

June 11, 2009

The June 11 , 2009, 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, President,
John Lewis, Vice President,
Lynne S. Rider,
Roger L. Hawes,
Joe Cardillo,
John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES

John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2009, meeting as submitted.

John Lewis aye, Joe Cardillo aye, Lynne S. Rider aye.

Colette Matarese and Roger L. Hawes both abstained; they did not attend that meeting.

**ANNOUNCE-
MENTS**

Colette Matarese made the announcement, that the Tax Collector's window for tax collections will be open on Friday, July 31, 2009. Also a "Meet your Neighbors Day" is an event that will be taking place on July 4th 2009 at Vasa Park, 10 Boswell Trail from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.. The event is sponsored by Vasa Park, The Town of Foster, and fosteringArts.org.

Colette Matarese also made an announcement, to thank John Lewis, Town Council Vice President, for all of his support and time during her illness and also her husband's illness. She thanked him for acting as President to the Town Council. She stated that she was kept informed of everything and that everything was kept running smoothly for the Town while she was out. She also thanked all of the town employees and the remainder of the Town Council for their support

**CONGRESS-
MAN
LANGEVIN**

John Lewis announced that on June 13th 2009, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. there is a group of parents who will be doing repairs to the Capt. Isaac Paine School playground. Congressman Jim Langevin will be here in Foster on July 2nd for an open conversation, question and answer session. He will be at the Foster Country Club from Noon to 1 p.m., and at the Town House from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

**SHELTER
TEAM**

John Lewis also announced that the Emergency Shelter Team has been fully trained and that there are sixteen members. The shelter team had a simulated disaster at Capt. Isaac Paine School, which included people from the Red Cross, and some people from town who showed up as victims, or displaced people. Food services and dorms were set up as if it was a real disaster shelter.

HOUSE BILL # 5730 Colette Matarese read a letter of response from Franklin Arnold, Town Moderator, about House Bill # 5730. The bill states that the cities and towns would still have an elected “Warden or Moderator” but the election district clerks would be appointed.

WARRANTS Lynne S. Rider moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the following warrant’s: Payroll Warrant #47 in the amount of \$26,835.36, Payroll Warrant #48 in the amount of \$32,161.51, and General Warrant #24 in the amount of \$74,772.03.

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

MONTHLY REPORTS John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to accept the monthly reports as submitted.

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

REQUEST FOR TRAINING FUNDS John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the request of \$587.64 from the training fund account for the Foster Center Fire Department, for training expenses of two of its members.

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

REQUEST, PASTOR KIELHORN Roger L. Hawes moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the request from Pastor Eric Kielhorn of Foster Center Baptist Church to use the Town Hall parking lot and town water to hold a car wash for their youth group.

John Lewis amended the motion, Lynne S. Rider seconded the motion, so that there will be no religious functions going on during that time on town property.

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

The main motion passed.

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

AGREEMENT MEMORAN- DUM WITH John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to endorse the “memorandum of agreement “between the Town of Foster and Local Union #1322 as submitted and discussed. The conditions agreed upon were as follows;

- That the pay increase for the fiscal year 2010 shall not be taken or implemented resulting in a zero percentage.
- That the provision in the contract for co-pay for health insurance shall be amended to \$28.33 for Family Plan and \$10.88 for Individual Plan per week contribution by employee which includes Blue Cross, Delta Dental and Vision.
- That the provision for buy back of health insurance shall be reduced to forty percent.
- That the Holiday pay will be calculated on the average of the current work week which is a four (4) day work week of Monday through Thursday.
- That these amendments are in effect for the life of the Contract which shall extend one (1) year to June 30, 2011, and that the percentage raise that employees were to receive in fiscal year 2010 will be implemented in fiscal year 2011.
- Based on this agreement, there will be no layoffs during the contract period to expire on June 30, 2011

LOCAL 1322

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

AGREEMENT MEMORAN- DUM WITH John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to endorse the memorandum of agreement between the Town of Foster and Local Union #3422 as submitted and presented. The conditions agreed upon were;

- That the agreement with the Town and Union provides for certain increases in salary for the fiscal year 2009-2010 shall be amended to indicate that there will be no raises given for the fiscal year 2009-2010.
- That further, this contract shall be amended to limit buy back of Health Insurance to forty (40 %) percent.
- That this contract will be extended to June 30, 2011, and that the increases in salary that were to be given in fiscal year 2009-2010 will be given in fiscal year 2010-2011.
- That based upon these amendments, there will be no layoffs during the contract period to expire on June 30, 2011.
- All other provisions to remain in effect.

LOCAL 3422

John Lewis mentioned that the co-pays for the police dispatchers’ are automatically going up this year in the contract; there it was not an agreement item.

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

REQUEST FOR A CLASS F LIQUOR LICENSE John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the request for a Class F Liquor License on June 25, 2009, from the Thornton Beagle Club at 37 Walker Road, Foster.

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

EAGLE SCOUT PROCLAMATIONS John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the Boy Scout Proclamations for Eagle Scouts Seth Keighley, Kyle Izzi, Christopher Holzinger, Troy Beauparlant, and Benjamin Lusignan.

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

FIVE YEAR ROAD PLAN DRAFT John Lewis stated that he has been working with Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director, on the five year road plan. Canvassing all of the roads in town and prioritizing which one(s) need to be repaired first. The first page of the plan is just a letter to the Planning Board, and the next four or five pages are a description of how all of the roads are assessed and how they award points. The inventory of all of the roads breaks the information down so you can see how many miles are paved, how many miles is gravel, how many bridges and what condition they are in, how many houses are on each road, and a ratio of houses per mile. The last two pages show what has been proposed for the five year road plan. This plan was presented to the Planning Board last week, which they did endorse.

John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the five year road plan as presented and authorize the Public Works Director to begin the bid process.

Lynne S. Rider brought up the fact that the document is a draft and that things do happen, it may not be able to be adhered to completely but this is a guide.

Gordon Rogers asked if the section of South Killingly Road on the Rhode Island/ Connecticut border was included. He stated that it was horrible and people drive on the opposite side of the road to avoid the holes and that someone will be hurt.

Colette Matarese noted to Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director to look into that area of South Killingly road.

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

REQUEST FROM ANNE CARLSON John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the request from Anne L. Carlson, Tax Assessor, to “carry over” two days or 14 hours of vacation time from the 2008-2009 fiscal year, to the 2009-2010 fiscal year. To be taken prior to December 31, 2009.

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

REQUEST ANN-MARIE IGNASHER John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the request from Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner to “carry over” 17.50 hours of personal leave from the 2008-2009 fiscal year, to the 2009-2010 fiscal year. To be taken prior to December 31, 2009.

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

PUBLIC HEARING Colette Matarese opened the Public Hearing for an Open Recreational Events License request from St. Paul’s Church 116A Danielson Pike, Foster.

Colette Matarese recused herself; she is a board member of the church.

John Lewis read the advertisement that was placed in the Observer for the Public Hearing. He asked if there was anyone here to speak, for or against the granting of the license. No one spoke from the audience. The hours of the outdoor festival will be held from 11:30 am to 4:00 pm on June 27, 2009.

Lynne S. Rider asked the Chief of Police if it mattered which exit would be used, would make a difference in safety. Chief Coyne stated that it was not an issue.

John Lewis then closed the public hearing.

John Lewis asked the Chief of Police Chief if it would be necessary to hire a police officer for the event.

Chief Coyne stated that he did not see a need for a police officer to be there constantly, but he would have the officer on duty periodically monitor the event.

Roger L. Hawes moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the Open Recreational Event License to St. Paul’s Church 116A Danielson Pike, for June 27, 2009.

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

**CONCERNED
CITIZENS**

Michael Hopton, Ponaganset High School Resource Officer spoke of the importance of his job at the high school. He asked the town council to reconsider funding his position at the high school. Both the Town of Foster and the Town of Gloucester share have shared the expense of his salary as the resource officer. A student from Ponaganset High School spoke in favor of officer Hopton and creation of the “Stars” program at the high school.

Councilman Roger L. Hawes stated that this position should be included in the regional school budget.

Gordon Rogers asked if the town was behind in payments to the regional school district.

Colette Matarese stated that she has spoken with Kelli Russ, Town Treasurer, and that the school has expected payments on the first of the month, but the town has a full month to pay, the town makes payments on a quarterly basis and they are not due on the first of the month. Colette Matarese stated she would check into this question further.

Ronald Cervasio stated that the Paine School has approximately \$700,000.00 in surplus, and with the town not paying the school, we pay the teachers with that.

Colette Matarese again stated she would check into this question.

**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 42-46-5a(2) Collective Bargaining 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, Joe Cardillo aye, Lynne S. Rider aye, Colette Matarese aye, Roger L. Hawes aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

There were no votes taken in executive session.

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