

APRIL 14, 2016
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The April 14, 2016 Town Council Meeting was called to order by John L. Lewis, Jr., President of the Foster Town Council, at the Town House, Foster, Rhode Island, at 7:03 p.m.

The following members were present:

John L. Lewis, Jr., President
Denise DiFranco, Vice President,
Gordon Rogers,
Jon Restivo, and
Cheryl Hawes

Also present:

Renee M. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor
Kelli Russ, Treasurer
Tax Assessor, Patti Moreau
Police Chief William Ziehl
Scott Knox
Superintendent Michael Barnes

**I. OPEN
SESSION
PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**II. ANNOUNCE-
MENTS**

John L. Lewis, Jr. stated that the notice of the meeting was properly posted on the Secretary of State's web site. Mr. Lewis also made mention of the upcoming Earth Day clean-up event on Saturday, April 23, 2016, from 8 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the DPW yard.

**III. PUBLIC
COMMENT**

None

IV. MINUTES

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to approve the minutes for March 10, 2016, as submitted.

Discussion: Denise DiFranco asked about the status of the grant for Recreation Acquisition Development that was due on May 27, 2016. John Lewis stated that he was waiting for a projected cost from Crossman Engineering for the development of phase one and that he would be writing the grant based on that estimate.

Ms. DiFranco also wanted to know the status of a letter of support for the Scituate Watershed Community Assistance that was going to be reviewed by the Town Solicitor prior to John Lewis signing it. Mr. Lewis stated that it had been reviewed, he had signed off on it and it had been sent.

Ms. DiFranco inquired about the status of a proposed list of requirements for required financial statements, policies and procedures for non-town entities that Ms. Russ and Ms. Bevilacqua were going to be working on together. Mr. Lewis stated that with the Financial Town Meeting coming up, the Treasurer had been very busy and that it would come in front of the Council at a later date. Ms. Russ did mention that the work had been started.

John L. Lewis, Jr, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Jon Restivo, aye. Motion to approve the minutes for March 10th carried 5-0.

V. WARRANTS

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to approve Payroll

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Warrant #39 for \$38,335.05.

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 #40 for \$35,100.21.

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 #17 for \$87,738.33.

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

**VI. OLD
BUSINESS**

**a.) Temporary
Emergency
Lighting for
Town House**

John L. Lewis, Jr. reminded the Council that the State Fire Marshal's office had closed the Town House until updated emergency lighting could be installed. He then stated that Gordon Brayton, from the Old Home Days Committee, had offered the use of their lighting system so that the Preservation Society could continue to hold their Wednesday morning meetings and the Town House wouldn't have to be entirely closed.

Denise DiFranco moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to allow the emergency lighting borrowed from the Foster Old Homes Days Committee to be installed and opening up the Town House once they were in place.

Discussion: Jon Restivo asked if the lights would be installed upstairs or down and was informed that they would be down stairs for sure and that if there were enough lights, they could possibly be both upstairs and downstairs.

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

**b.) Police
Station
Building
Committee
Mission
Statement**

Police Chief William Ziehl had provided the Council with a brief mission statement to use as a beginning reference point for discussion.

Denise DiFranco moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to accept the Mission Statement as presented by Chief Ziehl for the Police Station Building Committee.

John Lewis read the Mission Statement as it was presented. (Exhibit A.)

Discussion: There was discussion of changes that should be made to the existing Mission Statement.

Jon Restivo moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to amend the motion to accept the Mission Statement so that it would read, "the committee is charged to evaluate and report back to the Town Council regarding the location, design and building of a new Police Station."

John L. Lewis, Jr, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon

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Rogers, aye; and Jon Restivo, aye. Amended motion carried 5-0.

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

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, that the committee contain one member of the Town Council, Police Chief Ziehl and four members at large. That said Committee would be appointed by the Town Council and report back no later than October 28, 2016, with the suggestion of the Treasurer and Building and Zoning Official as consults.

Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to amend the main motion to add a fifth member at large to allow the committee to have an odd number of members.

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

John Lewis, Jr. moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to amend the main motion to change the deadline for the committee to report back to the Town Council, to August 25, 2016.

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

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

**VII. NEW
BUSINESS
a.) Council
Approval of
Criteria for
WWII
Memorial**

Scott Knox addressed the Council regarding approval of criteria for WWII Memorial. He read out loud his letter of intent. (Exhibit B.) He spoke of the process that he has been working through to determine the criteria for the names that will be on the Memorial. He pointed out, with the use of a hand drawn map, the placement of the Memorial.

Cheryl Hawes moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to accept Scott Knox's plan as presented, for the WWII Memorial and allow him to move forward with it.

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

**b.) Superinten-
dent's
Presentation
Re:
Capital Plan,
Paine School**

Superintendent Michael Barnes presented the Capital Plan for Paine School. He stated that he was looking for the Council to support the plan in principle and confirm some actions already taken. He wanted the Council to confirm that they would work with the school committee jointly, to fund the first two years and look at the plan annually in the years that follow to determine the Town's ability to fund those projects in years three, four and five.

Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to support the plan in principle to include the two year plan moving forward for the heating system and the other things mentioned in the plan, by working with the school committee jointly and committing to annually examine the plan and the Town's ability to fund the projects in years three, four and five.

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

**c.) Bid Opening,
Town Hall
Carpet
Replacement
Project**

John L. Lewis, Jr. opened and read two bids for this project, as follows:

- Domenic and Sons Floor Covering, Johnston, RI
\$6150.00
- Ruggieri Carpet One, Cranston, RI
\$6924.43

Gordon Rogers moved, Denise DiFranco seconded, to refer the bids to the DPW Director for determination.

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

**d.) Contract
Approval for
Statewide
Bridge End
Treatment
Project**

John L. Lewis, Jr. referred to a contract for approval of the statewide bridge end treatment project. He reviewed the location of each bridge and the work needing to be done. He stated that it was no cost to the Town and that the State would pay for it using Federal funds. We would commit to maintain what they install. The solicitor reviewed the contract and checked with DPW regarding the maintenance of the work to be done.

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to sign the contract for the construction and maintenance of the state wide bridge end treatment project.

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

**e.) Addendum to
FY 2016-17
Solid Waste
& Recycling
Services
Agreement**

Councilman Lewis reviewed the new service agreement for solid waste and recycling service that had been changed due to State Law.

Discussion followed regarding the changes and the Town Solicitor stated that because the changes in the service agreement were due to changes in the State Law, the Town didn't have any option but to sign.

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to accept the addendum to FY 2016-2017 solid waste and recycling services agreement as presented.

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

**f.) Resolution
Opposing
House Bill
#7985, Low
and Moderate
Income
Housing**

Council member Gordon Rogers asked that this be put on the agenda. Mr. Rogers referred to a note written by the Town Planner, Juliana King, clarifying Foster's regulations regarding low income housing. Ms. King pointed out that the second paragraph of the resolution wouldn't pertain to Foster. The Resolution (Exhibit C.) from Glocester regarding Low and Moderate Income Housing was reviewed and Denise DiFranco read the Resolution omitting the second paragraph.

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Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to accept the Resolution as read, omitting the second paragraph.

Discussion: John Lewis pointed out a few corrections on the Resolution.

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

**VIII. FUTURE
AGENDA
ITEMS**

- EMA/Foster Center Fire Department
- Charter Review Commission Report
- LESO Program
- Bid Award, Town Hall Carpet Replacement Project, April 28
- Bid Awards, Town Hall Emergency Lights, Woody Lowden Recreation Center Fire Alarm/Door, April 28
- Town of Gloucester Resolutions May 26th review
- GBM Public Hearing April 28
- Tax Ordinance Public Hearing April 28
- Financial Statements and Standards Policies & Procedures for Non-Town Entities Receiving Appropriations

**IX. EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

N/A

**X. 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 8:14 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