

## **April 26, 2007**

The April 26, 2007 Town Council Meeting was called to order by Colette J. Matarese President at the Town House, 180 Howard Hill Road, Foster, Rhode Island at 7:30 p.m.

The following members were present :

Colette J. Matarese, President  
John Lewis, Vice President  
Peter Baribault  
Lynne S. Rider  
Harold R. Shippee, Sr.  
John J. Bevilacqua, Jr., Town Solicitor

### Staff

Ann-Marie Ignasher  
Brad Gove, Public Works Director  
Pamela Fontaine, Tax Collector  
Randy Rossi, Treasurer

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A Moment of Silence was held in memory of John Vorro of Balcom Road, a member of the Zoning Board that passed away on April 18, 2007.

Colette J. Matarese announced the location and time of the Memorial Day Parade to be held on May 28, 2007 at 8:30 a.m.

Colette J. Matarese read minutes dated April 17, 1783 from Council Book # 1 that was recently restored.

Lynne S. Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2007 meeting.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2007 meeting.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2007 meeting.

Peter Baribault aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, John Lewis aye Colette J. Matarese aye Harold R. Shippee abstained

There were no comments spoken under public comment.

Harold R. Shippee, Sr. moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and so voted to approve Payroll Warrant #40 in the amount of \$22,032.81, Payroll Warrant #41 in the amount of \$24,695.41 and General Warrant #26 in the amount of \$48,376.72 John Lewis announced he would be recusing himself as he was being paid on the payroll warrant for the time he was the chair of the Planning Board for the period of July 1, 2006 through December 5, 2006.

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

The second public hearing was held for the town's application for CDBG-07-08.

Colette J. Matarese opened the public hearing for the CDBG007-08 Block Grant application from the Town of Foster. The advertisement was in the Observer on April 20, 2007. She stated that she was looking for comments either for or against. Listed were the following activities after the 1<sup>st</sup> public hearing held on February 8, 2007. The total funds requested for the fiscal year of 2007 at \$238,500.00.

Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 96,250.
Handicapped Ramp-Human Services Department	5,000
Foreclosure Assistance	10,000
Food Bank	3,000
Abbey Lane Oil Tank Removal	3,750
Abbey Lane Engineering	65,000
Community Housing Land Trust	3,000
Operating	44,500
Administration	<u>8,000</u>
Total grant application	\$238,500

No comments were offered for or against the application from the audience.

John Lewis moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the above grant application in the amount of \$238,500 for CDBG-07-08.

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

John Lewis moved Lynne S. Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to prioritize the following two ordinances for the ordinance revision process as 1) Affordable Housing to Mr. Tony Lachowicz at a cost of \$6,000 and 2) Conservation Development to Tony Lachowicz through a Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Grant.

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

Town Planner Ann-Marie Ignasher announced that the GrowthSmart RI Conference will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> with 23 people signed up for the program. She noted that she will give the complete list to the Rhode Island Foundation for the funding and hopefully they will pick up the cost for the program through a grant award.

Peter Baribault moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the 1997 statute of limitations abatements in the amount of \$9,762.74 for motor vehicles and \$1,549.24 for personal property as recommended by the Tax Collector.

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

A request was received from the Swamp Meadow Community Theatre to hold their first rehearsal meeting at the town house and fair grounds on Monday June 25, 2007 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Lynne Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the request for the use of the town house and fair grounds on Monday June 25, 2007 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. from the Swamp Meadow Community Theatre pending adequate insurance and porta –johns are available.

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

A resignation letter was received from Don Manley resigning from the Conservation Commission.

John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to accept the resignation letter from Don Manley with regrets.

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

John Lewis reported that Lynne Rider, Bradford Gove and himself met with a representative from Atlantic Broom regarding meeting a federal mandate on street signs. Reflective Street Signs Samples were shown to the council members and audience along with the current signs the town uses to identify the roads. All street signs are now to be made with reflective material. The two samples shown were red and white and maroon and white with the town seal. The cost of the town crest was an additional \$6.00 and they would be used in Foster Center, Moosup Valley, Clayville and Hopkins Mills. The cost of the signs with the crest was \$30.00 and without the crest is \$24.00 each. John Lewis remarked that with the money in this year budget 60 signs can be installed. However, it was noted if sign posts have to be replaced it would be less than 60. Mr. Lewis stated that in next year's budget additional signs will be installed. There was a discussion on placing the signs on trees or sign poles and two sided signs. Mr. Gove will get a few more quotes from other companies.

Lynne S. Rider moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to use the maroon color sign with white letters for all the road signs in the Town.

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

Diane Potter and Fran Gast both of East Killingly Road have volunteered to be on the affordable Housing Board.

Diane Potter remarked that she and her husband moved to Foster two years ago and loves the community and wanted to be a part of it.

John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Diane Potter to the Affordable Housing Board.

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

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Fran Gast to the Affordable Housing Board. Ms Gast was not in attendance but had spoken with Councilmember John Lewis. It was noted that she had served on the council in 90's and was on the Library Board.

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

One application was received from Mark R. Horner of North Scituate for the Plumbing Inspector position. A letter from Robert Fallon, Building & Zoning official was received recommending his appointment

John Lewis moved, Harold R. Shippee, Sr. seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Mark R. Horner of North Scituate for the Plumbing Inspector position based on the recommendation of the Building Official.

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

A letter was received from Erin Moyer, a former member of the Recreation Committee asking to be reappointed to the Recreation Committee.

Peter Baribault moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Erin Moyer to the recreation committee.

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

Paula Mottshaw of Pierce Road was interviewed in January for the Zoning Board of Review but was not appointed at that time.

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Paula Mottshaw to the Zoning Board of Review.

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

Town Solicitor John Bevilacqua spoke regarding whether or not the financial town meeting of Foster can approve the allocation for the region school district by adding a percentage to their budget. He noted that according to Rhode Island State Law 16-2-23 **Expenditures**, you cannot. He explained that you cannot add expenditures or appropriations unless the budget has been presented in a timely fashion and adopted. Mr. Bevilacqua said that in other words any additional percentage that the council may have intended to include in the budget cannot be used. He noted that the only appropriation that can be presented at the Foster Financial Town Meeting would be from the previous year which was the amount of \$3,306,432. The council discussed certification of the tax roll, changing the appropriation amount and a second financial town meeting.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to reconsider the regional allocation that was previously approved at a prior town council meeting.

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

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to direct Randy Rossi to allocate the amount for the regional school budget line item in the amount of \$3,569,679 in following the order to comply with RIGL 16-2-23.

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

The following people spoke under concerned citizens.

Ronald Cervasio of Old Plainfield Pike

Harold Hey of North Road

Cheryl Davis of Abbey Lane

Gordon Rogers of Cucumber Hill Road

Lynne S. Rider moved John Lewis seconded and it was unanimously so voted to go into executive session according to 42-46-4&5 (a) (1) Personnel (2) Collective Bargaining regarding Emergency Dispatchers, (2) Litigation and (5) acquisitions and to reconvene in open session and further to keep the minutes of said meeting closed and the minutes of all Executive Session held previous to this meeting be closed and remain closed pursuant to provisions of the General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-4-5.

The Council recessed at 9:15 p.m.

The council went into executive session at 9:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 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.