

FOSTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 24, 2010

Town House, Foster, RI

The June 24, 2010, Town Council Meeting was called to order by John Lewis, Vice President, of the Foster Town Council at the Town House, Foster, Rhode Island, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

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

Joe Cardillo, & Colette Matarese, President, were excused

The following Department Heads were present:

Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner
Kelli Russ, Treasurer,
Pamela Fontaine, Tax Collector
Robert Clarkin, DPW Director
Robert Coyne, Chief of Police

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were no public comments, minutes or reports.

WARRANTS: Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger Hawes seconded, and it was so moved to approve Payroll Warrant #49 in the amount of \$28,472.08, Payroll Warrant #50 in the amount of \$226,804.48 and General Warrant #24 in the amount of \$60,907.39.

John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger Hawes, aye.

MONTHLY REPORTS: Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger Hawes seconded, and it was so moved to approve the Monthly Reports from Public Works, the Planning Department, and the Recycling Coordinator as presented.

John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger Hawes, aye.

ANIMAL SHELTER: John Lewis stated that we are currently in negotiations with the Town of Coventry to share facilities but there is nothing to report as yet.

ADDITIONS TO TAX FREEZES: A letter was submitted from Anne Carlson, Tax Assessor, to make changes to the tax roll for additions to tax freezes for people who performed construction between 2000 and 2009, mostly without building permits. All were found during revaluation in 2008.

Lynne S. Rider moved and Roger Hawes seconded to approve \$4,781.32 with additions, with \$145.06 prorated for a freeze removed, as submitted.

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John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger Hawes, aye.

H1N1 VOLUNTEERS

Town Council Vice President John Lewis read a list of people recognized for their volunteer services for who assisted in the MEDS program for H1N1 vaccinations. 145 adults were vaccinated as this was a separate program from the schools. John Lewis thanks them publicly for volunteering.

John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger Hawes, aye.

CDBG GRANT

A letter was submitted by Elinor Tetreault of the Western RI Home Repair regarding the Community Development Block Grant which includes an agreement with RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission. The agreement was referred to Town Solicitor John Bevilacqua for review.

**RESIGNATION
LETTER FROM
P. MOREAU**

Lynne S. Rider reads a letter of resignation from Patti Moreau from the Planning Board as she has accepted the position of Tax Assessor upon Anne Carlson's retirement. She expressed that she would like to continue as a representative to finish work on the Rt. 6 rezoning project. John Lewis states that they do not appoint representatives but she is free to participate in the project as an attendee.

Roger Hawes moves, Lynne S. Rider seconds the motion to accept the letter with regrets. John Lewis, aye.

John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger Hawes, aye.

**CDBG GRANT
APPROVAL CONT.**

John Bevilacqua states that the CDBG agreement, upon review, is in order.

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger Hawes seconded a motion to enter into a contract with HUD and the Town of Foster. Lynne S. Rider notes that this agreement requires that we accept responsibility for historic compliance. John Bevilacqua states that this is a normal procedure. Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner, says that Elinor Tetreault, director of the WRIHR program would contact her if an historic home was slated for repair so that she could evaluate the repairs to make sure they do not destroy the historic value.

John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger Hawes, aye.

**RTE. 6 ZONING
REPORT**

The Planning Board submitted a proposal letter concerning the Route 6 Zoning Upgrade project that has been in progress for five years. Lynne S. Rider pointed out that it would be very opportune to make Route 6 more attractive to sustainable businesses. John Lewis stated that it was not submitted for action other than to refer it to the Town Clerk to advertise a public hearing.

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Lynne S. Rider moved and Roger Hawes seconded to refer the Planning Board report to the Town Clerk so that a public hearing on the proposal could be advertised.

John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger Hawes, aye.

**NATURAL HAZARD
MITIGATION PLAN**

John Lewis stated that according to law the town must have a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan in place and it is now due to be revised. Dept. of Public Works Director Robert Clarkin and Town Planner Ann-Marie Ignasher have been working with FEMA and RIEMA. The current plan as written would not pass and a rewrite is necessary but most of the background work is already done. He also noted that the town had to hire a consultant to write the previous plan but that we are fortunate to have the Town Planner be able to do that now at no extra cost to the town. No action is required on the part of the town council.

**SEPARATION
OF R.E. AND MOTOR
VEHICLE TAXES**

John Lewis explained that because of the motor vehicle tax situation with the state that it is advisable to send out separate bills for Real Estate and Motor Vehicle taxes. Real Estate is not affected by the state issues and can go out as usual, however, until the state resolves whether or not it is turning over the money due to the cities and towns, no rate or amount can be set and they will have to go out at a later date after another Financial Town Meeting.

Gordon Rogers asked when the Financial Town Meeting will be. John Lewis says the date has not been set yet. Mr. Rogers stated that it be posted 30 days in advance with warrants. John Lewis stated that he would verify the rules for advertising. There was some discussion as to whether the meeting had been continued or adjourned, but it was agreed that it would be advertised in advance.

John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger L. Hawes, aye.

**FUTURE AGENDA
ITEMS**

John Lewis suggested that future agenda items include:

- Agreement with Abbey Lane Water District (referred to John Bevilacqua)
- Recycling Ordinance

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Lynne S. Rider moved, Roger Hawes seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to go into Executive Session according 42-46-5a (2) Collective Bargaining, and 42-46-5a (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 Executive Session portion of the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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Open Session was reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

**CARRY-OVER OF
HOURS**

Lynne S. Rider moved and Roger Hawes seconded to approve carry-over of vacation time for two employees whose anniversary hire dates do not concur with the fiscal year-end dates.

John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger L. Hawes, aye.

**TREASURER
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Roger Hawes moved, Lynne S. Rider seconded to approve the adjusted co-pays to 20% and buy back figures to address budget cuts to the 2010 Budget submitted by Kelli Russ, Treasurer.

John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger L. Hawes, aye.

**POLICE OFFICER
GRADUATION / HIRE**

Police Officer Rainville finished his academy training. Lynne S. Rider moved and Roger Hawes seconded the appointment to allow Officer Rainville to start work on Tuesday June 29, 2010, for a probationary period of 30 days.

John Lewis, aye; Lynne S. Rider, aye; and Roger L. Hawes, aye.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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

Submitted by,

Carol Lyons
Deputy Town Clerk