

December 20, 2006

The December 20, 2006 Town Council Meeting was called to order by Colette J. Matarese at the Town House, 180 Howard Hill Road, Foster, Rhode Island.

The following members were present:

Colette J. Matarese, President
John Lewis, Vice President,
Peter Baribault
Lynne S. Rider
Harold R. Shippee, Sr., excused due to illness

Colette J. Matarese also announced that Anne Carlson, Donald Deleare and Nancy Johnston, were all excused from attending the council meeting.

The Pledge of allegiance was recited.

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was so voted to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2006 council meeting.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

Peter Baribault moved, John Lewis seconded and it was so voted to approve the December 7, 2006 minutes at the December 28, 2006 council meeting.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

Ronald Cervasio spoke under public comment and told the council that they did the wrong thing by putting Michael Polouski back in as the Recreation Director. Ronald Cervasio said he wanted to hear that Mr. Polouski works for recreation not that recreation works for Mr. Polouski. He wanted the council to think again of removing David Costa.

Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was so voted to approve Payroll Warrant #23 in the amount of \$28,105.10. Lynne Rider did question incentive pay for the Chief of Police.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

Lynne Rider moved, John Lewis seconded and it was so voted to approve Genera Warrant #G-17 in the amount of \$91,355.96. Lynne Rider did ask what a potato hook was as the town bought three at a cost of \$98.97 for public works. Walter May, former Public Works Director noted that it was a rock rake.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was so voted to accept and approve the monthly reports that were submitted. Randy Rossi was excused from a monthly report as he was giving the council weekly reports.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor reported that the Auditor General was going to use Foster as an example to place a fine on an community as the town's records were in such bleak condition and after the town totally ignored the directives and the repeated offers of assistance not only from the Auditor General's office but from the budgetary office of Department of Administration from the State of Rhode Island for the past several months.

He noted that he met along with the Council President and Town Treasurer with the Auditor General and staff and submitted a schedule of responsibilities and obligations on the part of the town on completing the audit. Mr. Bevilacqua noted that a plan was laid out and approved by the Auditor General and that the accounting firm also has to sign on to the plan too. He explained that the cut off date would be February 28, 2007. The Solicitor also explained that the auditing firm of James Nadeau & Company has indicated

now that they could do the audit only by the end of May and that was totaling unacceptable by the Auditor General. He reported that James Nadeau & Company submitted a letter disengaging in doing the town's audit. The Town has now asked Bacon & Company to do the audit which can be done for \$24,750 which has been approved by the Auditor General to be completed by February 28th with no fines will be incurred. He asked that the council approve the auditor and the amount however, the amount could be a little more.

John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was so voted to accept the letter of disengagement from James Nadeau & Company.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was so voted to engage Bacon & Company to do the audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2006 for the amount of \$24,750.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

Randy Rossi, Town Treasurer reported that he has now gotten up to December 2005 on the bank reconciliations and he is also reconciling expenditures as he goes along as they have/ been out of line prior to his employment. He also noted that he was also working on balancing the current budget and correcting errors. He informed the council that he was sticking to the strict time table for the audit.

Councilor Lynne Rider read the recommendation letter from Walter May, Friends of the Town House Committee recommending that the bid for the painting of the town house be awarded to Chirico Construction of Warwick, RI for the amount of \$26,800.

Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded to award the bid to Chirico Construction in the amount of \$26,800 during discussion it was decided to move to table the matter.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was so voted to table the bid award for the painting of the town house.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was so voted to forward the bids to the Foster Preservation Society for their recommendation.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was so voted to reappoint Julia Parmentier to the Planning Board for a five year term.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to reappoint Donald Moyer to the Planning Board for a five year term.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was so voted to reappoint Edward M. Wood to the Conservation Commission for a three year term.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was so voted that upon receipt of resignation from Robin Fish as the Liaison to the Housing Board that the Planning Board be authorized to appoint a Liaison among their other members.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded to reappoint Walter May to a five year term to the Foster Land Trust.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was so voted to reappoint John Vorro as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Review.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was so voted to postpone Foster Preservation Society request until the Town Solicitor has time to discuss the matter with them.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was so voted to approve the request from Western RI Home Repair Program to contribute \$2,000 towards the administration of the Home Repair Program and the CDBG Block Grant application process and the money is to come from the Contingency Fund.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

Lynne Rider and John Lewis will meet with the department heads on Tuesday, January 9, 2007.

Colette J. Matarese believed it was important that council members could have hours at the town hall to be available for the townspeople. The council members would check their schedules for availability.

John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was so voted to accept the contract with the edit of removing the former council president's address.

John Lewis moved to amend the motion, Peter Baribault seconded and it was so voted to authorize the council president to sign the agreement for 7-1-06 to 6-30-07 with the Rhode Island Resource Recovery.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

Colette J. Matarese asked for a vote on the main motion and the vote was as follows:

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Peter Baribault and Lynne Rider to negotiate the upcoming contract with the Emergency Dispatchers.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

A letter of resignation was received from Carline Kallgren from the Board of Canvassers.

John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was so voted to accept the resignation letter from Carline Kallgren and authorize the Town Clerk to forward a letter requesting names from the democratic and republican town committees.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

The council acknowledged a resume from a candidate for the position of electrical inspector and asked the Town Clerk to contact the candidate for an interview at the next meeting.

A letter was received from the former Town Sergeant Donald Knox requesting 12 years back pay. After discussion there were no motions passed for payment.

John Lewis explained that for the past year or so there was a concern regarding the duties of the Recreation Director and the duties of the Recreation Committee. He noted that

after he had a discussion with some of the members of the committee he discovered that the committee never had a Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary or Treasurer. The council members had reviewed the recreation resolution from 1989, director guidelines and a charter amendment that was proposed by the Charter Review Committee.

Colette J. Matarese said that the council could work on the matter after the audit problems have been solved. Council Member John Lewis noted that it was correct to say that at this point it was the councils' expectation that the Recreation Committee and the Recreation Director work together to continue the recreation programs that have been set up and the Recreation Committee should go ahead and organize the committee and the council will be working on a recreation ordinance.

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was so voted that the following Holiday/Sunday Sales Licenses upon receipt of annual licensing fee and approvals from the Building Official, Fire Chief, Tax Collector and Police Chief where applicable be approved:

December 31, 2006 – 2007 Holiday/Sunday Sales License Renewals

Drake Petroleum, d/b/a X-Mart/Foster Sunoco
Wilson's Auto Enterprises Inc.
Aniello V. Calise, d/b/a Danny's Auction Barn
Russell Smith, d/b/a Chelsea's Trading Post
Pamela S. Chabot & Kurt Deines, d/b/a Foster Bear Arms & Trading Post LLC
Shivamni Inc. d/b/a BD Food Mart
Cape in the Pines (Kristen Dexter)
Gabriele's Package Store
Star Petroleum Inc. dba Foster Quick Stop
Bonnie & Donald Lambert dba Lladly Love Llama

The following Secondhand Licenses upon receipt of annual licensing fee and approvals from the Building Official, Fire Chief, Tax Collector and Police Chief where applicable:

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was so voted that the following Secondhand Licenses upon receipt of annual licensing fee and approvals from the Building Official, Fire Chief, Tax Collector and Police Chief where applicable be approved:

December 31, 2006 - 2007 Secondhand License Renewals

Wilson's Auto Enterprises, Inc.
MMC, Inc. d/b/a Mike's Auto Repair
Aniello V. Calise, d/b/a Danny's Auction Barn
Raymond Lapointe, d/b/a Western Rhody Antiques
Russell Smith, d/b/a Chelsea's Trading Post
Pamela S. Chabot & Kurt Deines, d/b/a Foster Bear Arms & Trading Post LLC
Martin Austin, d/b/a Marty's Auction Service
Hemlock Brook Auto Sales & Service
Foster Auto LLC dba Sturn & Sons
Gerald Cournoyer dba Sweet Forest Farm
Raymond Cooke dba Cooke Brothers Volvo Inc.
Morris Maglioli dba Wright's Auto Salvage
John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was so voted that the following Victualling Licenses upon receipt of annual licensing fee and approvals from the Building Official, Fire Chief, Tax Collector and Police Chief where applicable be approved:

December 31, 2006 – 2007 Victualling License Renewals

Janet Brayton & Brenda Lindsay, d/b/a Shady Acres Restaurant
Drake Petroleum d/b/a X-Mart/Foster Sunoco
Aniello V. Calise, d/b/a Danny's Auction Barn
Scott & Wanda Kopka dba State Line Diner Inc.
Shivamni Inc. d/b/a BD Food Mart
Star Petro Inc. d/b/a Foster Quick Stop

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was so voted that the following Gun Shop Licenses upon receipt of annual licensing fee and approvals from the Building Official, Fire Chief, Tax Collector and Police Chief where applicable be approved

December 31, 2006 – 2007 Gun Shop License Renewals

Certified Automotive, Inc., d/b/a Steve's Gun Shop
Robert A. Boyden d/b/a Independence Enterprises
Lawrence & Denise Costa-Mello, d/b/a Allary Farm
Leon DeFranco, d/b/a LJD Gun & Supplies
Foster Bear Arms and Trading Post Inc.
Keith LaFazia dba Breezy Hill Outdoors

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was so voted that the following Campground License upon receipt of annual licensing fee and approvals from the Building Official, Fire Chief, Tax Collector and Police Chief be approved.

December 31, 2006 – 2007 Campground License Renewals

Ginny-B, Inc., d/b/a Ginny B Campground

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was so voted that the following Private Investigator's License upon receipt of annual licensing fee and approvals from the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Building Official and Tax Collector where applicable:

December 31, 2006 – 2007 Private Investigator's License

Alan Pittman dba Alan Pittman Investigations, API

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette J. Matarese, aye

The council added Recreation Clarification Resolution to future agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Submitted by,

Anne M. Irons
Town Clerk

An electronic tape is made a part of the record for a complete account of the council meeting. This tape is on file in the vault at town hall.