

Town Council Meeting
June 10, 2021

The June 10, 2021, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Denise L. DiFranco, President, via Zoom™ in Foster, RI at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:
Denise L. DiFranco, President
Heidi Rogers, Vice President
Chris Stone
David Paolino
Cheryl Hawes

Also present:
Joanna Achille, Solicitor
Julia Chretien, Solicitor
Kelli Russ, Finance Director
Michael Antonellis, Planner
Planning Board members

- I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Lynne Rider updated the Town Council on the status of the grant for the Town House.
- III. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes for May 13, 2021

2. Approval of Payroll Warrants

a. #46 - \$33,347.85

b. #47 - \$31,102.13

c. #48 - \$34,169.65

d. #49 - \$32,490.45

3. Approval of General Warrants

a. General Warrants #17 - \$157,257.25

4. Monthly Reports (April Reports)

a. DPW

b. Human Services

c. Planning

d. Police Reports

e. RIRRC

f. Tax Assessor

5. Quarterly Reports (Jan, Feb, March)

a. South Foster Fire

b. Foster Center Fire

c. EMA

d. Foster Conservation

e. Foster School Committee

f. Land Trust

g. Planning

h. Recreation

Chris Stone moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Discussion: None

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.
- IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Legislative Grants

Senator Gordon Rogers presented a grant to South Foster Volunteer Fire Department for \$1000.00, a grant to Human Services for \$1000.00 and \$2500.00 for Foster Senior Services.

2. Albert Faella regarding Flee Market Licensing

Denise L. DiFranco explained that Albert Faella wanted to have a license to sell candy, and that we do not have a license for that at present.

Mr. Faella explained that he wanted to have an antique and craft flea market and his daughter wanted to sell candy. He questioned the licensing categories and fees. He referred to the 30-day license the State created for a \$10 fee, and that the City of Providence is waiving fees. He asked that the town consider something reasonable.

Julia Chretien said there would have to be a Public Hearing. She is in the process of getting an Ordinance together.

3. Resignation of Social Services Department Head

Denise L. DiFranco said that next is the resignation from Carol Mauro. She is retiring. Heidi Rogers read the letter (see Exhibit A).

Cheryl Hawes moved, Heidi Rogers seconded, to accept her resignation with regrets.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

4. Updated Department of Social Services Job Description

Denise L. DiFranco said that it had been referred to as Human Services and the suggestion is to be changed to Social Services, and Carol Mauro had submitted a new job description.

Cheryl Hawes moved, Chris Stone seconded, to adopt the new job description as submitted by Carol Mauro as written.

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5. Advertisement of Social Services Position
Denise L. DiFranco next is advertising for a new Social Services Director. Susan Dillon said it could be posted on the Valley Breeze, which would be \$220. Kelli Russ suggested putting it on our website. Denise L. DiFranco said the last day is July 22. Lynne Rider asked if the State had a website to place the ad.
6. Interview Committee
Denise L. DiFranco said that everyone should be on the interview. Julia Chretien suggested interviewing the top five. Heidi Rogers recused herself from the discussion. Denise L. Chris Stone moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to select two council members to review the applications, select four or five, and then the whole council interview the candidates. Discussion: Denise L. DiFranco and Chris Stone volunteered to review the applications. Motion passed 4 – 0 – 1, with one recusal by Heidi Rogers.
7. Schedule of meetings for June, July and August
Denise L. DiFranco noted that the 4H want to have an event and that would need approval. Heidi Rogers moved to have a Zoom meeting on the 24th to address that issue, and meetings on July 8 and Aug 12. Motion passed 5 - 0.
8. Recreation Department Request for Food Truck Events (7/11, 8/12, & 8/29) rain dates 9/5 and 9/6
Denise L. DiFranco said the Recreation is looking for food truck events. We would still need to have a contract and hold a public hearing. There would be 10 trucks. The earliest we could have a public hearing would be July 8. Julia Chretien asked if he was planning on having alcohol, and if so he needs to have the insurance in 14 days ahead. Heidi Rogers moved to approve the following dates for the food truck events at the fairgrounds contingent upon approval at the July 8 public hearing. The dates are July 11, August 12, and August 29 with rain dates on September 5 and September 6. Discussion: Cheryl Hawes told Tammy Steinkamp that she had this happen the last time. She does not want that to happen again. David Paolino asked if we discussed who would pay for what. Denise L. DiFranco said that would be part of the contract. David Paolino asked when alcohol was approved. Denise L. DiFranco said that was approved by a previous council. Motion passed 5 - 0.
9. Recognition of Tax Assessor, Patti Moreau
Denise L. DiFranco said that Ms. Moreau received Recognition of Outstanding and Dedicated Service Award from The Northeastern Regional Association of Assessing Officers. Ms. DiFranco congratulated her.
10. Sign Proposal for Phillips Recreation Field
Denise L. DiFranco said that after discussion with Kelli Russ and Tammy, she thought it would be better decided by Recreation because they are paying for the sign. Cheryl Hawes said she was not a fan of the proposed sign because she felt it did not single out the outstanding debt that this town owes to services above and beyond. She thought it should have his full name. Heidi Rogers agreed, it should have his name and Capt. there. Tammy Steinkamp said she agreed. Denise L. DiFranco said she saw the Scituate Police sign and said there seemed to be enough room to put the name.
11. Paving Bid for George Washington Hwy Recommendation
DPW Director Gordon Rogers submitted his recommendation to go with D'Ambra. Chris Stone moved to use D'Ambra to do the paving for George Washington Hwy. There was no second. Heidi Rogers noted that the cost was \$89 per ton, which is the lowest bid. Denise L. DiFranco reminded the attendees that this paving is for the road that the residents will be paying half of it. Kelli

Russ asked them to make approval contingent upon the payment by the residents in advance.
Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to award the paving for George Washington Highway to D'Ambra at \$89 / ton contingent upon the contract signing with the residents of George Washington Highway, and paying 50 percent of the bid upon signing a contract to the Town of Foster and that contract will be signed before the contract with D'Ambra. Motion passed 3 – 1 – 1 with a no vote from Denise L. DiFranco. Cheryl Hawes abstained.

12. Solar Bids, Theodore Foster Road

Kelli Russ said the proposal is for solar at the Nike Site. We hired a consultant and that fee will be paid by the person who is awarded the project in the end. There are various proposals, which is why we needed a consultant.
Lynne Rider asked if the is town building it for our own power, and it is not leased. Denise L. DiFranco said yes, and it would be on brownfields. We do not need a motion as this is just an update.
Denise L. DiFranco said that the next meeting would be June 24, which will be a Zoom meeting for the 4H and the grant from the Champlin Society.

- V. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5A (2) Litigations
- 1. TOF v Saint 23, LLC, et.AL-PC-2018-3588
 - 2. TOF v R.P. Investment Company, LLC d/b/a Price Auto-PC-2020-01954
 - 3. TOF v Wright's Auto
 - 4. TOF v Mark Audet

Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to go into Executive Closed Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 for a discussions or work session regarding Personnel according to RIGL 42-46-5A(1) 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.
Motion passed 4-0.
Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

- PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5A (1) Personnel
- a. Building and Zoning Position

- PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5, (A), (9)
- a. International Brotherhood of Police Officers, Local 637, Negotiations

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Denise L. DiFranco said no votes were taken.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Submitted by,

Susan M. Dillon, Town Clerk



Department of Human Services

Town of Foster

Est. 1781

May 18, 2021

To: Denise DiFranco
Heidi Rogers
Cheryl Hawes
Christie Stone
David Paolino

Town of Foster
181 Howard Hill Rd.
Foster, RI 02825

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to inform you of my intent for resignation from my position as Director of Human Services for the Town of Foster. My last day for fulfilling these responsibilities will be July 22, 2021.

It has been a pleasure to serve the residents of Foster over the past ten years. On many occasions, residents have expressed their gratitude to live in this community where they can turn to DHS in times of need.

I am happy to assist HR with the process of finding a new person to fill this position and to transition into the department.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the residents of Foster and to be part of the great team of colleagues at Town Hall.

Sincerely,


Carol Mauro

CC: Kelli Russ, Human Resources

181 Howard Hill Road, Foster, Rhode Island 02825 401-392-9208

Exhibit B
TC Mtg. 6-10-2021
TOWN OF FOSTER, RHODE ISLAND

DENISE L. DiFRANCO
TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT

SUSAN M. DILLON
TOWN CLERK

KELLI M. RUSS
TREASURER/FINANCE DIRECTOR

GORDON ROGERS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS



ADDRESS MAIL TO:

FOSTER TOWN HALL
TREASURER'S OFFICE
181 HOWARD HILL ROAD
FOSTER, RI 02825

TOWN CLERK TEL: 401-392-9200 X 116
TREASURER'S OFFICE TEL: 401-392-9207
TREASURER'S OFFICE FAX: 401-397-9736

RE: Bid Opening
Council Meeting Date: June 10, 2021
Recommended Bidder: D'Ambra
Bid Description: Street Paving-George Wash Hwy
Awarded Bidder: _____

Date: June 2, 2021

Department: ☒ DPW ☐ Town Clerk/Council ☐ Police/Public Safety

☐ Assessor ☐ Treasurer/Finance ☐ Planning/Zoning

Bidder	Bituminous Concrete/ton	Keyways/linear foot	Tack Coat Application/Sq.Yd
Cardi Corp	Est. ton 265 \$105/ton	Est LF 32 \$2.50/lf	Est. Sq Yds 1831 \$1.00/sq yd
D'Ambra	Est. ton 250 \$89/ton	Est LF 16 \$0.01/lf	Est. Sq Yds 0 \$0/sq yd
Narragansett Improvement Co.	Est. ton N/A \$92.25/ton North Rd \$92.25/ton Anthony Rd	Est LF N/A \$5.00/lf	Est. Sq Yds N/A \$0.50/sq yd
Lynch	Est. ton 263 \$125/ton	Est LF 150 \$19.00/lf	Est. Sq Yds 1831 \$1.00/sq yd

Dept. Head (or their representative) Present at Opening:

Kelli M. Russ Michael Antonellis

*The Town of Foster does not discriminate on basis of age, gender, race, religion,
or handicap in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.*