## **Town Council Meeting January 24, 2019**

The January 24, 2019, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Denise L. DiFranco, President of the Foster Town Council, at the Benjamin Eddy Building at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present: Also present:

Mark Tourgee, Town Solicitor Denise L. DiFranco, President **Chris Stone, Vice President** Kelli Russ, Treasurer

**Chervl Hawes** Heidi Rogers Joe Cardillo

I. PLEDGE OF **ALLEGIANCE**  The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. **PUBLIC COMMENT** /ANNOUNCEMENTS None

III. **CONSENT AGENDA**  Chris Stone moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, to approve the consent agenda.

Discussion: None.

- 1. Approval of the minutes for the January 10, 2019 Regular Town Council Meeting.
- 2. Approval of Payroll Warrants a. #28 \$31,107.24 b. #29 \$31,695.80
- 3. Approval General Warrant a. #12 \$38,201.21
- 4. Approval of Reports for the month November 2018
  - a. Building and Zoning Dept.
  - b. Public Works f. Police Dept.
  - c. RIRRC g. Tax Assessor
  - d. Human Services
  - e. Planning
- 5. Approval of report for the month of December 2018
  - a. Building and Zoning Dept.
  - b. Public Works
  - c. RIRRC
  - d. Human Services
  - e. Tax Assessor
  - f. Police Dept.
  - g. Finance Dept.
- 6. Approval of the Quarterly Reports (Oct, Nov, Dec)
  - a. Engineering Board
  - b. Foster Center Fire Co
  - c. Land Trust
  - d. Libraries h. Tax Board of Review
  - e. Planning Board
  - f. Recreation Dept.
  - g. South Foster Fire Co.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

#### **OLD BUSINESS** IV. a. Dept. Heads

Denise L. DiFranco stated that a suggestion had been made at the last meeting to have Department Heads attend Town Council meetings. Mr. Tourgee, solicitor was going to look into it.

Mr. Tourgee stated that the council can authorize department heads to come to meetings. It would not be a public hearing, but only to give reports so the only people who would be able to ask questions would be the council.

Cheryl Hawes moved, Joe Cardillo seconded to have department heads attend at least one meeting per month.

Discussion: Cheryl Hawes, Denise L. DiFranco

Motion passed 5 - 0.

#### b. Private Roads

Denise L. DiFranco stated that in the past there was discussion about having a committee for private roads on November 9, 2017. Mr. Rogers requested it but there was never a convenient time for them to meet. The committee consisted of one council member, the DPW director, and six residents, one from each road listed. There was also a Resolution from November 4, 1999.

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Private Roads cont.

Joe Cardillo moved, Heidi Rogers seconded, to reconstitute the committee to look into private road maintenance.

Discussion: Heidi Rogers, Chris Stone

Joe Cardillo amended his motion, Heidi Rogers seconded, to include Chris

Stone as a member of the committee.

Amendment passed 5 - 0. Motion passed 5 - 0.

### V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Recognition of Michael Polouski Denise L. DiFranco recognized Michael Polouski was recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation for his years of service to the town as the Recreation Department Head.

b. Workshop for boards and commissions Denise L. DiFranco suggested meeting with the various boards and committees, perhaps at 6:30 p.m. to discuss what the council is interested in them doing and see what direction they are going or are in at this time. Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, that the council hold workshops with the following committees, Planning, Zoning, Recreation, Conservation and Police Station Building Committee to be determined by the Town Council president.

Discussion: Heidi Rogers suggested meeting with the Police Building Committee soon because the Financial Town Meeting is coming up quickly. Motion passed 5-0.

c. Additions & Abatements

Chris Stone moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to accept the additions and abatements as presented.

Discussion: None Motion passed 5 - 0.

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Denise L. DiFranco stated a recommendation for an Assistance EMA Director

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Cheryl Hawes moved, Heidi Rogers seconded, to go into Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-4 for the reasons stated in RIGL 42-46-5 for the discussion of personnel or job performance according to RIGL 42-46-5a(1) for discussions or work sessions regarding collective bargaining or contract negotiations or litigation according to RIGL 42-46-5a(2).

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSON

Denise L. DiFranco stated that there were four votes taken in Executive Session:

Balfour vs. Town of Foster: Chris Stone moved, Joe Cardillo seconded to hire Mark Boyer to conduct a full expert report and assist with litigation as needed not to exceed up to an additional \$3,000.00. Motion passes 5-0.

DEM Litigation: Heidi Rogers moved, Joe Cardillo seconded, to Hire Mark Boyer Surveying and Crossman Engineering to come up with an initial analysis on the site and conditions at 59 North Road, not to exceed \$1,500.00. Motion passed 5-0.

Schultz vs. Town of Foster: Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded to send a letter rejecting the demand letter to pay \$200,000 by Gorham and Gorham on behalf of that was received January  $18,\,2019$  Motion passed 5-0.

Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to have Kelli Russ to refer the letter from Gorham and Gorham on behalf of Robert Schultz dated January 18, 2019 to the Trust. Motion passed 5-0.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

A digital sound file is made a part of the record for a complete account of the council meeting.

Submitted by,

Susan Dillon Town Clerk