the sand samples, and the samples from these two companies outperformed the others.

Roger Hawes moved, Denise DiFranco seconded, to award the bid to Rawson at \$12.99 per ton delivered, \$8.99 per ton picked up.

John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, nay; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 3-1.

**IX. FUTURE
AGENDA ITEMS**

- Procedure for collecting tangible taxes.
- Foster Center Baptist Church well request.
- Liquor licenses at the November 20th meeting.

**X. TRANSITIONAL
MEETING/NEW
TOWN
COUNCIL
MEMBERS**

Mr. Lewis stated that this transitional meeting is required by the Town Charter, article II, section 2.01b, which indicates that prior to the swearing-in meeting, the outgoing Council will meet in work sessions with the incoming Council in order to make for an orderly transition. Mr. Restivo and Mr. Rogers were invited to sit at the Council table for the duration of this meeting. The Council reviewed the Charter requirements for the first meeting of the new Council, which falls on Thursday, December 4th and at which the new Council will be sworn in.

Due to holiday constraints, a second meeting will be held on Thursday, December 11, at which time all other town licenses will be heard, the liquor licenses having been heard at the November 20 meeting.

Mr. Lewis also stated that he had asked that all employees at Town Hall who wish to continue their job appointments send a letter of intent to the Council,

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to be gotten to the Council for review as soon as possible.

**XI. EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Neal Whitelaw moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to adjourn.

John L. Lewis, Jr. aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Neal Whitelaw, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye. Motion passed 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

A digital sound file is made a part of the record for a complete account of the council meeting.

Submitted by

Jane H. Christopher
Town Clerk