

FEBRUARY 25, 2016
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The February 25, 2016 Town Council Meeting was called to order by John L. Lewis, Jr., 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
Denise DiFranco, Vice President
Jon Restivo,
Gordon Rogers, and
Cheryl Hawes.

Also present:
Kelli Russ, Treasurer,
Patti Moreau, Tax Assesor,
Lillian Jackson, Deputy Treasurer,
Police Chief William Ziehl,
Robert DePalo, BOC Chair

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

John L. Lewis, Jr. stated that the notice of the meeting was properly posted on the Secretary of State’s web site.

Mr. Lewis made a correction regarding the previous Town Council meeting. At the meeting on February 11, 2016, Mr. Lewis had stated that the Police Chief had informed Ms. DiFranco that the work on the recreation field on Foster Center Road was going to be started. He has since been informed that the Chief had not informed her.

Gordon Rogers also wanted to clarify a misunderstanding. He didn’t realize that when Chief Ziehl mentioned that the bulldozer was being moved, that it meant that the work would be starting at the ball field.

John L. Lewis, Jr. stated that the flags had been placed at half mast the previous week in honor of the passing of Justice Scalia, per order of the President and the Governor.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. MINUTES

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to approve the minutes of February 11, 2016.

Discussion: Gordon Rogers Pointed out that the minutes didn’t reflect a motion made and voted on, on page 4 under “Disposition of timber” and asked to have the minutes amended.

Denise DiFranco asked that Mr. Robert Thurber, Corder of Wood, be added to the, “Also Present,” list.

Mr. Lewis stated that they would be amending the minutes to clarify the vote under, “Disposition of timber, phase one,” and to add Mr. Thurber’s name.

John L. Lewis, Jr, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Jon Restivo, aye. Motion to adopt the amended minutes carried 5-0.

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V. WARRANTS

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to approve Payroll Warrant #32 for \$36,003.12.

John L. Lewis, Jr, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Jon Restivo, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to approve Payroll Warrant #33 for \$31,477.64.

John L. Lewis, Jr, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Jon Restivo, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to approve General Warrant #14 for \$49,472.19.

Discussion: Denise DiFranco asked for clarification and was given answers by Deputy Treasurer Lillian Jackson, on a few expenses listed in the Warrant.

John L. Lewis, Jr, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Jon Restivo, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

VI. MONTHLY REPORTS

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to accept the January 2016 monthly reports from the Building and Zoning Department, the Finance Department, Human Services Department, Planning Department, Police Department, and RIRRC, as submitted.

It was noted that the Department of Public Works and Tax Assessor's reports were missing.

Discussion: Ms. DiFranco noted that the DHS is in need of fire wood and asked that the wood from the ball field be given to DHS.

She also wanted to make everyone aware that the Feinstein Foundation is no longer matching food donations and that the Department of Human Services would be hosting their own food drive during March and April and is asking that residents, churches, businesses and organizations make donations during those months.

John L. Lewis, Jr, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Jon Restivo, aye. Motion to approve the monthly reports carried 5-0.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS
a.) Proclamation for Carolyn Kerttula

Gordon Rogers moved, Denise DiFranco seconded, that the chair of the Board of Canvassers, Robert DePalo, present Carolyn Kerttula with a Proclamation (Exhibit a) from the Town Council.

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**NEW
BUSINESS
Cont.**

John L. Lewis, Jr, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Jon Restivo, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. DePalo and Mrs. Kerrtula were called forward. Mr. DePalo presented Mrs. Kerrtula with flowers and said a few heartfelt words regarding her 56 years of service and dedication. Mr. DePalo read the Proclamation on behalf of the Council and presented it to her.

**b.)Resolution
Supporting
Formation of
Coalition
Among
Regional
School
Districts**

John Lewis read the resolution Supporting the Formation of Coalition Among Regional School Districts, (Exhibit b) given to him by Michael Barnes, Superintendent of Schools.

Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to support the Formation of Coalition Among Rhode Islands Regional School Districts as read.

School committee member Ron Cervasio spoke in support of the Resolution, referred to a meeting at the State House on February 29th at 7:00pm, and urged people to get involved.

John L. Lewis, Jr, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Jon Restivo, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**IX. FUTURE
AGENDA
ITEMS**

- Charter Review Commission Report
- Recreation Field
- Police Station Update
- EMA/Foster Center Fire Department
- Policy for Use of Town Grounds
- Refuse Removal Contract Renewal

**X. EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

There was none

**XI. ADJOURN-
MENT**

Gordon Rogers moved, Denise DiFranco seconded, and it was so moved to adjourn the meeting.

John L. Lewis, Jr, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Jon Restivo, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

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

Submitted by

Susan E. Sprague
Deputy Town Clerk