

**March 27, 2008**

The March 27, 2008, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Colette Matarese, President, of the Foster Town Council at the Town House, Foster, Rhode Island, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

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

Staff

Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner,  
Robert E. Coyne, Jr., Police Chief  
Pamela Fontaine, Tax Collector  
Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director  
Brenda L. Duquette, Acting Treasurer

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**MINUTES** Lynne S. Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded to approve as presented, and was so voted to approve the March 13, 2008 minutes with minor changes.

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

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded to amend the minutes as discussed.

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

Bradford Gorham spoke under public comment concerning the upcoming special election.

**WARRANTS** Peter Baribault moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve Payroll Warrant #36 in the amount of \$26,037.50, Payroll Warrant #37 in the amount of \$30,467.14, General Warrant #18 in the amount of \$62,107.40 and General Warrant #18a \$5,000.00.

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

**REPORTS** A report was read from the State Traffic Commissioners office concerning the installation of a working traffic signal at the intersection of Routes 6 & 94, which was approved by them, although it would not be installed until 2011 pursuant to availability of construction funds. Another report that was read was from the General Assembly concerning "Neighbor Day" which is declared to be May 18, 2008.

**NORTHWEST COMMUNITY HEALTH** Lynne Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded to approve the Northwest Community Health Care request for tax exempt status for the land they purchased on July 27, 2007, located on Danielson Pike. Discussion was made.

Peter Bancroft of Northwest Community Health Care asked if the town council could act on this request at a later date.

Lynne Rider withdrew her motion and Peter Baribault withdrew his second.

**CROSSMAN ADDENDA** John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the addenda between the Town of Foster and Crossman Engineering, Inc. as presented.

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

**NEW ROAD PRODUCTS** John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to authorize the DPW Director to bring in the D.A.Y. Global Trading Co. Inc. to apply their product to one of the town's dirt roads

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

**TOWN HOUSE SIGNS** Lynne Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to allow the Foster Preservation Society to place new signs for the Town House

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

**RED CROSS CONTRACT** John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to forward the written contract submitted to the Town Solicitor for review.

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

Further discussion was made about the schedule for the Red Cross to discuss further training for the townspeople.

**USE OF TOWN HOUSE** John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to allow the Foster/Glocester School Committee and the Glocester School Committee to use the Town House on April 1, 2008 for their meetings.

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

**ACTING TREASURER** Colette Matarese introduced Brenda Duquette who has been the Deputy Treasurer and now the Acting Treasurer with the resignation of Randy Rossi.

**ARMENIAN FLAG** John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to allow the DPW Director to fly the Armenian Flag on April 24, 2008.

**ROOF BEHIND SUPPER SHED** John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to allow the Old Home Days Committee to build a roof over the freezer unit in back of the Supper Shed, contingent of all building codes and permits.

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

Colette Matarese asked to change the order of the agenda items to move the Public Hearing for the CDBG Applications before the Public Hearing for the Town Budget Adoption.

Lynne Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to move the agenda item.

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

**CDBG PUBLIC HEARING** Colette Matarese declared the Public Hearing for the CDBG Applications closed.

Now therefore let it be known that the Town Council of the Town of Foster, with the filing of this CDBG application for the amount of \$250,000.00 to implement the activities proposed herein, is hereby authorized, and that Colette Matarese, Town Council President is hereby authorized and directed to file this application with the office of Housing and Community Development, to provide any additional information or documents required by said office, to make any assurances required in connection with this program, to execute an agreement with the State of Rhode Island, and to otherwise act as the representative of the Town of Foster and all matters relating to this application and any award which may be based upon this application.

John Lewis moved, Lynne Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to accept the Town Council Presidents recommendation.

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

Colette Matarese announced that she felt this was the most difficult budget to put together, mainly due to the economy and the new school improvements at the regional level.

Colette Matarese stated that the Total Town Operations went down from last year by \$15,497. Total Town Capital Improvements went up by \$44,627 from last year. The Capital Outlay is \$26,090 more than last year. The total increase for Paine School is \$207,955 and the Regional School increase is at this time is \$816, 036. There was much discussion about the regional schools.

The following were some of the people who spoke about the budget:

Bradford Gorham, Robert Peterson, Linda Proulx, Gordon Rogers, Jane Sroka.

Some of the topics that were discussed were buyback, Human Services, 3.1% pay increases, Solicitor Salary, Emergency Services, Regional Schools.

Lynne Rider moved, John Lewis seconded and it was unanimously so voted to continue the Public Hearing for the adoption of the Town of Foster budget for the fiscal year 08/09.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to go into executive session according to 42-46-4-5 (5) Acquisitions, and 42-46-4-5(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, Lynne S. Rider aye, Peter Baribault aye, Colette Matarese aye.

The council recessed at 9:30 p.m. and went into executive session at 9:45 p.m.

In executive session the council moved to allow additional compensation for one employee with increased duties.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

An electronic filing is made a part of the record for a complete account of the council meeting.

Submitted By

Tina W. Freeman  
Town Clerk