

**January 8, 2009**

The January 8, 2009, 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,**  
**Lynne S. Rider,**  
**Roger L. Hawes,**  
**Joe Cardillo,**  
**John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**MINUTES** John Lewis moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2008, council meeting as presented.

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

**WARRANTS** John Lewis moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve General Warrant #11 \$41,569.18.

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

John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to table the payroll warrants #23-26, there were no printouts to review.

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

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

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

**PILOT PROGRAM**

John Lewis reported that there was a meeting with two board members from Hemlock Village, one member being Thomas Walden. The Town of Foster has agreed to go into negotiations with them concerning the payment in lieu of taxes. The first proposal was to establish a "PILOT" program where they would pay to the Town of Foster \$10,000.00 per year, which is \$2,500.00 per quarter, and "lock" in for a five year period. And then renegotiate after five years. They requested that this agreement take effect beginning July 1, 2009. They are going to withdraw the request to sand the driveways. They would like for the Town of Foster continue with the pickup of the trash and recycling.

Roger L. Hawes moved, John Lewis seconded and it was unanimously so voted to table any action on the "PILOT" agenda item.

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

**RIRRC ADDENDUM**

John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to authorize the Town Council President, Colette Matarese to sign the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation addendum.

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

**SUNDAY SALES LICENSE**

Colette Matarese opened the Public Hearing for David Tortorella d/b/a Amber Valley Ridge Alpacas 122 Johnson Road Foster, RI.

No one from the floor spoke for or against the License.

Colette Matarese closed the Public Hearing for David Tortorella d/b/a Amber Valley Ridge Alpacas 122 Johnson Road Foster, RI.

Roger L. Hawes moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the Holiday/Sunday Sales License for David Tortorella d/b/a Amber Valley Ridge Alpacas, with the expiration date of December 31, 2009.

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

**FLOOD ORDINANCE**

Colette Matarese announced that a town ordinance regarding the National Flood Insurance Program needs to be in place in order for town residents to receive flood insurance. The ordinance has been written, and will be available after January 12, 2009. Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner, stated that the language in the ordinance is mandated by the Federal Government and the only sections that the Town of Foster can change are the "Article" and "Section" numbers from the Town of Foster's zoning ordinance.

**ABATE-  
MENTS &  
ADDITIONS**

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the abatement of \$321.47, from the 2008 tax roll as recommended by Anne L. Carlson, Tax Assessor.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the prorated additions of \$445.25 and the prorated abatements of \$499.93, from the 2008 tax roll.

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

**BUDGET  
SCHEDULE**

John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the budget schedule for 2009 as submitted.

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

**SURPLUS  
EQUIPMENT  
BIDS**

Colette Matarese announced that an ad had been placed for an invitation to bid on various surplus equipment that the Department of Public Works had, she opened the following bids:

1.) Landscape Trailer	\$555.00	Harold Shippee Jr.
2.) Landscape Trailer	\$650.00	Donald Delaere
3.) Landscape Trailer	\$310.00	John Torrey III
Mig welder	\$ 15.00	John Torrey III
Coleman Generator	\$ 27.00	John Torrey III

John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was so voted to forward the bids to Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director for review.

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

**BOARD  
APPOINT-  
MENTS**

Lynne S. Rider moved, John Lewis seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Myra Mercier to the Foster Land Trust for a term of five years.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to reappoint Scott Ulrickson to the Conservation Commission, for a term of three years.

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

John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to reappoint Helen Hardy to the Planning Board, for a term of five years.

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

John Lewis moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to reappoint Joseph L. Walsh Jr. to the Zoning Board of Review as an alternate, for a term of one year.

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

John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to reappoint Thomas Bargeon to the Zoning Board of Review as an alternate, for a term of one year.

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

**APPOINT-  
MENTS  
CONTINUED**

John Lewis moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Mary Agnes Fennessey to the Tax Board of Review, for a term of six years.

John Lewis stated that since no one had run for this office, and according to the Foster Home Rule Charter, it is the duty of the Foster Town Council to appoint the vacant seat.

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

John Lewis moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Thomas Walden to the Foster Engineering Board as the liaison to the Town Council.

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

John Lewis moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint Renee Bevilacqua as the Assistant Solicitor for the Town of Foster.

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

**TRI-TOWN**

Colette Matarese read a letter from the Tri-Town Community Action Agency stating that they are recruiting board members for their "Head Start Policy Council" and that if anyone was interested they should submit their names.

**D.O.T.  
STIMULUS**

Colette Matarese summarized a letter received from Michael P Lewis, Director of the Department of Transportation, for the State of Rhode Island. Mr. Lewis stated that Congress was in discussion regarding a transportation economic stimulus package to help boost the economy.

Lynne S. Rider moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to authorize Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director, John Lewis, Council Vice President

and Police Chief Robert Coyne to meet and prioritize a list of projects that the Town would utilize the money for the stimulus package and forward the list to the State of Rhode Island.

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

**FOSTER  
AMBULANCE  
STIPENDS** John Lewis moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the fourth quarter stipends request from the Foster Ambulance Corps. in the amount of \$4,330.00.

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

**WINTER  
COUNCIL  
MTGS.** John Lewis moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to move the Town Council Meetings to the Benjamin Eddy Building until the Spring due to the fact that it is cheaper to heat the Benjamin Eddy Building than the Town House.

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

**REQUEST  
FROM  
FLOYD  
DAVIS** John Lewis stated that Mr. Floyd Davis of 67 Old Danielson Pike Foster, would like to volunteer his services in removing the “dead wood” on Plat 11 Lot 57, which is the recreation field the Town of Foster recently purchased across from Captain Isaac Paine School.

John Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor, stated that Mr. Davis would need to show proof of insurance.

John Lewis moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the request from Mr. Davis pending resolution of the legal questions concerning insurance.

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

John Lewis announced that the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation are no longer going to accept televisions as of February 1, 2009.

Colette Matarese recognized Representative Scott Pollard in the audience and wanted to welcome him.

**CONCERNED  
CITIZENS** Gordon Rogers stated that he called all of the thirty-nine cities and towns and asked how many of the thirty-nine towns in the state are not open on Friday.

Tina W. Freeman, Town Clerk replied that only the town of Burrville is closed a half day on Friday.

He also asked how many of the thirty nine cities and towns do not have the tax rolls on line for people to compare their houses, apples to apples to make sure that certain people are not getting preferential treatment that others aren't. Of the thirty-nine towns, how many of them do not have them online for the citizens of the open public to see?

John Lewis, Vice President replied, no other city or town in the State of Rhode Island is not on line. The Town of Foster is the only one, which was decided by the Town Council at the last meeting to protect the taxpayer's privacy as opposed to making it available at all hours of the day. It is all public record, and is all 100% accessible to everyone in town who just goes into Town Hall.

Mr. Rogers also asked about the Town Treasurer. John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor stated that any response from the town is a breach of the personnel policy and a breach of the individuals' privacy.

**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 closed to provisions of the General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-4 & 5

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 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