

FEBRUARY 14, 2013
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The February 14, 2013, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Pamela Fontaine, 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 L. Lewis, Jr., President,
Pamela Fontaine, Vice President,
Neal C. Whitelaw,
Denise DiFranco, and
Roger L. Hawes.

Also present were:
Renee M. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor
Kelli Russ, Town Treasurer
Ann-Marie Ignasher, Town Planner
Lillian Jackson, Deputy Town Treasurer
Patricia Moreau, Tax Assessor
Jane Christopher, Deputy Town Clerk

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

John Lewis confirmed the meeting was posted correctly. John Lewis noted the passing of Marty Helfgott and allowed Ron Cervasio to eulogize him. Mr. Lewis also thanked the DPW employees and other storm response workers such as Heidi Rogers, Randy Parrott, Ann-Marie Ignasher and Kelli Russ for their efforts during the past snow storm.

II. MINUTES

a.)

Neal Whitelaw moved, Pam Fontaine seconded, and it was so voted to approve the minutes for **January 24, 2013**, as presented.

John Lewis, aye; Pam Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

b.)

Denise DiFranco moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was so voted to approve the minutes for **February 5, 2013**, as presented.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

c.)

Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Denise DiFranco seconded, and it was so moved to approved the **February 6, 2013**, minutes as presented.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

d.)

Denise DiFranco moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was so voted to approve the minutes of **February 7, 2013**, as presented.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

III. WARRANTS

a.)

Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was so voted to approve **Payroll Warrant #28**, in the amount of \$25,132.44.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

b.)

Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, and it was so voted to approve **Payroll Warrant #29**, in the amount of \$26,635.19.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

c.)

Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was so voted to approve **Payroll Warrant #30**, adjusted to the amount of \$26,510.70.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

d.)

Denise DiFranco moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was so voted to approve **Payroll Warrant #31** in the amount of \$26,462.05.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

**FEBRUARY 14, 2013
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

III. WARRANTS Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was so voted to
CONTINUED approve **General Warrant #13** for \$81,337.23.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

IV. MONTHLY REPORTS None.

V. QUARTERLY REPORTS None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a.) ADDITIONS & ABATEMENTS Denise DiFranco moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, and it was so voted to approve the Additions of \$25.39.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, to approve the Abatements of \$1,033.94 as presented by the Tax Assessor.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

b.) RESOLUTION 2012-01 **Resolution 2012-01 Town Charter Changes** was presented for adoption. John L. Lewis, Jr. read the top portion of the resolution:

“WHEREAS, the Foster Town Council and the qualified electors of said Town adopted a Home Rule Charter in 1976, and

WHEREAS, the Foster Town Council on November 10, 2011, did appoint a Charter Review Commission to review and recommend changes to the Foster Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Foster Town Council reviewed such findings and after public meetings approved a number of matters to be submitted to the electorate in referendum form at the General Election to be held in the Town of Foster on November 6, 2012, and

WHEREAS, the voters of the Town of Foster in General Election on November 6, 2012, did approve the following changes to the Foster Home Rule.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FOSTER, RHODE ISLAND AS FOLLOWS:

That the Town Council of the Town of Foster does hereby petition the legislators of the State of Rhode Island to seek House Legislation for the ratification of the following charter changes.”

Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Pamela Fontaine seconded, and it was so moved to adopt the Resolution.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

c.) REQUEST FOR FAIRGROUNDS Northern RI 4-H requested the use of the Fairgrounds on May 12, 2013, for their annual horseshow.

Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Pamela Fontaine seconded, to approve the use of the Fairgrounds contingent upon receiving the proper certificate of insurance.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

FEBRUARY 14, 2013
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- d.) RESIGNATION FROM WRIHR BOARD** John L. Lewis, Jr. read into the record the letter from Marybeth Sweet (see Exhibit A) resigning from the Executive Board of Western RI Home Repair.

Neal Whitelaw moved, Denise DiFranco seconded, and it was so voted to accept the resignation from Marybeth Sweet with regret.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

- e.) APPOINTMENT OF NEGOTIATING TEAM FOR LOCAL #1322** John L. Lewis, Jr. states that a letter was received from Michael Sabitoni, Business Manager of the RI Laborer's District Council, requesting extension of the contract for Local #1322. Denise DiFranco moved, Pamela Fontaine seconded, to appoint Roger Hawes and Neal Whitelaw as the negotiating team for the RI Laborer's Union Local #1322.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- a.) APPT. OF DEPUTY TREASURER**

Roger Hawes moved, Neal C. Whitelaw seconded, and it was so voted to appoint Lillian Jackson to the position of Deputy Treasurer.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

VIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Presentation by Michael Barnes regarding the school budget
- CDBG Public Hearing

IX. EXEC. SESSION

Neal Whitelaw moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded, to go into Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 for a work session regarding Collective Bargaining / Negotiations or Litigation according to RIGL 42-46-5-a (2) and to reconvene into open session and to further keep the minutes of said meeting closed and the minutes of all executive sessions held previous to this meeting remain closed in accordance with provisions in RIGL 42-46-4 & 5. No discussion.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; and Neal Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Neal C. Whitelaw moved, Roger L. Hawes seconded to reconvene into Open Session. John L. Lewis, Jr. announced that no votes were taken.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Neal Whitelaw moved, Roger Hawes seconded a motion to adjourn.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal C. Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 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
Town Clerk