

**February 23, 2012
Town Council Meeting**

The February 23, 2012, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Gordon E. Rogers, President, of the Foster Town Council at the Benjamin Eddy Building, 6 South Killingly Road, Foster, Rhode Island, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

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

David V. Igliazzi, Town Solicitor,
Lillian Jackson, Deputy Treasurer,
Peter Scorpio, Building & Zoning Official,
Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner,
Patti Moreau, Tax Assessor,
Robert Clarkin, Director of Public Works

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

Lynne Rider of Burgess Road spoke under Public Comment.

MINUTES

Michael E. Dillon moved, Lynne A. DeStefano seconded, and it was so voted to approve the January 13, 2012, minutes as submitted. Discussion.

Neal C. Whitelaw, aye; Marianne Knight, aye; Lynne DeStefano, aye;
Michael E. Dillon, no; Gordon Rogers, no.

The motion passed 3-2.

WARRANTS

Michael E. Dillon moved, Lynne A. DeStefano seconded, and it was so voted to approve **Payroll Warrant #32** in the amount of \$29, 205.52.

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

The motion passed 5-0.

Michael E. Dillon moved, Lynne A. DeStefano seconded, and it was so voted to approve **Payroll Warrant #33** in the amount of \$29,064.07.

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

The motion passed 5-0.

Michael E. Dillon moved, Lynne A. DeStefano seconded, and it was so voted to approve **General Warrant #14** in the amount of \$72,769.19.

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

The motion passed 5-0.

**QUARTERLY
REPORT**

Michael E. Dillon moved, Lynne A. DeStefano seconded, and it was so voted to accept the Quarterly Report from the Zoning Board of Review as submitted.

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

The motion passed 5-0.

**February 23, 2012
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**OLD BUSINESS
PERSONNEL
POLICY**

Michael Dillon moved, Lynne DeStefano seconded, to accept the changes to the Personnel Policy. There was discussion on the floor.

Lynne DeStefano moved, Michael Dillon seconded to move the question.

Michael E. Dillon, aye; Lynne A. DeStefano, aye; Marianne Knight, no; Neal C. Whitelaw, no; Gordon E. Rogers, aye.

Motion failed 3-2. It did not carry a two-thirds majority vote of the council.

Gordon Rogers states that he will use his authority as Town Council President to go line by line. He ends discussion and asks for amendments.

Neal Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded, to amend **Foster Employees** by moving “Administration – Corder of Wood” and “Administration – Fence Viewer” to “Employee, Non-Standard Paid No Benefits”. Discussion.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Neal Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded to amend **Foster Employees** by removing “Public Works – Aide” and “Public Works – Custodian”. and eliminate the section “Employee, Regular, Paid, No Benefits”.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Neal Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded, to amend “Employee, Full time, Paid, With Benefits” by removing “Assessor’s Clerk” from “Treasurer’s Office” and adding “Assessor’s Clerk” to “Administration”.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Neal Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded, to keep “.0577” in Section **404.03**.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

Neal Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded to return the sick leave to 90 days in **Section 404.04**. Discussion.

Michael E. Dillon, no; Lynne A. DeStefano, no; Marianne Knight, aye; Neal C. Whitelaw, aye; Gordon E. Rogers, no.

Motion failed 3-2.

Neal Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded, to amend Section **410.01** by removing “in town only”.

Michael E. Dillon, no; Lynne A. DeStefano, no; Marianne Knight, aye; Neal C. Whitelaw, aye; Gordon E. Rogers, no.

Motion failed 3-2.

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**PERSONNEL
POLICY CONT.**

Neal Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded, to remove “and the Town Council shall determine the days that Town Sall (sic) shall be open to the Public” from Section **501.01**. Discussion.

Michael E. Dillon, no; Lynne A. DeStefano, no; Marianne Knight, aye; Neal C. Whitelaw, aye; Gordon E. Rogers, no.

Motion failed 3-2.

Neal Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded, to amend Section **502.08** by removing “forty-five (45) hours or pro-rated in the case of eligible part-time employees”.

Michael E. Dillon, no; Lynne A. DeStefano, no; Marianne Knight, aye; Neal C. Whitelaw, aye; Gordon E. Rogers, no.

Motion failed 3-2.

Michael Dillon moved, Lynne DeStefano seconded, to amend Section **702.02** to change “shall” to “must”.

Michael E. Dillon, aye; Lynne A. DeStefano, aye; Marianne Knight, no; Neal C. Whitelaw, aye; Gordon E. Rogers, aye.

Motion passed 4-0.

Gordon Rogers, Town Council President, call for the main motion to accept the changes to the Personnel Policy.

Michael E. Dillon, aye; Lynne A. DeStefano, aye; Marianne Knight, no; Neal C. Whitelaw, no; Gordon E. Rogers, aye.

Motion passed 3-2.

**NEW BUSINESS
PHONE CARRIER
CHANGE**

Robert Clarkin, DPW Director, explains that Verizon has made a proposal which should save the town approximately \$200 per month while in addition supplying faster internet service. Council President Gordon E. Rogers moved, Lynne A. DeStefano seconded, to accept the phone proposal from Verizon. Council member Neal Whitelaw requested to see a proposal for review. Council President Gordon E. Rogers asked that if motion failed that it be put on as a Future Agenda item.

Michael E. Dillon, aye; Lynne A. DeStefano, aye; Marianne Knight, no; Neal C. Whitelaw, no; Gordon E. Rogers, no.

Motion failed 3-2.

**LETTER FROM
4-H TO USE
GROUNDS**

Michael Dillon read a letter of request from Lisa Tourgee to use the Foster Fairgrounds for a Northern RI 4-H Horse Show in April.

Gordon Rogers moved, Michael Dillon seconded, to grant permission with provisions that the grounds are available and that they have the proper insurance and paperwork.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

**LETTER FROM
STERLING, CT**

A letter was received from the Town of Sterling, CT, regarding the Knox Gravel Pit and traffic concerns in Foster on Jencks Road. Town Council President Gordon Rogers moved to authorize Town Planner Ann-Marie Ignasher to send a letter to the Town Council in Sterling, CT, to clarify.

**SCHOOL
BUDGET
PRESENTATION**

Superintendent Michael Barnes and Finance Director Sara Mangarelli presented the Regional School Budget for 2012-2013.

**February 23, 2012
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**PUBLIC
HEARING “NO
BIN / NO
BARREL”**

The public hearing on the “No Bin / No Barrel” was opened. Discussion was held. Gordon Rogers moved, Lynne DeStefano seconded, to continue the discussion until March 8, 2012, when more copies of the ordinance would be provided.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

**CONCERNED
CITIZENS**

Carol Sholly, Ron Cervasio, Lynne Rider, Jane Sroka, Heidi Rogers and Pam Fontaine spoke under Concerned Citizens.

**FUTURE
AGENDA ITEMS**

- Continuation of the public hearing for “No Bin/ No Barrel”
- Treasurer’s Report
- Auditor’s Report
- Phone carrier change to Verizon
- Councilmember’s private political campaign mailing

Neal Whitelaw moved, Marianne Knight seconded, and it was so voted to go into Executive Session according to Rhode Island General Laws 42-46-5 for discussions and work sessions regarding Collective Bargaining/Litigation/Contract Negotiations, according to RI General Laws 42-46-5a (2) , 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

Gordon E. Rogers aye , Neal C. Whitelaw aye, Marianne Knight aye, Michael E. Dillon aye. Lynne DeStefano was not present.

The motion passed 4-0.

No votes were taken in executive session:

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 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 Sholly, CMC
Deputy Town Clerk