

January 14, 2010

The January 14, 2010, 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:

John Lewis, Vice President,
Lynne S. Rider,
Roger L. Hawes
Joe Cardillo,
John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor
Colette Matarese, President, excused

The following department heads were present:

Robert E. Coyne, Police Chief
Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner
Carl Riccio, Building & Zoning Official

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the December 3, 2009, meeting minutes as written.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT No one spoke under public comment.

WARRANTS Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the following warrants: Payroll Warrant #24 in the amount of \$31,517.11, Payroll Warrant #25 in the amount of \$28,655.82, Payroll Warrant #26 in the amount of \$27,788.87, Payroll Warrant #27 in the amount of \$49,502.13, and General Warrant #13 in the amount of \$109,403.45.

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

FOSTER BEAR ARMS & BAIT SHACK, LICENSE RENEWAL Carl Riccio, Building & Zoning Official, gave a short report on the activity of the Foster Bear Arms and Bait Shack. A meeting was held among the Chabots, the Polouski's, himself and John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor an agreement was reached to construct a fence at the property line and resolved the tree issue. The work for the construction of the fence at the property line is to begin the week of January 18, 2010. Carl stated that his recommendation is to allow the business to operate until the next council meeting and then re-inspect the premises. If they complied with the agreement, then the Chabots could get their license for the rest of the year, if not, they do not have a license to operate.

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve a temporary gun license, secondhand license, and holiday sales license until the council reconvenes on January 28, 2010, when this decision will be revisited.

Mrs. Polouski stated that she agreed as long as the license is contingent on the work being done.

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

LETTER FOR EECBG GRANT John Lewis, vice president, stated that Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner, has written a letter concerning Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant money. Ann-Marie Ignasher explained that the money is part of the federal stimulus funds. The letter will “obligate the funds allocated to the municipality for Energy Performance Contracting and a Base Grant Allocation”. All of these funds need to be applied for; they just don’t give us the money. The letter reserves the funds in the name of the Town of Foster, and allows us time to place a formal application.

Roger L. Hawes moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the letter to reserve the funds for the town.

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

RE-APPOINTMENTS TO CONSERVATION COM. Roger L. Hawes moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to reappoint Edward “Mike” Wood to the Foster Conservation Commission for a three year term, ending in 2012.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to reappoint Kathryn Zuromski to the Foster Conservation Commission for a three year term, ending in 2012.

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

TREE WARDEN John Lewis stated that he has been speaking with someone who might be interested in the position of Tree Warden. He just needs more information on the position and they have not been able to speak to each other in length. John said he would like to place this item on the next agenda to discuss the appointment then.

ADDITIONS & ABATEMENTS Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the additions-proration, as recommended by Anne L. Carlson, Tax Assessor, in the amount of \$1,652.03, abatements-prorated in the amount of \$66.40, abatements-regular, in the amount of \$535.85, for a total of abatements of \$602.25.

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the abatements as recommended by Pamela Fontaine, Tax Collector, in the amount of \$1,472.83 for the 2006 motor vehicle tax roll, and \$1,471.80 for the 2007 motor vehicle tax roll, due to the defunct company, DTS Trans. Inc.

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

LETTER OF THANKS TO COUNCIL Lynne S. Rider read a letter of gratitude to the Foster Town Council for providing funds each year for the seniors. There were seventy seven seniors who attended their Christmas Party.

LETTER TABLED The letter from Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director was tabled to the next meeting agenda. The information on the agenda was not specific enough.

WINTER SAND & GRAVEL BID AWARDS Lynne S. Rider moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the recommendations from Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director to award the bid for winter sand to Ernest Joly and Son with a low bid of \$8.90 per ton delivered, and award the bid to LaFramboise for the gravel at a bid of \$9.50 per ton delivered.

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

REQUEST FOR STIPENDS FAC Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve the request for stipends to the Foster Ambulance Corps. in the amount of \$2,843.00

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

Lynne S. Rider moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, to discuss the items “k” and ‘l’ under New Business, together.

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

**REQUEST
FOR
TRAINING
FUNDS**

John Lewis stated that Moosup Valley Fire and Foster Ambulance Corps has put in the same request for two people to be trained to be instructor coordinators, so that would mean that we would have four instructors qualified. The council discussed whether or not the town needs four instructors.

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to grant the Foster Ambulance Corps. a total of \$2,599.00 for a power point projector and two instructor reimbursements, and to grant Moosup Valley Fire Co. a total of \$1,700.00.

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

The motion did not carry.

Joe Cardillo moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to grant \$1,749.00 to the Foster Ambulance Corps. for one instructor and the power point projector, and \$850.00 to the Moosup Valley Fire Co. for the reimbursement of one instructor.

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

**POLICY
LETTER TO
ENGINEER-
ING BOARD**

Lynne S. Rider moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, to send a letter to the Engineering Board in regards to further expenditure of funds from the training funds. It would require prior authorization from the town council before commitment of any funds is made, and to make sure that there is no duplication of either services or equipment. It was agreed that Lynne S. Rider, councilperson, and John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor, would draft a letter for the council to review.

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

**POLICE
CHIEF
CONTRACT/
STUDY
COMMITTEE**

John Lewis stated that he attended a Gloucester town council meeting concerning their police chief contract, and that there are two Gloucester town council people in attendance tonight, Kevin Walsh and George Steere Jr. The item on tonight’s agenda is the police chief contract/study. The two towns are thinking about possibly sharing one police chief between the two towns. John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor, stated that the Foster town charter specifically states that the town of Foster negotiates a contract with our police chief and not any other community, or any other member of any other community. John Lewis said that if the two towns put together a study committee, two members from Foster, and two members from Gloucester it would be fine. John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor said yes, you can put together any kind of committee. John Lewis said that the two towns need to work parallel between the contracts and discussing the options for the two towns. Councilman Kevin Walsh voiced the town of Gloucester’s concern of the duties a “joint” police chief would be since the Gloucester’s police chief also attends court for the town. He wanted to make sure that if they were in an ‘arrangement’ with Foster that they are not going to have to hire another policeman to perform the various job duties the chief has been doing because the chief will be the administrator for the two towns. The Gloucester charter reads the same way that Foster does concerning the police chief and the negotiations, he feels that it is a great idea to have the two towns sit and discuss the idea of a joint police chief. He will suggest placing it on the agenda for the next Gloucester town council meeting.

Roger L. Hawes moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to appoint two council members to review a new contract between the police chief and the town of Foster, and two different council members to sit with the town of Gloucester members and discuss any options for combining the two police chief positions into one for both towns. Lynne S. Rider said that the council should wait until the entire council is present before any appointments are made.

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

John Lewis said that the Fostering Arts made a request to use the Benjamin Eddy Building for one of their functions, but in the request it mentioned alcohol would be present. He wanted to clarify that was not illegal to allow this. John J. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor said that the request was too vague and that the town needed more specific information before any decision could be made by the council.

No action was taken.

CONCERNED CITIZENS A citizen asked if the budget schedule was finished yet. Another comment was that the payments to the fire departments have not been paid yet. Another statement was that the ice rink behind the supper shed is finished, hopefully the weather will help with that, maybe a port-a-john could be installed at that area from the recreation department. John Lewis said that he would ask Michael Polouski, Recreation Director about it. He also added that the town has not been paid by the state yet, so the fire departments will have to wait until the town receives the money for their payments.

Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner, announced that the second inoculation of the H1N1 vaccination for the students under the age of nine will be Monday, January 25, 2010, and the public clinic for Foster is Saturday, February 13, 2010 from 9a.m. to 1p.m. She added if anyone searched the Health Department web site, there is a listing of the clinics throughout the state.

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, Roger L. Hawes aye.

Joe Cardillo moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Lynne S. Rider moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to adjourn the executive session portion of the meeting.

There were no votes taken in executive session.

The executive session portion of the meeting adjourned at 9:20 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