

November 13, 2008

The November 13, 2008, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Colette Matarese President, of the Foster Town Council at the Benjamin Eddy Building, Foster, Rhode Island, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

Colette Matarese, President,
John Lewis, Vice President,
Peter Baribault,
Lynne S. Rider,
Roger L. Hawes,
John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor

Staff

Robert E. Coyne, Jr., Police Chief
Pamela Fontaine, Tax Collector
Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MOMENT OF SILENCE Colette Matarese, President, asked if everyone could remain standing to have a moment of silence for Mildred Farrell, Foster's oldest resident who passed away on November 3, 2008

Colette Matarese, President, also mentioned that Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner, was not present due to that she was at a book signing for her husband James. The title is "Forgotten Tales of Rhode Island", she read a short story about Foster.

PUBLIC COMMENT No one signed in to speak.

WARRANTS Peter Baribault moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve Payroll Warrant #16 in the amount of \$35,945.75. Payroll Warrant #17 in the amount of \$29,448.84. Payroll Warrant #18 in the amount of \$30,254.13. General Warrant #8 in the amount of \$139,621.38, and #Pollworkers in the amount of \$1,800.00.

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

REPORTS John Lewis, Vice President, read part of the letter that he submitted to the *Providence Journal*, "Letter to the Editor" section. He expressed his "disappointment in their decision to cease publication of the regional sections, and last year's decision to do away with the Northwest section and" within the "Northwest" section, the "Community Calendar". The citizens of Foster used those sections to be informed of the community events. He urged them to reconsider their decision and resume publication of both regional sections of the *Providence Journal*.

Colette Matarese, President, also stated that Ann-Marie Ignasher forwarded an e-mail from the American Red Cross RI Chapter, which stated that the American Red Cross is scheduling training for all disaster and emergency services for volunteers. Those volunteers should call them to schedule the dates.

A Foster Preservation Newsletter was made available for the public to view, Colette Matarese, President, also stated that anyone can go the web site to request copies. The web site is info@fosterpreservationsociety.org.

Colette Matarese, President, also announced that the Chepachet. Rhode Island, State Police Barracks has been permanently closed as of November 3, 2008.

The last announcement was from the Rhode Island Tree Council with some scheduled workshops on the Asian Longhorned Beetle.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the monthly reports as submitted from Building & Zoning, Planning, Police, Public Works, Tax Assessor and Tax Collector.

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

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Lynne S. Rider moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the quarterly reports as submitted from the Board of Canvassers, Foster Ambulance Corps., Human Services and the South Foster Volunteer Fire Co.

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

JERIMOTH HILL

Ms. Lisa Primiano of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management presented the town council with some brief information of the property that RI Department of Environmental Management has purchased in Foster, which is Plat 16 Lot 49A, 212A Hartford Pike. Ms. Primiano wanted to inform the town council that the RIDEM was planning on improving parking on the property to improve the access to the highest point in Rhode Island, Jerimoth Hill. Ms Primiano also stated that RIDEM will be in further contact with Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner, with any improvement plans.

PUBLIC HEARING LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS

Colette Matarese, President, opened the Public Hearing for the Renewal of Liquor Licenses for the year 2009.

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded that in conformity with and under the authority of the provisions of Title I, Chapter 5 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, Revision of 1956, as amended, and any and all amendments thereto, the annual fees for Class A Package Store License shall be and are hereby fixed at Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) each.

That the Annual Fees for Class B Victuallers (BV) shall be and is hereby fixed at Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) each.

That the Annual Fees for Class D unlimited shall be and is hereby fixed at Eight Hundred Dollars (\$800.00) each.

That the Annual Fee for extra hour closing shall be and is hereby fixed at Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00)

That the Annual Fee for an Entertainment License shall be and is hereby fixed at Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00)

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded that all holders of such licenses hereunder granted except Class A Package Store Licenses are hereby granted permission to hold dances in their respective places so licensed.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, that no transfer application or applications that may be made to have one or more granted licenses transferred from one person to another person or persons at the same location without a specific consideration and determination by the Town Council.

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

**LICENSE
RENEWALS
CONTINUED**

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, that the following persons be and are hereby granted renewal licenses for their respective places of business pending receipt of Certificates of Good Standing from the Rhode Island Division of Taxation to the Town Clerk, with the approval from the Police Chief, Tax Collector, Building Inspector, Fire Chief, and the Rhode Island Department of Health and Certificate of Server Training Program.

Class A Package Store

License for Beatrice Gabriele, d/b/a Gabriele's Package Store, 144 Danielson Pike;
License for William Fortin d/b/a Twisted Liquors 180 Hartford Pike;

Class BV

License for Thomas Breard d/b/a Lucky's, 143 Danielson Pike;

License for Foster Golf & Country Club, Inc., d/b/a Foster Country Club, 67 Johnson Road;

License for Helen's Place Inc. d/b/a Helen's Place Inc., 172A Danielson Pike;

License for Lisa M. Mills d/b/a Woodland Meeting House, LLC 115 East Killingly Road

Class D

License for Little Rhody Vasa Park, Inc 10 Boswell Trail

John Lewis amended the motion to exclude the Class A Package Store License for William Fortin d/b/a Twisted Liquors 180 Hartford Pike. Lynne S. Rider seconded the amendment.

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

The main motion passed.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, that the following persons be and are hereby granted Entertainment renewal licenses for their respective places of business with the approval from the Police Chief, Tax Collector, Building Inspector and Fire Chief.

Entertainment Licenses

License for Thomas Breard d/b/a Lucky's, 143 Danielson Pike;

License for Foster Golf & Country Club, Inc., d/b/a Foster Country Club, 67 Johnson Road;

License for Lisa M. Mills d/b/a Woodland Meeting House, LLC 115 East Killingly Road

**LICENSES
CONTINUED**

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, that the number of liquor licenses to be granted and issued for and during the current term next ensuing and ending December 1, 2009 shall be as follows:

Class A Package Store	Two (2)
Class B Victuallers	Four (4)
Class D Unlimited	One (1)

And furthermore that the Town Clerk shall not receive any other applications without the approval of the Town Council.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, that it is ordered in granting the previously specified and numbered licenses that the provisions of said General Laws of 1956, as amended and all amendments thereof and thereto, and also the provision for any and all laws affecting such licenses shall apply and such licenses are hereby granted subject to such rules and regulations and conditions heretofore established or that may hereafter be established by the Town Council of Foster and that licenses hereby granted shall expire on the first day of December 2009 at twelve o'clock midnight, unless sooner revoked for cause.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, to approve that the following businesses have applied for renewal of Game and Amusement Devices Licenses:

Lucky's	2 machines	1 pool table
Helen's Place	n/a	1 pool table
Woodland Meeting House	1 machines	2 pool tables

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

John Lewis moved, Roger L. Hawes, seconded and it was so voted to approve a Provisional Liquor License to William Fortin d/b/a Twisted Liquors 180 Hartford Pike for sixty (60) days to allow the applicant to qualify for a full year license.

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

Colette Matarese, President then closed the Public Hearing.

NCHC ABATEMENT Colette Matarese, President read a request for a partial tax abatement from Northwest Community Health Care, which has an address of 142A Danielson Pike Foster.

John Lewis stated that Northwest Community Health Care is providing reduced price services to residents of Foster. He also stated that he has spoken to Pamela Fontaine, Tax Collector, and due to the fact that they did not own the property for the entire year, the abatement would be approximately \$1,000.00. For future years the cost would be approximately \$4,000.00. Mr. Lewis stated that the town could be certain that the Northwest Community Health Care would be contributing that much in medical care.

John Lewis, moved, Roger L. Hawes, seconded and was unanimously voted to grant the request for a fifty percent (50%) abatement on Plat 14, Lot 2A 142 Danielson Pike, and the abatement be in effect for as long as Northwest Community Health Care operates a medical facility on that premises utilizing a sliding scale.

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

TOWN HOUSE FUNDS John Lewis moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was so unanimously so voted to approve the matching funds for the Town House Grant in the amount of \$12, 000.00 to come from the Town House Fund. A roll call vote was taken

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

John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was so unanimously so voted to combine letters "a" and "e" under number eleven, New Business

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

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to schedule the next Town Council meeting for November 24, 2008. Due to the fact that the next regularly scheduled day is on Thanksgiving Day.

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

MILEAGE REQUESTS Peter Baribault moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the mileage request from Susan Boucher, Tax Assessor's Clerk, in the amount of \$105.30.

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

Peter Baribault moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the mileage request from Nancy Johnston, Human Services Director in the amount of \$86.87.

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

**THANKS-
GIVING
PROCLAMA-
TION**

Colette Matarese, President, read a request from the Foster Clergy Association concerning an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, which read as follows;

Town of Foster's Proclamation of Thanksgiving;

Whereas, the month of November holds historical significance in giving thanks for all of the Town of Foster's distinguishing characteristics, and

Whereas, people in the Town of Foster can view the stars in the night sky, hear the birds early on a spring morning; enjoy the sound of toads in summer at dusk; and view the changing colors of the leaves in autumn, and

Whereas, the people of the Town of Foster respect the beauty of our natural environment and recognize their obligation to protect it for future generations, and

Whereas, the citizens of the Town of Foster exhibit the spirit of volunteerism as shown by the Volunteer Fire Companies, the Volunteer Ambulance Corps, and service on various boards and commissions, and

Whereas, the citizens of the Town of Foster assist those less advantaged by donating to the Food Banks at the Department of Human Services and local churches, and

Whereas, the populace of the Town of Foster appreciates and supports the creative works of its people through Fostering Arts and the Swamp Meadow Theatre, and

Whereas, the populace of the Town of Foster gathers together and supports community events such as Foster Old Home Days, Foster Safety Day, and Foster Family Fun Day , and

Whereas, the people of the Town of Foster recognize and respond to the need for conservation through donation of clothing and furniture to those less advantaged, recycling that which can be recycled to diminish the impact of trash on our environment, and preserving valuable resources through the Foster Land Trust and Borders' Farm, and

Whereas, the people of the Town of Foster respect and preserve the past through supporting projects to protect our historical buildings, stone walls, town pound, and cemeteries', and

Whereas, the people of the Town of Foster plan for the future through the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Conservation Commission, Library Board, Personnel Committee and Recreation Committees, and

Whereas, all citizens of the Town of Foster of all beliefs are invited, once a year, to gather in a spirit of Thanksgiving at this Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Foster affirms on this day, November 13, 2008, its commitment to a positive quality of life for residents and is proud to declare November 27 as Thanksgiving Day in the Town of Foster.

John Lewis moved, Roger L. Hawes, seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the Thanksgiving Proclamation as read.

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

**ADDITIONS
& ABATE-
MENTS**

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the recommendation from Anne Carlson, Tax Assessor, for abatements in the amount of \$2,861.16.

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

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the recommendation from Anne Carlson, Tax Assessor, for additions in the amount of \$443.46

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

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the recommendation from Anne Carlson, Tax Assessor, for the proration additions in the amount of \$7,103.44

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

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the recommendation from Anne Carlson, Tax Assessor, for the proration abatements in the amount of \$116.68

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

**TRANSFER
OF FUNDS
REQUEST**

Roger L. Hawes moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the request from Tina W. Freeman, Town Clerk to transfer funds to the Canvasser Expense account in the amount of \$1,209.92.

John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded to amend the main motion to transfer the funds from contingency funds.

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

The main motion was approved.

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

**TOWN
TREE**

John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to adopt the “town tree” which is located between the Foster Public Library property and Mr. Keith Printer’s property and to decorate the tree and have a ceremony and event on November 30, 2008.

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

Colette Matarese read a request from Julia Darcy concerning a community service project that she and her sister would like to achieve.

**PROJECT
REQUEST**

John Lewis moved, Peter Baribault seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the project as proposed. Vice President John Lewis volunteered for the position of supervisor for the project.

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

**CONCERNED
CITIZENS**

People who spoke under concerned citizens were Gordon Rogers, who asked that the Town Council respond to comments or questions from his personnel web site, in which that Mr. Rogers would reply to the anonymous submission.

Colette Matarese responded that if any person would like to ask the Town Council any kind of questions that they could e-mail the Town Council directly.

John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor, stated that any questions could be asked of the Town Council, but the Town Council could not answer as a body due to the fact that the questions are not on the agenda to act or respond to.

**FUTURE
AGENDA
ITEMS**

Anne Carlson, Tax Assessor, requested that the Town Council discuss posting the Town’s assessments online, as the Town is approaching the end of the revaluation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to go into Executive Session according 42-46-4 & 5 (1) personnel and to reconvene in 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 to provisions of the General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-4 & 5

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

The council recessed at 8:00 p.m. and went into executive session at 8:10 p.m.

No votes were taken in executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

A digital sound file is made a part of the record for a complete account of the council meeting.

Submitted By

Tina W. Freeman
Town Clerk