

**July 14, 2011**  
**Town Council Meeting**

The July 14, 2011, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Gordon E. Rogers, President, of the Foster Town Council at the Town House 180 Howard Hill Road, Foster, Rhode Island, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

**Gordon E. Rogers, President**  
**Lynne A. DeStefano, Vice President**  
**Neal C. Whitelaw,**  
**Marianne Knight,**  
**Michael E. Dillon,**

David V. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**PUBLIC  
COMMENT**

Linda Walden of Central Pike and Lynne S. Rider of Burgess Road spoke under Public Comment.

**MONTHLY  
REPORTS**

Lynne A. DeStefano moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to accept the monthly report from the Building & Zoning Department as written.

Gordon E. Rogers aye, Lynne A. DeStefano aye, Marianne Knight aye, Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Michael E. Dillon aye.

Lynne A. DeStefano moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to accept the monthly report from the Police Department as written.

Michael E. Dillon aye, Lynne A. DeStefano aye, Marianne Knight aye, Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Gordon E. Rogers aye.

**WARRANTS**

Lynne A. DeStefano moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve Payroll Warrant #28 in the amount of \$47,102.68.

Gordon E. Rogers aye, Michael E. Dillon aye, Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Marianne Knight aye, Lynne A. DeStefano aye.

The motion passed.

Lynne A. DeStefano moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve General Warrant #1 in the amount of \$35,380.84.

Lynne A. DeStefano aye, Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Gordon E. Rogers aye, Michael E. Dillon aye, Marianne Knight aye.

The motion passed

Lynne A. DeStefano moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded, and it was unanimously so voted to approve Payroll Warrant #52 in the amount of \$26,625.68.

Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Marianne Knight aye, Michael E. Dillon aye, Gordon E. Rogers aye, Lynne A. DeStefano aye.

The motion passed.

Lynne A. DeStefano moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded, and it was so voted to approve Payroll Warrant #1 in the amount of \$37,608.91.

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**WARRANTS  
CONTINUED** Lynne A. DeStefano aye, Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Gordon E. Rogers aye, Michael E. Dillon aye, Marianne Knight aye.

The motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS** It was discussed to schedule a Public Hearing for an amendment to the Town Ordinance for Mandatory Recycling 95-12-358, to include No Bin / No Barrel. It was agreed to hold the Public Hearing on August 11, 2011.

Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director stated that he has done research to the savings of the various lights in town to be turned off. He and Robert E. Coyne, Jr., Police Chief met on the issue of safety and cost effectiveness. Mr. Clarkin stated that there are fifteen proposed lights to be turned off. This was also agreed to hold a Public Hearing on August 11, 2011.

The proposed list will be posted on the Town of Foster Web Site.

**NEW BUSINESS** Lynne A. DeStefano moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded to approve the Additions-Proration in the amount of \$7,003.90.

The motion and second were removed

Lynne A. DeStefano moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded and it was unanimously so voted to approve the Additions-Proration in the amount of \$3,718.65, and the Abatements-Regular in the amount of \$7,003.90.

Patti Moreau, Tax Assessor stated that the State of Rhode Island put incorrect values on motor vehicles, approximately the years of 1987 to 1994, with 1993 being the worst year for incorrect values. The company the State of Rhode Island hired to price the vehicles for the Registry of Motor Vehicles, prices them as "New" These errors happened Statewide. In the upcoming meetings there will be more than usual abatements coming in. She will be placing an ad in the "Bargain Buyer" to help explain what happened.

Michael E. Dillon aye, Lynne A. DeStefano aye, Marianne Knight aye, Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Gordon E. Rogers aye.

The motion passed.

**APPOINTMENT  
OF DPW  
FOREMAN** Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director stated that he, Kelli Russ, Treasurer, Gordon E. Rogers, Council President, and the Director of URI conducted interviews with Bruce Colwell and Richard Dereagon who are currently employed by the Town of Foster.

Gordon E. Rogers moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded, and it was so voted to appoint Bruce Colwell as DPW Foreman, as recommended by Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director.

The town council was polled;

Neal C. Whitelaw nay, Lynne A. DeStefano aye, Michael E. Dillon aye, Marianne Knight aye, Gordon E. Rogers aye.

The motion passed.

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**REQUEST  
FROM SMCT**

Lynne A. DeStefano moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded, and it was so voted to approve the request from the Swamp Meadow Community Theatre to use the Foster Fair Grounds on August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. both days for rehearsals.

Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Michael E. Dillon aye, Marianne Knight aye, Gordon E. Rogers aye, Lynne A. DeStefano aye.

The motion passed.

**AMBULANCE  
CORPS  
STIPENDS**

Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded, and it was so voted to approve the Ambulance Corps. Stipends for the fourth quarter, in the amount of \$4,943.00.

Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Lynne A. DeStefano aye, Michael E. Dillon aye, Marianne Knight aye.

Gordon E. Rogers recused himself.

The motion passed.

**IBPO LOCAL  
637-  
RESOLUTION  
FOR WILLIAM  
CHAPMAN**

Richard Dunn spoke on behalf of Joyce Chapman, widow of the late William Chapman. He stated that at the time of the Town Council adoption of the Resolution in 2004, it was understood that it included “survival benefits” for his wife Joyce.

Lynne S. Rider of Foster, stated that was seated on that Town Council at that time, and this was a one time Resolution offering a limited retirement incentive. The Town Council needed to save some money quickly. The Resolution had nothing to do with the Police Contract that was in effect at that time. Only one individual took the incentive, and it was not to set any kind of precedent with the exception of paragraph # 9 and #11 of the Resolution. When the Resolution was written it stated “participant”, Joyce Chapman was also a participant on the policy. It does not address the death of either spouse. It says until the age of sixty five. (Lynne S. Rider was quoted because she was a council member at that time of the writing of the resolution).

See the attached “Exhibit A” for a copy of the Resolution.

Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded, and it was so voted to amend number four of the Resolution to include; also allow medical spousal survival benefits in the amount of seventy five percent per individual plan.

Marianne Knight aye, Gordon E. Rogers aye, Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Michael E. Dillon aye, Lynne A. DeStefano aye.

The motion passed.

**LETTER FROM  
TOWN  
PLANNER**

Ann-Marie Ignasher, Planner explained that this letter explains some of the questions that have been brought to her concerning the \$18,000.00 line item that was added and approved to the Planning Department at the May 3, 2011 Financial Town Meeting. The letter in front of you I feel is a fair solution.

Neal C. Whitelaw stated that this money has been approved; he felt that the Planner and Treasurer should be able to work out the hours and pay for the work done.

There was discussion on the floor.

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**LETTER FROM TOWN PLANNER** Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded and it was so voted to accept the procedure as outlined in the letter, dated July 12, 2011, from Ann-Marie Ignasher, Planner.

See attached "Exhibit B"

Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Marianne Knight aye, Michael E. Dillon nay, Lynne A. DeStefano nay, Gordon E. Rogers nay.

The motion failed.

**DPW SUMMER INTERN** Gordon E. Rogers moved, Michael E. Dillon seconded, and it was so voted to allow Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director to hire a summer intern at two dollars and hour, between four hundred fifty to five hundred dollars, for the Department of Public Works, contingent there are no problems with the union.

Michael E. Dillon aye, Gordon E. Rogers aye, Lynne A. DeStefano, aye, Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Marianne Knight aye.

The motion passed.

**TOWN ORDINANCE 63-9-351** Robert Clarkin, Public Works Director spoke of his concern with the posted speed limits on all of the Town Roads. This Public Hearing will be on August 11, 2011.

**CONCERNED CITIZENS** The following people spoke under Concerned Citizens; Ronald Cervasio, Linda Walden, Patricia Morgan, Tina W. Freeman, CMC Town Clerk, Ann-Marie Ignasher, Planner, Lynne S. Rider, John Lewis, Patti Moreau, Zack Farnum.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**                   ▪ Personnel Policy-Compensation Time

Lynne A. DeStefano was excused at 9:20 p.m.

No executive session was held.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 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, CMC  
Town Clerk