



PLANNING BOARD MINUTES
TOWN OF FOSTER
Benjamin Eddy Building
6 South Killingly Road, Foster, RI
Wednesday: January 15, 2014
7:00 p.m.

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- A. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- B. Roll Call:** Present; Joe Carey, Mike Carpenter, Tom Mercier (excused), Helen Hardy, John Bevilacqua (Chair), Jon Restivo, Julia Parmentier, Ann Marie Ignasher (Planner). Kelli Russ (Treasurer) arrived at 7:20 pm.
- C. Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of 12/18/2013 meeting: Julia Parmentier made a motion to approve, Mike Carpenter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Correspondence and Review:** John Bevilacqua encouraged members to attend the Writing Sound Decision Workshop on Tuesday February 4, 2014. The Board members received a model ordinance for a small wind turbine, for review and discussion at a later date.
- E. Board Members' Reports:**
Affordable Housing, Joseph Carey reports they had a workshop to discuss how affordable housing ordinances apply to Foster; Planning Board will handle requests Foster. Currently there are no Affordable Housing Members only.

Land Trust most likely reports that Walter May is being put in for State recognition.
- F. Planner's Report:**
Received and placed on file for November & December
- G. Zoning – Opinion Requested**
None
- H. Commercial Site Reviews**
None
- I. Administrative Subdivisions:**
LaPointe, Boswell Trail Plat 7 Lot 33 A – 33. John Bevilacqua reviewed this decision. Mike Carepenter made a motion to accept, Joseph Carey seconded. Motion Carries Unanimously.
- J. Minor Subdivisions**
None
- K. Major Subdivisions:**
None
- L. New Business:** Capital Budget Requests:
1. Paine School – Presented a Five (5) year worksheet:

A. Carolyn Caswell Superintendent presented the proposal, which is detailed for window replacement. Copies of fire violation and bid proposal were enclosed. Joe McGovern, School Maintenance, Assistant Director, also spoke on this.

B. Security: Modification of front entry, once a person is buzzed in they, have free access to the building. Chief of Police spoke to that problem and they had identified as a hazard.

The proposal is for a Capital Lease, which would extend \$110,000.00 over 5 years. The state & possibly RIEMA will provide some reimbursement. The reimbursement of 42% may be available through RIDE. It was noted that reimbursements as of now go to General Fund, not Capital Fund. John Bevilacqua will recommend reimbursement go into the Capital Fund if that is where the money originally came from. Recommendation to Town Council, any reimbursement should go to the Capital Fund.

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- C. Wireless access school-wide, being partially covered by from RIDE wireless accessibility grant to schools.

There was a discussion on the well and the question of whether to ask for the funds in the Capital Budget for the well this year. The well was installed in 1960. Mike Carpenter and Julia Parmentier both recommended that this request be made and that will set the need and priority of the project for the future. John Bevilacqua asks when the last time the well was inspected? Joe McGovern stated, the well was inspected 4 months ago. Quality of water is inspected monthly, pressure measured daily. John Bevilacqua asked was the replacement assessed? Possibility of fracking well, but the well is inside the building in the boiler room. According to current State Law the well can no longer be in the building. Need to find a place for the well. The School is requesting \$60,298.00 for this years Capital Budget, the well is on the worksheet for 2015.

Dr. Caswell asked if she should re-submit with the new request. Kelli advises that the reimbursement may be several years in coming.

2. Police Department – Presented by Chief Ziehl;

- A. Chief Ziehl explained the replacement of three (3) vehicles and requesting one (1) additional. This is detailed in a report submitted, including the problems with the vehicles being replaced. He also reported that several vehicles were replaced with government surplus vehicles, including the animal control officers vehicle. He also explained the disposition of several vehicles in the fleet. Also explained, the need for four wheel and/or all wheel drive vehicles due to the inclement weather conditions in the Town. Mike Carpenter would like to see the Police station wiring go under Police in the Capital Fund and not under Buildings and Maintenance.

3. DPW:

- A. Harold Shippee Jr. acting director, presented this proposal, replacement of dump truck/sander, Police Station wiring “not to code” to say the minimum. Mike Carpenter feels that the DPW should request \$100,000 for replacement of vehicles alone, and requests that Harold tell us the actual replacement cost for these vehicles in order to make a responsible and realistic recommendation for the Town.

There was a discussion of maybe of procuring vehicles from National Guard Surplus, for Police Department and then transferring over to DPW. Kelli recommends that Gary (DPW Mechanic) provide an inventory of vehicles and their condition in order to provide a real plan and program for replacement. DPW was tabled until a later date, so more accurate information can be gathered.

4. Engineering Board:

- A. Requested \$125,000.00, Kelli stated they had a surplus from the last truck purchased which can be budgeted toward the current request of \$112,500.00.

Board members discussed at length what a reasonable amount for an annual request for capital funds for order to maintain the basic infrastructure, and \$500,000 was agreed to be a minimal amount to expend annually just for maintenance, not even considering particular projects like rewiring the police station, bridge repairs, road repair, or buildings and maintenance.

John Bevilacqua entertained a motion to table DPW to gather more detailed information on the equipment from DPW and have an additional meeting on January 28, 2014 at 7:00 pm. The agenda will be limited to the Capital Budget. Mike Carpenter moved, Julia Parmentier seconded, Motion Carried Unanimously.

M. Continued Business:

Appointment of Liaisons

N. Comprehensive Plan – Ongoing Work:

Continued to February 5, 2014

O. Future Agenda Items:

None

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P. Adjournment:

Julia Parmentier made a motion to adjourn at 9:18 pm, Mike seconded, Motion carries unanimously.