

January 10, 2008

The January 10, 2008, Town Council Meeting was called to order by John Lewis, Vice President, of the Foster Town Council at the Town House, Foster, Rhode Island, at 7:14 p.m.

The following members were present:

**John Lewis, Vice President,
Peter Baribault,
Lynne S. Rider,
John J. Bevilacqua, Jr. Town Solicitor**

Staff

Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner,
Robert Clarkin, Interim Public Works Director,
Randy Rossi, Treasurer,
Robert E. Coyne, Jr., Police Chief

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Colette Matarese and Harold Shippee, Sr. were excused

There were no comments under public comment.

WARRANTS Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and unanimously so voted to approve Payroll Warrant #25 in the amount of \$45,755.68, Payroll Warrant #26 in the amount of \$53,218.15, General Warrant #13 in the amount of \$94,909.74.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to accept the monthly reports as submitted.

MONTHLY REPORTS Lynne Rider spoke of the mechanical permits issued; six of them were for wood stove installations. Maybe an organization in town such as any of the fire stations could have a meeting on wood stove safety. With the price of oil there maybe a lot of people in town using them who have never used them before.

John Lewis mentioned maybe a mail flyer or a seminar, and that the council could talk to Robert Fallon, Foster Building Official.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

TOWN LICENCE RENEWALS Renewal of Town Licenses
John Lewis said that there were two town licenses that were not renewed due to lack of proper signatures required for renewals.

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to grant a Second Hand License to Foster Quick Stop and Morris Maglioli dba Wright's Auto Salvage expiring December 31, 2008.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

The following appointments were made;

APPOINTMENTS Lynne Rider moved to reappoint Chris Iozzi to the Conservation Commission for a three year term ending 12/2010, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

Lynne Rider moved to appoint Lucy Minturn to the Conservation Commission for a three year term ending 12/2010, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

Lynne Rider moved to appoint Kathryn Zuromski as a full time Conservation Commission member with a term ending in 12/2009 completing George Christie's term, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

Lynne Rider moved to appoint Sisan Smallman to the alternate position for the Conservation Commission with the term ending 12/2008, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

John Lewis stated that Marcia Bowden had asked to be held at this point.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Paula Mottshaw to the Zoning Board of Review completing the vacated term from Lori Mihailides, whose term expires 12/2009.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Ronald Sroka to the Personnel Board replacing Tom Mercier for a term ending 12/2013.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

**DEPUTY
TOWN
CLERK**

Lynne Rider read a letter from Tina W. Freeman, Town Clerk, regarding the appointment of Carol L. Lyons as Deputy Town Clerk.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the appointment of Carol L. Lyons as Deputy Town Clerk.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

**PUBLIC
WORKS
DIRECTOR**

Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Robert Clarkin as Public Works Director.

Lynne Rider spoke of Robert Clarkin and how he has the skills needed to fill the town position.

John Lewis said that he had spoken to Council President Colette Matarese and that she approved of the appointment and to add this item to tonight's agenda.

John Lewis read the letter from the Foster Personnel Board which included their recommendations.

Lynne Rider read a letter of recommendation from Alfred J. Curnow, PE & LS in favor of the appointment of Robert Clarkin.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

**PROBATE
JUDGE
CASE APPT.**

John Lewis stated that the council had received a letter from Probate Judge William Bernstein stating that he had a conflict with one of the Probate cases and that the Town Council should appoint a Probate Judge for the particular case.

John Bevilaqua stated that Paul DiMaio was the person to act on this particular case for the town. He stated the Judge Bernstein and himself agreed to this appointment. He also stated that Paul DiMaio is currently the Probate Judge in the town of Johnston.

Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Attorney Paul DiMaio as the Probate Judge for the particular case only.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

**PROBATIONARY
POLICE
DISPATCHER**

Lynne Rider read a letter from the Chief of Police requesting that Jonathan D. Barrette be appointed as a probationary police/fire dispatcher for the Town of Foster Police Department.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Jonathan D, Barrette as a probationary police/fire dispatcher.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to reappoint Patricia Moreau to the Planning Board with a term ending 12/2013.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

John Lewis read a letter from Linda Tibbetts of the Foster Land Trust requesting that the Town Council support the 2008 Bond Referendum for Open Space Preservation.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the adoption of the Referendum to be forwarded to the appropriate legislative officials and state offices.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to table the report from the Personnel Board until all of the Town Council Members are present.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

**CLERK/
TYPIST
AD**

Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to allow the Town Clerk to advertise the vacated position of clerk/typist.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

**CANTERING
COLTS**

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to allow the Canterng Colts 4H the use of the Foster Fairgrounds on Sunday May 18, 2008.

Lynne Rider said that the Canterng Colts 4H also requested that the field be mowed by the town just before the event.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

**HUMAN
SERVICES
BATHROOM**

John Lewis reviewed a report from Building Official Robert Fallon for the Human Services Department bathroom. The price of the project was raised to approximately \$17,000.00. The bid the town received from North American Building, Inc. was \$8,260.00 for the interior work. The Town council tabled that until they knew the total cost. The bid came back for exterior tanks which would include excavation work, the total for that was \$4,850.00. The interior work included drilling through the foundation, and cutting through the floor to allow for the different pipes to access the leach field and was priced at \$3,850.00, bringing the total to \$16,960.00. It was only budgeted for \$6,000.00. The council tabled this item until the council received all the information.

John Bevilaqua recommended that the council table the bids until there is sufficient funding available for such a project.

Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner, mentioned that there are some CDBG grants and other possible grants that would help with the cost of the project.

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to table the project until sufficient funding is available to the town.

**FCVFC
FUNDS
REQUEST**

Lynne Rider read a letter from the Foster Center Volunteer Fire Co., who requested to have \$773.00 for a laptop computer, digital camera and audio-visual supplies which will be used in conjunction with their existing equipment.

Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to appropriate \$773.00 from the Engineer Board Training Fund to the Foster Center Volunteer Fire Co.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

**ASSESSOR
ABATEMENTS** Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the abatements for the years of 2006 & 2007 for a total of \$3,289.67 from Anne L. Carlson, Tax Assessor.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

**COLLECTOR
ABATEMENTS** Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the abatements for the year of 1998, \$9,150.99 for Motor Vehicles and \$1,990.87 for Personal Property from Pamela J. Fontaine, Tax Collector.

John Lewis aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye.

**ECONOMIC
DEVELOP-
MENT
SEMINAR** Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner, spoke of the Economic Development Seminar that was held on January 9, 2008. There were two representatives from the Secretary of States Office. Many aspects of owning and maintaining a business in the Town of Foster were discussed at that meeting/seminar.

**NEW WEB
SITE
FORMAT** John Lewis discussed the new format of the new Town Web Site and how business owners in town could utilize the free advertising and other aspects of the site to help their businesses.

Lynne Rider mentioned also that State agencies of Rhode Island had not previously worked with communities of the size of Foster enough to know what the town really needs as far as business needs and this was a good start.

Edward Provost, South Foster Fire Co. President, spoke of his concern that the fire departments and ambulance corps. can not comply with the newly-adopted policy from RIEMA to file a daily situation report because of the lack of internet speed to do so. And it is a safety hazard to the town.

Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner, said that we in Foster have to keep calling the businesses like Verizon to push them to work faster in installing the updated broadband that is needed to fix these kinds of problems.

**TOWN
CHARTER** John Lewis asked the council if they wanted to form a charter review committee to review future changes for the town charter. This item was tabled until the next town council meeting.

**REQUEST
FOR
MAINTAIN-
ANCE** Lynne Rider read a letter from residents on Whippoorwill Terrace requesting that the town maintain this right of way. With further discussion, the town council agreed that the town solicitor and a council person(s) would meet informally and discuss the request made of the citizens of Whippoorwill Terrace.

John Lewis spoke of the budget workshops coming up. This item was tabled until the entire town council is present to vote on the dates.

The following people spoke under concerned citizens:
Ronald Cervasio, Julie Ferrazzano, and John Belvilaqua.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 P.M.
No executive session was held.

Submitted By

Tina W. Freeman
Town Clerk