

The August 12, 2021, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Denise L. DiFranco, President, 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:

Marc Tourgee, Solicitor
Michael Antonellis, Planner

- I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS** Denise L. DiFranco asked for a moment of silence for Russ Dannecker who passed away.
Lynne Rider spoke regarding grants for the town.
- III. CONSENT AGENDA** **Approval of Minutes** for June 24, 2021 and July 08, 2021
Approval of General Warrants
1. General Warrant FY 2021 #20 - \$71,376.62
2. General Warrant FY 2022 #1 \$470,071.46
Monthly Reports (June 2021)
a. Planning Department b. Building & Zoning
c. DPW d. Police e. RIRRC f. Social Services
g. Tax Assessor
Quarterly Reports (April, May & June)
a. South Foster Fire Co. b. Foster Center Fire c. EMA d. Foster School Dept. e. Libraries of Foster
f. Recreation Committee
- Chris Stone moved, Heidi Rogers seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda.
Motion passed 5 - 0.
Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye. (Heidi Rogers arrived later.)
- IV. PUBLIC HEARING** Denise L. DiFranco opened the public hearing for Zoning Map Amendment, Plat 10, Lot 25-C, David Paolissi, Jr.
David Paolissi, Jr., owner of Assessor's Plat Lot 25-C requesting a Proposed Zoning Map Amendment to re-zone a property location along Danielson Pike, Plat 10 Lots 25-C, formerly a part of Plat 10 Lot 25, from an Agricultural/Residential (A/R) zoning district to a General Business Mixed Used (GBM) district.
Atty. Renee Bevilacqua spoke, representing David Paolissi, Jr. and explained the reason for the zoning change.
Denise L. DiFranco asked if anyone would like to speak in favor. There were none.
Denise L. DiFranco asked if anyone would like to speak against. There were none.
- Town Planner Mike Antonellis presented a map detailing the zoning changes (see Exhibit A) and explained the procedures followed prior to the hearing.
- Heidi Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to change the zoning for Assessor's Plat 10, Lot 25-C

V. NEW BUSINESS

*Items 6, 11 & 12 moved to
this position*

from an Agricultural/Residential (A/R) zoning district
to a General Business Mixed Used (GBM) district.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino,
aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

*6 Bid Award Solar
Energy Consultant,
moved here*

Denise L. DiFranco asked that items 6, 11, and 12
under new business be moved up.

Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to move
items 6, 11 & 12 to this position.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino,
aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

*11 Resignation of Zoning
Board member, moved
here*

6. Award Bid for the Solar Energy Project. Denise L.
DiFranco asked that this be continued to the next
meeting so that more information can be presented.
Chris Stone moved, David Paolino seconded, to
continue item 6 to the next meeting.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino,
aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

*12 Appointment to Zoning
Board, moved here*

11. Denise L. DiFranco said that they had received an
email from Donna Carchia resigning from the zoning
board. Ms. DiFranco asked the solicitor if that was
acceptable. Atty. Tourgee said it was as long as it was
from her email address.

Heidi Rogers moved, David Paolino seconded, to
accept Ms. Carchia's resignation with regret.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino,
aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

12. Denise L. DiFranco said they have an email from
Timothy Dannenfelser who is the alternate on the
Zoning Board, and that in the past they have moved
the alternate up to a full member. They also have an
application from Michelle Ziemba who has applied to
the board.

Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to
appoint Tim Dannenfelser to the Zoning Board with a
term expiring in December 2025.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino,
aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

Cheryl Hawes moved, David Paolino seconded, to
appoint Michelle Ziemba to the Zoning Board as an
alternate.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino,
aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

*9 Ball Field update,
moved here*

Mike Antonellis said he had one more item to discuss
which would be the ballfield.

Chris Stone moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded to move
item 9 to this point.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino,
aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

Mr. Antonellis said he had discussed with David Paolino and Chris Stone had reached out about possible changes to the site plan. Mr. Antonellis wanted to bring them before the council before bringing them to the engineer. He worked with Lisa McGreavy at DEM to make sure that it won't affect the reimbursement.

Mr. Antonellis said the potential modifications include:

1 – group the proposed tennis court and basketball court onto the same space. 1 designated area would serve both purposes;

2 – elimination of vegetated parking islands (this will allow for better care of the parking areas and complications with plowing);

3 – paving and striping the parking area (likely to happen after completion of phase 2, not as a part of phase 2 construction;

4 – moving the soccer/football field approximately 20 to 30 ft. closer to the southern property line, allowing for additional parking, or bus drop-off and queuing area; 4 – relocation of well;

5 – stockade fencing along the southern most property line;

6 – different location for concession stand, likely on the phase 2 portion of the site.

Gordon Rogers discussed the adjustments.

David Paolino moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to accept the changes as presented.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

1. Retirement of Tax Assessor

Denise L. DiFranco said we are moving back to the first item from Patti Moreau resigning from the Tax Assessor position (see Exhibit B).

Cheryl Hawes moved, Chris Stone seconded, to accept the retirement of the Tax Assessor with deep regret.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

2. Tax Assessor's Job Description

Denise L. DiFranco said that next is the Tax Assessor's Job Description. Kelli Russ and Patti Moreau met with Julia Chretien and discussed the job description and updated it.

Heidi Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to accept the job description as updated.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

3. Interview Committee for Tax Assessor

Denise L. DiFranco said that next was to form and interview committee for the Tax Assessor's position. Cheryl Hawes volunteered to be on it.

Cheryl Hawes moved that she and Heidi Rogers be on the interview committee.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

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| 4. Tax Collector's Job Description | Denise L. DiFranco said that next is the update to the Tax Collector's job description.
Cheryl Hawes moved, Heidi Rogers seconded, to accept the job description as presented.
Motion passed 5 - 0.
Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye. |
| 5. Interview Committee for Tax Collector
6. Bid Award Solar Energy Consultant | Denise L. DiFranco said that next was the interview committee for the Tax Collector. Cheryl Hawes volunteered.
Cheryl Hawes moved, Chris Stone seconded, to be on the interview committee with Heidi Rogers, Nancy Delaere, and Kelli Russ.
Motion passed 5 - 0.
Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye. |
| 7. Bid Award Heating Oil | Denise L. DiFranco said that next was to award the bid for the heating oil.
Heidi Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to award the heating oil bid to Rambone & Sprague.
Motion passed 5 - 0.
Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye. |
| 8. Bid Award Electric for Wash Bay | Denise L. DiFranco said that next was to award the bid to install the electric work for the new Wash Bay.
Heidi Rogers moved, David Paolino seconded, to award the electrical work to Mr. Electric. |
| 9. <i>Ball Field update moved</i> | Motion passed 5 - 0.
Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye. |
| 10. Swamp Meadow rental | Denise L. DiFranco said that next was a request to rent the fairgrounds from Swamp Meadow Community Theatre on August 14 th and 15 th .
Heidi Rogers moved, David Paolino seconded, to approve the request to use the fairgrounds on August 14 and 15. |
| 11. <i>Resignation of Zoning Board member</i> | Motion passed 5 - 0. |
| 12. <i>Appointment to Zoning Board</i> | Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye. |
| 13. Reappointment to Juvenile Hearing Board | Denise L. DiFranco said that last was a request from Mary Jo Chretien to be reappointed to the Juvenile Hearing Board.
Cheryl Hawes moved, Chris Stone seconded, to reappoint Mary Jo Chretien to the Juvenile Hearing Board
Motion passed 5 - 0.
Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; David Paolino, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye. |
| V. EXECUTIVE SESSION
PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5, (A), (9)
a. International Brotherhood of Police Officers, Local 637, Negotiations
b. PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5A (2) Litigations | Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to go into Executive Closed Session pursuant to R.I.G. L 42-46-5 for discussion of work sessions regarding collective bargaining, contract negotiations, or litigation according to R.I.G.L 42-46-5 (A)(2) and RIGL 42-46-5, (A), (9), 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 |

Town Council Meeting
August 12, 2021

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
- this meeting remain closed in accordance with provisions in RIGL 42-46-4 & 5. No discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

**RETURN TO OPEN
SESSION**

Returned to Open Session. Denise L. DiFranco said no votes were taken.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by,

Susan M. Dillon, Town Clerk