

January 11, 2007

The January 11, 2007 Town Council Meeting was called to order by John Lewis, Vice President at the Town House, 180 Howard Hill Road, Foster, Rhode Island at 6:30 p.m.

The following members were present :

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

Lynne S. Rider, moved, seconded Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded and it was unanimously so voted to go into executive session according to 42-46-4&5 (a) (1) Personnel and to reconvene in to open session and further to keep the minutes of said meeting closed and the minutes of all Executive Sessions held previous to this meeting be closed and remain closed pursuant to provisions of the General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-4.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

The Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the minutes from the December 20, 2006 town council meeting.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

No one spoke under Public Comment.

Harold R. Shippee, Sr. moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve Payroll Warrant #25 in the amount of \$23,929.76 and Payroll Warrant #26 in the amount of \$21,524.88 and General Warrant #19 in the amount of \$124,108.25.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Peter Baribault moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the monthly reports as submitted. John Lewis reported that there was no report from the Planning Department.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Randy Rossi reported that the finance department was about 85 % complete for getting the records ready for the auditors. He noted that the auditors should be in to work around the end of next week to start the actual audit.

Town Solicitor John Bevilacqua remarked that he did speak with the Auditor General's Office and they have approved the new auditors and the town would be receiving a letter shortly approving the extension of February 28th.

Randy Rossi also reported that his office was caught up on the current fiscal year and the budget documents for the upcoming fiscal year have been distributed.

The request from the Foster Preservation Society will be heard at the January 25, 2007 council meeting.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was so voted to approve Michael Caprarelli as the Appraiser of Dog Damages.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Harold R. Shippee, Sr. moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was so voted to appoint Peter Forsstrom as the Assistant Emergency Director.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Lynne S. Rider moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded, and it was so voted to appoint George Christie to the Conservation Commission to a three year term.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Town Solicitor, John Bevilacqua reported that after a review of the Conflict of Interest Laws it was determined that there could be an impression of impropriety with the current Electrical Inspector as he is now an Elected Official for the Town of Foster.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was so voted to appoint Robert Ferland as the Electrical Inspector.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

There were no appointments to the Housing Board at this time.

Lynne S. Rider moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded and it was so voted to table the Housing Board appointments.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was so voted to reappoint James Janis to the alternate position of the Foster-Glocester Juvenile Hearing Board.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was so voted to reappoint Michael Chippendale to the three year position to the Foster-Glocester Juvenile Hearing Board.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Lynne S. Rider moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded and it was so voted to appoint Karen Mueller to the Foster Land Trust to a three year term.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Harold R. Shippee, Sr. moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was so voted to appoint John Neal to the Planning Board for a one year term.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Peter Baribault moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Thomas Mercier to the Personnel Board for one year.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. aye

Lynne S. Rider moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded and it was so voted to appoint William Jones to the Personnel Board for a two year term.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Lynne S. Rider moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded, and it was so voted to appoint Kristen Carlson to the Recreation Committee for a term of one year.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Lynne s. Rider moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded and it was so voted to appoint Bradford Gove as the Tree Warden for the Town of Foster for a period of two years.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Town Solicitor John Bevilacqua reported that there was a portion of the proposed subdivision in Sterling Connecticut that was in the Town of Coventry and Foster, Rhode Island. He believed that the development would affect in an adverse way. He noted that they would utilize Rhode Island for access to the major development. Mr. Bevilacqua reported that it did not appear that any petition or request was brought before the Planning Board for an approval for the use of the road or property in the Rhode Island jurisdiction had ever been applied for. He also remarked that a traffic study had never been performed in either in the Connecticut version and it does not exist in Rhode Island. He said that there were safety and environmental concerns. Mr. Bevilacqua said that the council should notify the appropriate municipal board and object until a study is performed and an appropriate petition is applied for before the appropriate municipal board such as the Planning Board.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded and it was so voted that Mr. Bevilacqua on behalf of the Town Council notify the Sterling Planning Commission and the builder that is involved in the project; of the councils' concern relative to the proposed subdivision regarding a traffic study and the concerns on the up keep of the road and the encroachment on Foster Property on Jenks Road and Gibson Lane and that the letter be drafted as soon as possible because of the deadline before the Planning Commission.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

John Lewis reported that he ran the department head meeting on the 9th of January and the subjects that were discussed were operating budgets, capital budgets, goals, website, staffing, and equipment. He informed the council that the next meeting would be sometime in February. A report was distributed to the council members.

Randy Rossi, Town Treasurer reported that he reviewed the Planning Department Budget and there is some funding in some of the line items that have not been used and he came up with a figure of \$7,000 that could be used for a Town Planner salary.

Peter Baribault suggested calling the statewide planning office to see if any suggestions came from there about a consultant or a part time planner. Mr. Baribault said he would make the phone call and asked that it be placed on the next agenda.

Lynne S. Rider moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the additions in the amount of \$38.22 and abatements in the amount of \$1,269.40 to the 2006 tax roll.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Lynne S. Rider moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded, and it was so voted to approve the proration additions in the amount of \$5,881.09.

John Lewis, aye, Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Harold R. Shippee, Sr., aye

Ronald Cervasio of Old Plainfield Pike spoke under concerned citizens regarding the painting of the Town House.

Lynne S. Rider questioned about a notice in the council packet regarding unused Homeland Security Grant funds. The Chief of Police noted that he has spoken with Thomas Walden, Emergency Management Director and they are working on it.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 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.