

January 22, 2009

The January 22, 2009, Town Council Meeting was called to order by John Lewis, Vice 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, excused
John Lewis, Vice President,
Lynne S. Rider,
Roger L. Hawes,
Joe Cardillo,
John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2009, council meeting as presented.

John Lewis aye, Joe Cardillo aye, Roger L. Hawes aye, Lynne S. Rider aye.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Linda Proulx of Round Hill Road stated that her husband spoke to two different people from Verizon about the "FIOS" system, about when the company would be installing the wires. The Verizon representatives said that Verizon was in negotiations with the Town of Foster for this new system.

John Lewis stated that the representatives that we talk to when we call are not from Rhode Island so they do not understand the process. The State of Massachusetts approve these lines by city and town, unlike the State of Rhode Island where these are approved by the General Assembly. The Town of Foster does not have to approve any part of the installation of the system.

A person from the audience asked what the Town Council was going to do about the potential elimination of school bus monitors. John Lewis said that anything to do with the school is the responsibility of the School Committee.

WARRANTS

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the following warrant; Payroll Warrant #27 in the amount of \$29,172.43, Payroll Warrant #28 in the amount of \$45,779.31, General Warrant #13 in the amount of \$4,330.00 and General Warrant #14 in the amount of \$1,225,24.32.

Lynne S. Rider moved to amend, Roger L. Hawes seconded the amendment, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the General Warrant #14 to the amount of \$126,894.32.

John Lewis aye, Joe Cardillo aye, Roger L. Hawes aye, Lynne S. Rider aye.

The main motion passed.

John Lewis aye, Joe Cardillo aye, Roger L. Hawes aye, Lynne S. Rider aye.

REPORTS

John Lewis reported that he and Lynne S. Rider, councilperson, met with Michael Barnes, Regional Superintendent of Schools. John Lewis stated the Mr. Barnes had indicated that even in this particular economy that it is the Region's and Mr. Barnes' intent to move forward with an operations budget that requests the maximum allowable increase under Paiva Weed Act. The number he said was \$545,000.00, showing an increase.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the quarterly reports as submitted.

John Lewis aye, Joe Cardillo aye, Roger L. Hawes aye, Lynne S. Rider aye.

FLOOD INSURANCE ORDINANCE PUBLIC

John Lewis opened the Public Hearing for the National Flood Insurance Program Ordinance.

Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner, gave a short presentation explaining the requirement of this ordinance by the Federal Government. Ann-Marie Ignasher explained that if the Town of Foster did not pass this ordinance, the taxpayers of Foster would not be able to purchase flood insurance for the protection of their homes.

No one spoke in favor of, or against the ordinance.

John Lewis closed the Public Hearing, and announced that the Town Council would be voting on this Ordinance at the February 12, 2009, Town Council meeting.

PRESENTATION FROM KRISTEN CHIN AND JAY LUCKER

Mr. Jay Lucker, Library Facilities Planning Consultant, and Mrs. Kristen Chin, Library Director for the Town of Foster, presented some information concerning the future of the libraries of Foster with a "Needs Assessment Study", which includes the criteria needed to receive State of RI funds, such as being handicapped accessible. The State of RI Chief Director of Library Services has told the Library Board and Director for the Town of Foster Libraries that a "waiver" will not be issued in the future, unless a "plan" for the future for the next twenty years is shown to the State of Rhode Island. Mr. Lucker is conducting this study and will report back to Kris Chin and the Foster Town Council late this year.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS

John Lewis stated that the Town of Foster has received information about an "Infrastructure Economic Stimulus" fund from the Federal Government and asked if there were any Federal Economic Stimulus Initiative projects that the Town of Foster could benefit from. These would need to be submitted to the State of Rhode Island by January 27, 2009. Some of the items that would be in the request are Truck Garage for Department of Public Works, Pictometry for the Police Station, Build a Library, Clear "brush paths" throughout the Town for fire access roads, clean out for development of recreation fields, and other Capital Improvement requests. Also Police Station improvements or expansions.

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint John Lewis and Joe Cardillo as the bargaining unit for the Town of Foster for the negotiating of the Police Contract Local 637.

John Lewis, aye, Joe Cardillo aye, Roger L. Hawes aye, Lynne S. Rider aye.

**DPW BID
AWARDS**

John Lewis read the bid awards recommended by Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director, they are as follows:

Landscape Trailer to Donald Delaere for \$650.00
Coleman Powermate Generator to John Torrey for \$27.00
Hobart Mig Welder to John Torrey for \$15.00

These bids were the highest bids for this equipment.

John Lewis, aye, Joe Cardillo, aye, Roger L. Hawes, aye, Lynne S. Rider, aye.

Roger L. Hawes moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was so voted that the mileage request of \$150.30 from Nancy Johnston, Human Services Director be approved. The vote is as follows:

Joe Cardillo, aye, Roger L. Hawes, aye, Lynne S. Rider, aye, John Lewis, nay.

The motion passed.

**POLE
PETITION**

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was so unanimously so voted to approve the Pole Petition for pole #9-2 Cucumber Hill Road as recommended from Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director.

Lynne S. Rider, aye, John Lewis, aye, Joe Cardillo, aye, Roger L. Hawes, aye.

**G.I.S. BID
OPENING**

John Lewis read the bids for the GIS system, which are as follows:

Pare Corporation - \$17,100.00
“Should the Town contract with Pare at the onset of the project for all services listed within this Scope of Service, the lump sum fee of \$15,500.00 would apply”.
Caputo & Wick, LTD - \$24,700.00
Beta Group - \$26,440.00
Fuss & O’Neil - \$20,375.00

Roger L. Hawes moved, Joe Cardillo seconded and it was unanimously so voted to forward the information to Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner for a recommendation at a later date.

Joe Cardillo, aye, Roger L. Hawes, aye, Lynne S. Rider, aye, John Lewis, aye.

John Lewis read some information that the Town has received from Dan Beardsley, Executive Director of Cities and Towns. It states that with the proposals from the Governor, the Town of Foster will not be receiving approximately \$285,443.00 in state aid.

CONCERNED CITIZENS Gordon Rogers had a question about the Special Town Council Meeting on Friday, January 16, 2009, and Ronald Cervasio stated that the Town of Fosters appropriation should go down to somewhere between \$275,000.00 and \$325,000.00 which would more than cover the \$545,000.00 increase. The School Committee will be pushing forward a zero increase budget. John Lewis affirmed that this money would be to the Town of Foster due to the decrease in student population from Foster.

Cheryl Wright asked what insurance the Town has for vehicles. John Lewis replied, the Town of Foster is insured with "The Trust".

EXECUTIVE SESSION Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes 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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

No votes were taken in executive session.

Roger L. Hawes moved, Joe Cardillo seconded and it was unanimously so voted to pay Deborah McGee a personnel day she requested in her resignation letter.

Lynne S. Rider, aye, John Lewis, aye, Joe Cardillo, aye, Roger L. Hawes, aye.

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