

Town Council Meeting  
February 9, 2023

The February 9, 2023 Town Council Meeting was called to order by Denise L. DiFranco, President, in Foster, RI at 5:30 p.m. at the Benjamin Eddy building.

The following members were present:

**Denise L. DiFranco, President, excused**  
**Steve Bellucci, Vice President**  
**Chris Stone**  
**Heidi Rogers**  
**David Paolino, excused**

Also present:

Kelli Russ, Finance Director  
Julia Chretien, Assistant Solicitor

- I.      **EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
         **PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5A (2) Litigation**  
         1. Mill Road Realty Assoc., LLC et al. v. ToF et al.
- PURSUANT TO RIGL 42-46-5, (A), (1) Personnel**  
         1. Planner Position (moved to item 2.)  
         2. Tax Collector/Tax Assessor Position  
         3. Police Chief Position (moved to item 1.)
- Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to go into Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 for a work session regarding Litigation according to RIGL 42-46-5A(2) and for discussions or work sessions regarding Personnel and Job Performance according to RIGL 42-46-5-(A)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.
- The council convened in to Open Session at 6:02 p.m. Denise L. DiFranco announced that three votes were taken.  
         One was to move Item 3 Police Chief Position to the first position before Item 1. Motion passed 4 - 0.  
         The second was to appoint Grant McGregor to the position of Planner contingent upon passing a national BCI check and review of references. It's not the formal appointment.  
         Motion passed 4 - 0.  
         The third was to move Item 2 Tax Collector/Tax Assessor Position to after Open Session was completed. Motion passed 4 - 0.
- II.      **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**      The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III.     **ANNOUNCEMENTS / PUBLIC COMMENT**      Denise L. DiFranco said there was no public comment. David Paolino was excused.
- IV.      **CONSENT AGENDA**
1. **Meeting Minutes** – Approval of January 26, 2023  
         2. **Warrants** - Approval of General Warrant FY2023 # 12 \$99,736.25  
         3. **Additions and Abatements**  
              2022 tangible abatement- \$301.50  
              2022 real estate abatements – \$136. 87
- Chris Stone moved, Heidi Rogers seconded, to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.  
         Discussion: None  
         Motion passed 4 - 0.  
         Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.
- (Items 2 and 3 from New Business moved to this position)*
- Heidi Rogers moved, Steve Bellucci seconded, to move Items 2 and 3 to this position, the recognition of the EMA Director, Jamie Pirzynski from the RI Dept. of Health.  
         Motion passed 4 - 0.  
         Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.
- Recognition of EMA Director Jayme Pirzynski from the RI Department of Health      Heidi Rogers read a letter from the RI Dept. of Health (see Exhibit A). Denise L. DiFranco thanked Ms. Pirzynski and she received a round of applause.
- Appointment of Assistant EMA Director      Denise L. DiFranco said that next is the Appointment of an Assistant EMA Director. Jayme has recommended Luz

Betancourt-Rosario as Assistant EMA Director. She has had a BCI check and lives in town.

Heidi Rogers read a letter from Ms. Bettencourt (see Exhibit B).

Steve Bellucci moved, Chris Stone seconded, to put Gordon Rogers in as Assistant EMA Director.

Motion passed 2 – 1 – 1 with one recusal.

Steve Bellucci, aye; Chris Stone, aye;

Opposed: Denise L. DiFranco, nay.

Heidi Rogers recused herself.

Denise L. DiFranco said she had no objection to Gordon, but when they receive a letter of recommendation from the EMA Director, they have traditionally gone with that.

Steve Bellucci said that he understood that the EMA Director wanted Gordon and you [Ms. DiFranco] told her that Gordon couldn't do it because-- Ms. DiFranco interrupted and said that she did not say that Gordon couldn't do it; we [she and Gordon had] talked about it last year and that—she said she is not going to get into this discussion.

Chris Stone said we have already approved him to go into training. Ms. DiFranco said, yes, as DPW Director. Steve Bellucci said it's going to certify him as EMA. Denise L. DiFranco said we are sending him as DPW Director.

Gordon Rogers said he did not remember the discussion.

Ms. DiFranco said that they had had a discussion that he was senator and that he was DPW Director and how many hats could you wear? So we had that conversation and he did withdraw his name as that time.

Mr. Rogers said he absolutely did not have that conversation. As a matter of fact he helped Jayme through this whole pandemic acting and doing all the jobs that an assistant would, picking up all the stuff down in Cranston, delivering to the police department, that's why he decided to enter into the program for FEMA because as a DPW Director he works all the disasters. Denise L. DiFranco said that her vote was that Luz had applied, Jayme said yes, so she went with that.

Roll Call:

Chris Stone, aye;

Steve Bellucci, aye;

Denise L. DiFranco, no;

Denise L. DiFranco said the motion passes. Heidi Rogers asked if they needed three votes. Julia Chretien said it has to be three to be a majority.

Denise L. DiFranco withdrew her no vote and made it a yes so the vote would pass.

Motion passed 3 – 1 with one recusal.

Presentation of the Regional School Budget (*Item 1 from New Business moved to this position*)

Heidi Rogers moved, Steve Bellucci seconded, to move item 1, Presentation of the Regional School Budget to this point on the agenda.

Motion passed 4 - 0.

Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

Dr. Pallazzo, Superintendent of Ponaganset High School, introduced herself and presented the budget (See Exhibit C).

## V. OLD BUSINESS

### 1. Police Station Update

Denise L. DiFranco said the Police Building Committee has not has a meeting since the last time we discussed this, however, the land survey has been finished. Gordon Brayton has it and she has spoken with the planner. The next step is for South Foster to apply for an Administrative Subdivision and Gordy said he would get that going.

Steve Bellucci said he had spoken with Anthony Renzi about it and he said if they bring it to him they will put it through.

Heidi Rogers asked why they [the Building Committee] are not meeting; Ms. DiFranco said no quorum. The meeting time was changed and Brendan Mara is unable to make it that early. Heidi Rogers said they have issues going back to 2014 when the fire marshal started getting involved. The committee formed April 28 of 2016, a special financial meeting was scheduled for Sept 28, 2020 which was cancelled because they came up with a new land proposal. Then a special financial meeting on June 15, 2021, and it was approved, and now we're looking at almost two years since it's been approved. It's been stalled and stalled and stalled, and now we hear it's an issue with parking spaces. She said she is getting frustrated with this; how long do the cops have to wait for this building? Since the bell started ringing in 2014 we're at eight years, this is embarrassing. If the building committee can't meet, people who can't attend—we should replace them. We need to get this done. She doesn't want to wait another six months to get a subdivision done.

Chris Stone said it's six months here, six months there, they keep adding another six months.

Steve Bellucci said an Administration Subdivision could be done in one day.

Julia Chretien said an Administration Subdivision doesn't have to go to the Planning Board; it goes to your planning official for review. They have fifteen days to certify it complete and fifteen days to review it.

Denise L. DiFranco asked how that works with South Foster's property. Ms. Chretien say they are the owner, Town of Foster is the applicant. They still have to abide by the zoning and land use ordinances. Denise L. DiFranco asked if we would be the ones applying for the Administrative Subdivision. Ms. Chretien said you could be. Ms. DiFranco said she talked to the planner today who said it's whoever owns the property. Ms. Chretien said it's generally the owner. Ms. DiFranco said so South Foster needs to do that, and she talked to Gordy the other night and she says he's willing to do that.

Ms. Rogers said that she thinks they need a deadline. How hard is it to figure out how many parking spots we need?

Steve Bellucci said they can't do an Administrative Subdivision until they know what size it is. Denise L. DiFranco said they were waiting for the architect. Chris Stone said they offered it to us to put the police station on, it's almost like they're putting stipulations on. Steve Bellucci asked if he could make a motion to instruct the DPW Director to take this land next door, look at it, and come up with a price and an idea to switch that over there, how much would that cost, and if it's feasible to do it?

Ms. Chretien said that you could make a motion to do that but no offense to your DPW Director, he's not a licensed land appraiser, so that's not going to fly. Steve Bellucci asked why would we need an appraiser? Ms. Chretien said if you're asking for a price on something you would want a legitimate appraisal. Ms. DiFranco said he's asking for what it would cost to clear it. Steve Bellucci said we already own the land. Ms. Chretien said they should put it on the next agenda. Steve Bellucci asked if we need a motion to just ask him to take a look at it and let us know? Ms. Chretien said you've already talked about wanting to do a motion.

Ms. Rogers asked what the next step is because she would want to put a deadline on that. Ms. Chretien said that part of the Administration Subdivision is a Class I survey of the lots that would exist. It would be how it's separated. Denise L. DiFranco said that basically what they've been told is that the architect has to determine the parking spaces, how many handicapped spaces, etc., and then from there is the subdivision. Ms. Chretien said they're waiting on the site plan from the architect.

Ms. Rogers said she wants a deadline, adjust your meeting time, get this done. Mr. Bellucci said the Fire Department should have a meeting and decide then and there how much they want to give and move on.

Lynne Rider said that Mr. Walsh has, ad nauseum, asked what is taking so long. Waiting for the architect, waiting because they're backed up totally. I don't think you could ask more of the building committee than what they've been doing. As far as the Fire Company, the building committee has no control over that. If you wanted this done on a timely manner, which every other community does, they hire someone to oversee the entire project. They're the ones to goose these people along, otherwise you wind up with a ball field that takes 13 years, it's ridiculous. As far as looking at this land, it's ludicrous because you would have to go for a well, septic system—DEM is taking 5 to 8 months to even look at a septic system proposal and you would have to, no doubt, redo the entire plan. You would probably be pushing this back another year and a half.

Gordon Rogers said that Mr. Walsh was asked when we would begin. He said that in six months a shovel would be in the ground; it's been two years and we're not any closer. The points Ms. Rider made are true because you would have to pick an area, it would probably go back to the original plan, design the grades, the water issue—we're supplying the current station on public water right now—so it's not an issue. The septic system would take 6-8 months. You have 14 acres to expand and a lot more opportunities here. Your growth there [at South Foster Fire] is extremely limited, your growth here [by the Ben Eddy building] is unlimited, and you have more options. Steve Bellucci said that they say they have a well and a septic system there that haven't been used in twenty years. Denise L. DiFranco said they have been checked and they are both usable. She asked what the pleasure of the council was.

Heidi Rogers said she is at a loss. In Scituate, they needed a police station, granted there were issues later on, but it didn't take them that long. Denise L. DiFranco asked what they wanted her to bring back. Would you like her to call the architect? Or would one of you want to call the architect?

Steve Bellucci said the problem is that before the architect can do that, South Foster has to tell them the size they want to give them. At the last meeting, they were worried about whether it's going to be 8 or 10 parking spaces.

Denise L. DiFranco said that she thought what they were waiting for is just the opposite, it is the site survey and then they'll decide on the land.

Ms. Rogers asked if they could have at least, at every council meeting, a building committee member with a legitimate update? Ms. DiFranco said she could reach out to the architect and ask about the site plan.

Ms. Chretien said there are two things, a lot of times when they are building, they want a site plan to see what the planned development is of the land, but a Class I survey of the specific section of property, but she is not sure of which section they are planning on subdividing.

Denise L. DiFranco said she could call the architect to see if they have the site plan completed, and then meet with Gordy and see when the subdivision is done. Heidi Rogers said she could talk to Gordy. Ms. DiFranco said she would invite Joe Walsh as the representative to the meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Guenter Bay spoke regarding the Fire Marshall and renewable energy.

Robert Moreau said it has taken way too long; however, the Fire Department needs that site plan. It doesn't take that long to figure out parking spots. When we purchased the property next door, we thought it would be a good location for a police department. Within the next couple of months, if this is not done, we should proceed with another location. It shouldn't take the Fire Department or the architect any longer than two months to get this process done.

Lynne Rider said she has attended several police building meetings and she is the only one there. If someone has questions, why not just go to the meeting and ask? She understands what Bob is saying, but don't just say, well, if you can't do it by now, we're gonna look elsewhere. It's not a threat to them. They don't really care, and all of your work over the past two years and be starting from square one again.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Presentation of the Regional School Budget  
(*moved*)
2. Recognition of EMA Director Jayme Pirzynski from the RIDOH  
(*moved*)
3. Appointment of Assistant EMA Director (*moved*)
4. Appointment of Zoning Board Member (Full: Dec. 2026)

5. Appointment of Alternate Zoning Board Member

Steve Bellucci moved, Chris Stone seconded, to appoint Manny Timoteo as a full member for the remainder of a term on the Zoning Board.

Motion passed 4 - 0.

Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

There were no applicants so the position will be advertised.

6. Possible Amendments /Additions to the Zoning Ordinance Sec. 38-61 to comply with state statute

Denise L. DiFranco said that if you recall at our last meeting when we had the resignation, there was a discussion about being able to remove a planning or zoning board member and how that process is, and that we don't have in our Charter as to how that would work. Atty. Tourgee recommended that we look at it and see to move forward. Julia was given that assignment.

Julia Chretien said you have the inherent authority to remove, it's part of your appointment authority, but the Zoning Enabling Act does say those with a Home Rule Charter should have it in their charter, or at a minimum in their Zoning Ordinance. And you don't have that power in there, so we are making the suggestion to amend a Zoning Ordinance; it just requires advertising and a public hearing to make the amendment to the zoning ordinance and then down the line [you can] change it in the Charter.

Steve Bellucci moved, Chris Stone seconded, to move forward with an amendment.

Discussion: Lynne Rider asked if we already had something in the Charter with the steps necessary to

- remove someone on a board. Ms. Chretien said not specific to Zoning. Mr. Rider said, not specific but wouldn't what was in the Charter trump whatever. Ms. Chretien said it's to remove an employee, not a board member but it's under the same terms for cause, so it's not a pleasure of the council thing but the Zoning Enabling Act requires it to be specific to the Zoning Board in the Charter. Ms. Rider said she doesn't understand how that supersedes the Charter. Ms. Chretien says it's State law. Ms. Rider said so our Charter has been wrong as far as removing someone from a board or commission? Ms. Chretien the State law says what it says; I'm just suggesting we amend it to comply fully.  
Motion passed 4 - 0.  
Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.
7. Possible Amendment to Sec. 24-34 of the Town Ordinance to comply with Charter and State Statutes  
Ms. Chretien said that this particular section talks about how Planning Board members get on the board and it conflicts with the Charter. The Charter says they are appointed by the Town Council, which is in accordance with State law. This section says they are elected at the Financial Town Meeting, so we're just complying with the Charter language. Denise L. DiFranco said that at this time the Charter would supersede this ordinance. Ms. Chretien said yes, this is cleaning up.  
Steve Bellucci moved, Chris Stone seconded, to have Section 24-34 of the Town Ordinances comply with the Charter.  
Motion passed 4 - 0.  
Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.
8. Resignation letter from the Chief of Police  
Denise L. DiFranco said next is a resignation letter from the Chief of Police. Heidi Rogers read the letter (see Exhibit D).  
Steve Bellucci moved to accept with regrets, Heidi Rogers seconded.  
Chief David Breit said he knows it is poor timing with a lot of people resigning but everything has a shelf life and he has reached his and he is pursuing a new opportunity but the town will always hold a special place in his heart, thank you.  
Motion passed 4 - 0.  
Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.
9. Advertisement for Chief's Position  
Denise L. DiFranco said next on the agenda is advertising for the Chief's position. they had discussed before that it [the resumes] come to her but she thinks it would be more appropriate to go to Kelli. The Chief did put out notices to the RI Police Chiefs association and the Chief of Police in Tiverton, he had connections with New England Chiefs Association. Denise L. DiFranco asked him to update the ad to send the resumes to Kelli. She said they had received three so far.
10. Formation of Interview Committee for Chief of Police  
Heidi Rogers said she would like to serve on that.  
Steve Bellucci moved, Chris Stone seconded, to have Denise L. DiFranco as liaison and Heidi, Joanna Achille, and Kelli Russ on the interview committee. Kelli Russ asked if they wanted another Chief on the committee. Mr. Bellucci said he thought it was good the way it is. Denise L. DiFranco asked if they wanted a date. Heidi Rogers said they didn't want to wait too long.  
Motion passed 4 - 0.  
Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

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11. Hiring a Temporary Consultant for the Police Department  
Denise L. DiFranco said there was discussion about hiring a consultant to assist [with the police department]. Heidi Rogers said she didn't think it was necessary to pay somebody to do our job for us. Steve Bellucci and Chris Stone agreed.
12. Resignation letter from the Tax Collector/Tax Assessor  
Heidi Rogers read the resignation letter from the Tax Collector / Tax Assessor (see Exhibit E).  
Steve Bellucci moved, Heidi Rogers seconded, to accept with regrets.  
Motion passed 4 - 0.  
Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.
13. Advertisement for Tax Collector/Tax Assessor Position  
Denise L. DiFranco said next would be the advertisement for the Tax Collector position. Kelli Russ said she wanted to talk to them in Executive Session about a possible restructuring plan for the office. But for now they have worked with Julia to create a new job description before hiring Kait to be Tax Collector and Accounts Administrator. We don't need a full time Tax Collector but we need assistance in other ways and we reworked it for that and would like to advertise for that position. Ms. Russ said there is a professional site for tax collectors so it will be there, and probably within our organizations for government finances. We will probably have to put it on Indeed, we don't like to because then you get everything that sticks, we'll probably get a hundred.  
Heidi Rogers moved, Steve Bellucci seconded, to allow Kelli Russ to advertise for the Tax Collector / Accounts Administrator position on Indeed, the Tax Collector's professional site and on government finance and that Kelli have discretion.  
Discussion: Patti Moreau said she can also put it on the Assessor's site.  
Lynne Rider asked what was happening with the Assessor position. Denise L. DiFranco said they hadn't discussed it. Julia Chretien said she didn't see them having a problem with that.  
Motion passed 4 - 0.  
Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.
14. Formation of Interview Committee for Tax Collector/Tax Assessor Position  
Chris Stone moved, Steve Bellucci seconded, to have David Paolino and Steve Bellucci on that committee. Kelli Russ said they will make it work. She would also like to add Karen and Kait. It is very difficult to get everybody all at once and she doesn't want to hold up the process. At least two council members and as many as she has mentioned or maybe Julia could step in.  
Motion passed 4 - 0.  
Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.
15. Request for Bid: ADA upgrades at the Employee Entrance  
Denise L. DiFranco said that next was a request for a bid on ADA upgrades that we discussed at the last meeting. Steve Bellucci moved to have the DPW Director put out an RFP.  
Gordon Rogers said he was trying to get the engineer to give us a price. He hasn't had a chance to look for it in his email yet.  
Steve Bellucci withdrew his motion.  
Guenter Bay said the main problem is that the desk is in the way. He asked if we need an engineer for a ramp. He read the requirements. Mr. Rogers said we don't have the space because we can't have a ramp going out into the parking lot.

Lynne Rider said we already had input from the Fire Marshall, all you have to do is spend \$500 to move the sign. That's it.

16. Request from Foster Old  
Homes Day Committee  
for use of Fairgrounds

Loretta Rotondo sent a letter of request for permission to use the fairgrounds for Old Home Days. Denise L. DiFranco said they also need set up time. Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to approve the request of the Old Home Days Committee to hold Old Home Days on July 28, 29, and 30 of 2023 and permit them whatever time they need for set up. Motion passed 4 - 0. Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

17. Memorial Day Parade:  
Middle School and High  
School Band: Hiring of  
Bus for Transportation

Denise L. DiFranco said that she discussed the Memorial Day Parade with Adjunct Commander Fortier. In the past few years, we have not had the band at the parade and there hasn't been a parade. We met with the middle and high school bands regarding the parade. What they have proposed is having both bands come. It would require hiring two busses for Foster and Gloucester each. It would be a total of five hours for the busses at \$127. 50. The total for Foster would be \$1,275.00 for them to participate. Heidi Rogers asked what it used to be because that seems very high. Denise L. DiFranco said the bus has gone up. Last year, Mr. Fortier said no. Ms. DiFranco said she thought it should come to the council. Heidi Rogers asked if it would come from contingency. Kelli Russ said, no, there is money in the DARE fund that's not being used. There is also money in the Rec fund. They have about 3 or 4 thousand. Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to approve hiring the busses for the Memorial Day Parade in the amount of \$1,275.00 and that the funds come out of the DARE fund. Lynne Rider said that she believed the Economic Development Consultant said to help the image of the town and create community to make it more welcoming, and this would certainly go toward that. There were actually floats in the past. Motion passed 4 - 0. Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

18. Sponsored Recreation  
Event (Ice Skating)

Denise L. DiFranco said there is a contract for ice skating at Smithfield. We never had to sign anything before but now there are waivers. Julie Chretien said that it's standard for use of the property. Heidi Rogers asked if other schools do it with us. Tammy Steinkamp says that Scituate usually does a day. Ms. Chretien said it's not ready to sign because we do not have the waiver, which everyone would have to sign; she needs to take a look at that. We would need to do one for just Foster. She said she would get in touch with Tammy. Kelli Russ said she was in touch with The Trust. Heidi Rogers moved, Steve Bellucci seconded, to have Denise L. DiFranco sign a rental agreement once Julia Chretien has had a chance to look at the Exhibit A waiver. Motion passed 4 - 0. Steve Bellucci, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; and Denise L. DiFranco, aye.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to go into Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 for a work session regarding Personnel and Job Performance according to RIGL 42-46-5-(A)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 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The council reconvened in to Open Session at 8:10 p.m. Denise L. DiFranco announced that no votes were taken. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by,

Susan M. Dillon, Town Clerk



Department of Health  
Three Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02908-5097  
TTY: 711  
[www.health.ri.gov](http://www.health.ri.gov)

1/3/2023

Greetings Director Pirzynski,

The Medical Emergency Distribution System (MEDS) Program at the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) would like to take this opportunity to recognize the contributions of Foster to the State's COVID-19 Response and Vaccine Campaign. After decades of planning, training, exercising, and even some small-scale real-world implementations; all the hard work paid off in the COVID-19 pandemic response. As of 12/20/2022 Rhode Island had the highest percentage of residents who completed the primary COVID-19 vaccination series among all U.S. States per the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Despite going through personnel changes in the EMA position immediately prior to the COVID-19 vaccine campaign, Foster contributed in a meaningful way to both the Northern Regional POD and several collaborative PODs held in coordination with its neighboring towns.

I would be remiss if I did not also tell you that the MEDS program received many callouts and notes from residents who attended the municipal Points of Dispensing (PODs) offering thanks for not only providing the vaccine, but also for creating a welcoming and safe environment for them to receive the vaccine.

The work done by you and the rest of the municipal staff and volunteers who were involved prevent countless deaths and instances of severe illness that would have occurred in the absence of these vaccination efforts. Please accept both my and Travis's heartfelt thank you for your past and current partnership with the MEDS program. We look forward to continuing to collaborate together.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brittan K. Bates-Manni".

Brittan K. Bates-Manni

Medical Countermeasures Program Director

CC: Travis Vendetti, Assistant Medical Countermeasures Program Director  
Denise DiFranco, Foster Town Council President

Hello, my name is Luz Betancourt-Rosario and I am interested in the position of EMA assistant director. I am interested in this position because as a resident of Foster I would like to help keep the town safe. I am currently a member of Foster EMS and I feel like that would help me be a great addition to the team.

Foster-Glocester Regional School District  
2023-2024 Budget  
Local Appropriation Analysis

	<u>2022-2023</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2023-2024</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2023-2024</u> <u>Change (\$)</u>	<u>2023-2024</u> <u>Change (%)</u>
<b>Local Appropriations (Summary)</b>				
General Operations	15,509,049	15,653,051	144,002	0.93%
Capital Improvements	308,444	325,000	16,556	5.37%
Debt Service	1,294,748	1,294,341	(407)	-0.03%
<b>Total</b>	<u>17,112,241</u>	<u>17,272,392</u>	<u>160,152</u>	<u>0.94%</u>
<b>Local Appropriations (Detail)</b>				
<u><b>Foster</b></u>				
General Operations	5,299,568	5,136,369	(163,199)	-3.08%
Capital Improvements	97,909	110,329	12,420	12.68%
Debt Service	410,992	438,924	27,932	6.80%
<b>Total Foster</b>	<u>5,808,469</u>	<u>5,685,622</u>	<u>(122,847)</u>	<u>-2.11%</u>
<u><b>Glocester</b></u>				
General Operations	10,209,480	10,516,564	307,084	3.01%
Capital Improvements	210,535	214,789	4,254	2.02%
Debt Service	883,757	855,417	(28,340)	-3.21%
<b>Total Glocester</b>	<u>11,303,772</u>	<u>11,586,770</u>	<u>282,998</u>	<u>2.50%</u>
<b>Total Local Appropriations</b>	<u>17,112,241</u>	<u>17,272,392</u>	<u>160,152</u> **	<u>0.94%</u>

**Foster-Glocester Regional School District**  
**2023-2024 BUDGET**  
**Allocation of Operational Costs**

ALLOCATION OF OPERATING BUDGET			
CALCULATION OF OPERATIONS COST	FOSTER	GLOCESTER	TOTAL
Enrollment as of October 1, 2022	379	776	1,155
% Enrollment as of October 1, 2022	32.81%	67.19%	100.0%
Allocation of Net Appropriations FY 24	5,136,369	10,516,682	15,653,051
Allocation of Capital Appropriations FY24	110,211	214,789	325,000
Pro-ration Adjustment FY 23	118	(118)	-
Net Appropriations FY 24	\$ 5,246,697	\$ 10,731,352	\$ 15,978,051

Foster-Glocester Regional Schools  
2023-2024 Budget  
Debt Service Calculation

GROSS DEBT SERVICE

Debt Service = Principal and Interest

<u>TOTAL</u>	=	<u>PRINCIPAL</u>	+	<u>INTEREST</u>
\$3,172,375	=	\$2,540,000	+	\$632,375

Debt Service Paid with Local Appropriation

<u>Local Appropriation</u>	=	<u>Total Debt</u>	-	<u>State Portion</u>
\$1,294,341	=	\$3,172,375	-	\$1,878,034

Percent Distribution of Equalized Weighted Assessment\*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EWAC}_{\text{Foster}} + \text{EWAC}_{\text{Gloc}} &= \text{Total}_{\text{EWAC}} \\ \$656,300,873 + \$1,279,067,681 &= \$1,935,368,554 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \% \text{EWAC Foster} &= (\text{EWAC}_{\text{Foster}} / \text{Total}_{\text{EWAC}}) / 100 \\ \% \text{EWAC Foster} &= 33.911\% \\ \% \text{Glocester} &= (\text{EWAC}_{\text{Gloc}} / \text{Total}_{\text{EWAC}}) / 100 \\ \% \text{EWAC Glocester} &= 66.089\% \end{aligned}$$

			Prior Year	Change
Due from Foster = \$	438,923.98	\$	410,991.86	\$ 27,932.12
Due From Glocester = \$	855,417.02	\$	883,756.14	\$ (28,339.12)
Total Debt Service =	\$1,294,341		\$1,294,748	

Adjusted Amount Due From Foster:	\$ 438,923.98
Adjusted Amount Due From Glocester:	\$ 855,417.02

DRAFT PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR ADMINISTRATION DISCUSSION

Foster-Glocester Regional Schools  
2023-2024 Budget  
Capital Improvements Calculation

GROSS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

TOTAL = LOCAL APPROPRIATION  
\$325,000 = \$325,000

Debt Service Paid with Local Appropriation

Local Appropriation = Total Capital  
\$325,000 = \$325,000

Percent Distribution of Equalized Weighted Assessment\*

$EWAC_{Foster} + EWAC_{Gloc} = Total_{EWAC}$   
\$656,300,873 + \$1,279,067,681 = \$1,935,368,554

$\% EWAC_{Foster} = (EWAC_{Foster} / Total_{EWAC}) / 100$   
 $\% EWAC_{Foster} = 33.911\%$   
 $\% Gloucester = (EWAC_{Gloc} / Total_{EWAC}) / 100$   
 $\% EWAC_{Glocester} = 66.089\%$

		Prior Year	Change from PY
Due from Foster = \$	110,210.75	\$ 97,909.00	\$ 12,301.75
Due From Gloucester = \$	214,789.25	\$ 210,535.00	\$ 4,254.25
Total Debt Service =	\$325,000	\$308,444	\$16,556

Adjusted Amount Due From Foster: \$ 110,210.75

DRAFT PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR ADMINISTRATION DISCUSSION

Adjusted Amount Due From Gloucester:	\$	214,789.25
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*\*Based on the 2020 Adjusted EWAV of Rhode Island Municipalities Prescribed by Sec. 16-7-21, Sub-Sec. 3 12/31/16*



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revised 1-23-23

**Foster-Glocester Regional School District**  
**2023-2024 Budget**  
**General Fund Comparison to Prior Year**  
*(Excludes Special Revenue, Capital Project & Debt Service Funds)*

	<u>Unaudited 2021-2022</u>	<u>Budget 2022-2023</u>	<u>Budget 2023-2024</u>	<u>CHANGE (\$)</u>	<u>CHANGE (%)</u>
<b>Revenue:</b>					
State Aid	\$ 5,249,455	\$ 5,157,464	\$ 5,590,684	\$ 433,220	8.40%
Miscellaneous Other	303,921	366,500	415,000	\$ 48,500	13.23%
Tuition Revenue	4,005,751	3,860,787	3,800,000	\$ (60,787)	-1.57%
Use of Fund Balance	-	100,000	150,000	\$ 50,000	50.00%
Total	<u>9,559,127</u>	<u>9,484,751</u>	<u>9,955,684</u>	<u>\$ 470,933</u>	<u>4.97%</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Salaries	14,818,587	15,071,852	15,132,855	\$ 61,003	0.40%
Employee Benefits	5,582,065	5,993,061	6,321,648	\$ 328,587	5.48%
Educational Programs	2,691,956	2,856,355	2,739,698	\$ (116,657)	-4.08%
Central Office Facility Operations	941,189	718,182	782,485	\$ 64,303	8.95%
District Wide Facility Operations	536,718	354,350	527,039	\$ 172,689	48.73%
Medicaid/Transfer	100,000	-	105,000	\$ 105,000	
Total	<u>24,670,515</u>	<u>24,993,800</u>	<u>25,608,727</u>	<u>\$ 614,926</u>	<u>2.46%</u>
Funds needed			<u>(15,653,043)</u>	<u>\$ (143,993)</u>	

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1-23-23

**FOSTER-GLOCESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**PRELIMINARY SALARY and BENEFIT \$ and % CHANGES**  
**July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024**

	FY 2022 Bud	FY 2022 Act	FY 23 Bud	FY 23 YTD	FY 24 Propos	\$ Change	% Change
Superintendent's Office	441,030	428,486	336,255	82,763	311,258	(24,998)	-7%
School Committee	21,700	21,600	16,150	-	21,700	5,550	34%
Business Office	288,055	284,615	319,997	104,793	361,092	41,095	13%
Network Services	340,936	333,608	323,578	91,227	347,127	23,550	7%
Buildings & Grounds	211,130	212,673	229,026	50,283	175,551	(53,475)	-23%
<b>TOTAL CENTRAL OFFICE SALARIES</b>	<b>1,302,851</b>	<b>1,280,982</b>	<b>1,225,007</b>	<b>329,066</b>	<b>1,216,728</b>	<b>(8,279)</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>TOTAL PMS SALARIES</b>	<b>4,876,289</b>	<b>4,679,066</b>	<b>4,655,899</b>	<b>755,106</b>	<b>4,644,381</b>	<b>(11,518)</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>TOTAL PHS SALARIES</b>	<b>8,071,982</b>	<b>8,533,029</b>	<b>9,123,321</b>	<b>1,454,556</b>	<b>9,178,391</b>	<b>55,070</b>	<b>1%</b>
Retiree	51,362	315,339	52,842	11,932	65,000	12,158	23%
Ramp-Up & extended Year	6,180	-	6,180	9,472	11,005	4,825	78%
Other benefits	19,768	10,171	8,603	4,054	17,350	8,748	42%
Other District wide benefits	67,898	65,558	65,134	72,046	75,634	10,501	16%
Superintendent's Office Benefits	83,421	108,032	122,283	27,789	138,362	16,079	13%
School Committee Benefits	1,652	1,652	1,652	-	1,645	(8)	0%
Business Office Benefits	114,511	109,120	124,406	35,039	185,438	61,032	49%
Network Services benefits	116,419	104,769	119,804	23,816	123,544	3,740	3%
Buildings & Grounds Benefits	107,529	105,284	108,984	22,865	85,229	(23,755)	-22%
Ponaganset Middle School Benefits	1,912,969	1,782,395	1,877,471	302,743	1,895,531	18,059	1%
Ponaganset High School Benefits	2,962,909	3,209,190	3,493,094	600,076	3,719,033	225,939	6%
Retiree Benefits	77,126	95,917	80,084	21,010	96,935	16,851	21%
Ramp-Up & extended Year Benefits	123	-	22	137	150	128	595%
Other Benefits (summer, after school)	176	147	129	59	147	19	15%
<b>TOTAL BENEFITS</b>	<b>5,522,044</b>	<b>5,907,574</b>	<b>6,060,687</b>	<b>1,131,037</b>	<b>6,415,003</b>	<b>354,316</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,773,165</b>	<b>20,400,652</b>	<b>21,064,914</b>	<b>3,669,764</b>	<b>21,454,503</b>	<b>389,589</b>	<b>2%</b>

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1-23-23

FOSTER-GLOCESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PRELIMINARY NON- SALARY FISCAL 2024 BUDGET COMPARISON  
July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

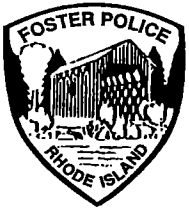
Category	Adopted FY 22 Budget	Actual FY 22 Expenses	Adopted FY 23 Budget	Proposed FY 24 Budget	% Chg	\$ Chg
Central Office	38,700	18,284	31,280	31,300	0%	\$20
Superintendent's Office	109,300	273,988	94,000	106,100	13%	\$12,100
School Committee	1,400	2,699	1,400	1,300	-7%	-\$100
CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION & ASSESSMENT	10,750	35,014	10,250	22,000	115%	\$11,750
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES	195,500	213,344	168,000	175,000	4%	\$7,000
EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	-	6,582	4,000	8,000	100%	\$4,000
BUSINESS OFFICE	221,200	241,003	241,450	255,400	6%	\$13,950
NETWORK SERVICES	176,010	184,785	167,800	183,385	9%	\$15,585
<b>TOTAL CENTRAL OFFICE FACILITY OPERATIONS</b>	<b>752,860</b>	<b>975,698</b>	<b>718,180</b>	<b>782,485</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>\$64,305</b>
SCHOOL MANAGEMENT	212,398	166,012	120,554	120,950	0%	\$397
AGRICULTURE	9,600	3,389	9,600	9,900	3%	\$300
ART	4,705	321	8,900	5,300	-40%	-\$3,600
ENGLISH	17,772	17,764	17,672	19,122	8%	\$1,450
GUIDANCE	3,400	1,600	6,500	4,800	-26%	-\$1,700
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	6,200	7,760	6,600	5,900	-11%	-\$700
HEALTH EDUCATION	1,900	3,535	2,320	2,120	-9%	-\$200
TECHNICAL EDUCATION & STEM	23,475	21,473	33,224	31,710	-5%	-\$1,514
MATH	39,000	334	14,800	17,500	18%	\$2,700
MUSIC	11,601	10,349	12,851	12,804	0%	-\$47
SCIENCE	15,000	15,003	18,000	19,000	6%	\$1,000
SOCIAL STUDIES	8,400	7,426	8,200	11,200	37%	\$3,000
SPECIAL EDUCATION W/SUPPORTS	11,550	1,298	10,000	1,800	-82%	-\$8,200
SPECIAL EDUCATION - SCHOOL YEAR	11,300	1,388	8,000	8,000	0%	\$0
SPECIAL EDUCATION-SPEECH&LANGUAGE SVC	24,250	399	18,000	18,150	1%	\$150
CO-CURRICULAR STUDENT ATHLETICS	36,750	35,330	47,750	54,950	15%	\$7,200
CO-CURRICULAR STUDENT ACTIVITIES	1,000	-	2,200	3,000	36%	\$800
LITERACY	2,250	2,758	3,800	3,700	-3%	-\$100
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES	7,370	9,840	7,370	10,125	37%	\$2,755
BUILDING & GROUNDS PMS	393,140	448,089	388,675	400,336	3%	\$11,661
LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER	9,480	9,434	9,270	11,000	19%	\$1,730
AUDIO VISUAL	2,000	-	-	-	n/a	\$0
<b>TOTAL PONAGANSET MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>852,541</b>	<b>763,502</b>	<b>754,285</b>	<b>771,367</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>\$17,081</b>
SCHOOL MANAGEMENT	528,128	390,462	377,009	337,931	-10%	-\$39,078
ENGLISH	35,016	25,692	7,200	26,000	261%	\$18,800

**FOSTER-GLOCESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**PRELIMINARY NON- SALARY FISCAL 2024 BUDGET COMPARISON**  
**July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024**

Category	Adopted FY 22 Budget	Actual FY 22 Expenses	Adopted FY 23 Budget	Proposed FY 24 Budget	% Chg	\$ Chg
ESL SERVICES	-	-	-	-	n/a	\$0
WORLD LANGUAGES	13,200	6,765	15,600	12,000	-23%	-\$3,600
GUIDANCE	85,520	44,008	85,509	46,421	-46%	-\$39,088
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	9,305	4,966	13,600	11,665	-14%	-\$1,935
HEALTH EDUCATION	4,300	25	5,000	2,250	-55%	-\$2,750
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE	9,646	9,566	11,743	11,649	-1%	-\$94
ART PATHWAY	26,270	24,381	33,470	12,625	-62%	-\$20,845
BUSINESS PATHWAY	21,650	2,000	29,425	27,285	-7%	-\$2,140
COMPUTER SCIENCE & GAMING PATHWAY	7,603	-	21,072	19,910	-6%	-\$1,162
HEALTH SCIENCE & FITNESS-EMT PATHWAY	37,885	-	96,250	63,050	-34%	-\$33,200
LAW,PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY PATHWAY	12,840	12,109	11,900	11,975	1%	\$75
AGRICULTURE PATHWAY	37,700	-	42,410	41,840	-1%	-\$570
BIO MEDICAL PATHWAY	21,800	-	30,186	37,309	24%	\$7,123
MATERIALS & MANUFATURING PATHWAY	116,622	-	76,394	84,937	11%	\$8,543
MUSIC/THEATRE & PERFORMING ARTS PATHW.	27,603	26,079	30,720	28,730	-6%	-\$1,990
PRE-ENGINEERING PATHWAY	36,943	-	49,275	47,320	-4%	-\$1,955
MATH	13,000	40,532	27,150	27,460	1%	\$310
SCIENCE	31,833	24,286	40,383	30,034	-26%	-\$10,349
SOCIAL STUDIES	18,950	8,306	44,540	33,100	-26%	-\$11,440
SPECIAL EDUCATION-GENERAL SUPPLIES	16,750	(46,224)	17,350	17,350	0%	\$0
SPECIAL EDUCATION-ALP	1,700	-	1,700	2,200	29%	\$500
ORIENTATION & MOBILITY SERVICES	3,500	-	3,500	3,500	0%	\$0
SPECIAL EDUCATION SPEECH & LANGUAGE	3,600	1,128	3,600	3,600	0%	\$0
SPECIAL EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES	7,550	9,045	9,300	9,450	2%	\$150
SPECIAL EDUCATION SUPPORT - ADMINISTRATI	4,600	1,065	4,500	4,500	0%	\$0
SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES -DIAGNOSTICS	50,000	93,318	50,000	50,000	0%	\$0
SPECIAL EDUCATION -TRANSPORTATION	1,800	-	1,800	1,800	0%	\$0
CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES-ATHLETICS	242,100	288,594	263,100	343,000	30%	\$79,900
CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES-STUDENT ACTIVITI	20,650	14,167	21,275	24,485	15%	\$3,210
LITERACY	900	857	-	-	n/a	\$0
HEALTH SERVICES	8,200	8,413	500	5,000	900%	\$4,500
BUILDING & GROUNDS PHS	642,870	888,788	657,900	677,661	3%	\$19,761
LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER	17,200	15,190	18,710	17,295	-8%	-\$1,415
ACCREDITATION/NEASC	-	-	-	-	n/a	\$0

**FOSTER-GLOCESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**PRELIMINARY NON- SALARY FISCAL 2024 BUDGET COMPARISON**  
**July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024**

Category	Adopted FY 22 Budget	Actual FY 22 Expenses	Adopted FY 23 Budget	Proposed FY 24 Budget	% Chg	\$ Chg
PONAGANSET HIGH SCHOOL	2,117,234	1,893,519	2,102,070	2,073,332	-1%	-\$28,739
DISTRICT WIDE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS	72,600	45,200	66,800	68,289	2%	\$1,489
OUT OF DISTRICT TUITION COSTS	456,118	454,792	276,950	448,250	62%	\$171,300
SCHOOL LUNCH	8,000	17,784	10,600	10,500	-1%	-\$100
DISTRICT WIDE	536,718	517,775	354,350	527,039	49%	\$172,689
NON-SALARY & BENEFIT EXPENDITURES	4,259,353	4,150,494	3,928,886	4,154,222	6%	\$225,337



# *Foster Police Department*

DAVID J. BREIT  
CHIEF OF POLICE

Dear members of the Foster Town Council, I am submitting this letter of resignation, as the Chief of Police for the Town of Foster Police Department, effective April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

I truly appreciate the opportunity that I have had to serve as your Police Chief, as well as the support and confidence that you as a council have given me during my time as the Police Chief.

All of you as well as the fine people of this town, will always hold a special place in my heart and it has been an honor to serve this town. I wish you all well.....

Sincerely,

Chief David J. Breit

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. J. Breit", written in a cursive style.



# Town of Foster

Est. 1781

Office Of The Tax Assessor  
Kaitlin J. Boyer  
401-392-9202

To: The Honorable Town Council  
From: Kaitlin Boyer, Assessor/Collector

January 31, 2023

To the Honorable Town Council,

Please accept this letter as formal notice of my resignation as Assessor/Collector for the Town of Foster. My last day of employment will be February 23, 2023.

I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities I have been given in both of these roles. I value the insights that I have learned and expect them to help me in my future endeavors. I have truly loved working with the Finance Department and will bring many positive memories with me. I would also like to thank you for being supportive of my professional growth.

Please let me know how I can assist in making this transition seamless for everyone involved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kaitlin Boyer".

Kaitlin Boyer

CC: Kelli Russ, Finance Director