

The May 14, 2020, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Denise L. DiFranco, President.
This was a Virtual Meeting using Zoom via Computer or Phone at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:	Also present:	Mark Tourgee
Denise L. DiFranco, President	Susan Dillon	Joanna Achille
Cheryl Hawes, Vice President	Susan Sprague	Jennifer Siciliano
Chris Stone	Kelli Russ	Rhett Bishop
Heidi Rogers	Patti Moreau	Tammy Steinkamp
Joe Cardillo- absent	Bobby Depalo	

I.	ROLL CALL AND PUBLIC COMMENT	None
II.	CONSENT AGENDA	<p>Approval of Minutes for April 23, 2020</p> <p>Approval of Payroll Warrants</p> <p> a. #43 \$34,708.94</p> <p> b. #44 - \$3,112.20</p> <p>Approval of General Warrant</p> <p> #17 - \$79,784.01</p> <p>Chris Stone moved, Heidi Rogers seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.</p> <p>Denise L. DiFranco wanted discussed the minutes and requested that they be pulled. Chris added “with the removal of the April 23rd minutes”.</p> <p>Motion Passed 4 – 0.</p> <p>Denise L. DiFranco said that she had not heard from Mr. Cardillo.</p> <p>Chris Stone moved to approve the April 23rd meeting minutes.</p> <p>Discussion: Susan Dillon asked if he should be marked “absent”. Denise L. DiFranco agreed.</p> <p>Heidi Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to approve the April 23rd meeting minutes with the correction that Joe Cardillo be marked absent.</p> <p>Motion passed 4 – 0. Denise L. DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye.</p>
III.	OLD BUSINESS	
	A. Interview Committee - Planner	<p>Denise L. DiFranco asked if there were applicants. Kelli Russ said they had seven or eight and they are putting together a packet. She suggested they select three or four and have a Zoom call. The committee would consist of Cheryl Hawes, Heidi Rogers, Kelli Russ, Jennifer Siciliano, and Joanna Achille. Denise L. DiFranco had received a call from Anthony Renzi asking why he was not included on the committee. Mark Tourgee stated that his recollection was that Jennifer and Joanna were familiar enough with how planning department worked that their presence was sufficient. Kelli Russ would coordinate interview dates.</p>
	B. Status of Recreation Field	<p>Denise L. DiFranco asked for an update. Kelli Russ said they had not received the money. Chris Stone said it was a girls’ softball field, but the paperwork stated that it was supposed to be a Little League Field. He spoke with DPW and the contractor to have it changed. Mr. Stone said the contractor needs a change work order to do so. Photos will be needed to draw the funds.</p> <p>Chris Stone moved, Heidi Rogers seconded, to allow Denise L. DiFranco to sign the change order. Kelli Russ added that it should be specified to be at no cost to the town.</p> <p>Motion passed 4 – 0. Heidi Rogers, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye.</p>
	C. Foster Food Truck Event	<p>Food Truck manager Eric spoke in favor of allowing the events to go forward by spreading out the trucks, some at Town Hall, some at the school and some in Scituate, broadcasting the music on Facebook, require ordering online with pick up at the trucks. People can then pick up</p>

beverages and go home, listen to streamed music, and eat.

The goal would be to do whatever is allowed when the date comes, but not cancel the event, each one being a little better than the last one.

Discussion: Denise L. DiFranco spoke to Scituate about their events. Cheryl Hawes asked if there would be a cost. Eric noted that this was not so but noted that there was a required peddler's license. Eric said there must be an MFE ordinance which would be as simple as saying the trucks have an MFE ordinance and are covered, but if there was a peddler's license, then they could not do the event.

Solicitor Mark Tourgee agreed that the MFE would apply. Eric said you cannot charge for something that is not an ordinance. Mr. Tourgee suggested canceling the June event. Heidi Rogers disagreed saying we would not want to cancel the event and could not see why we can't waive the fee because people need something to look forward to.

Cheryl Hawes asked how Chief Breit felt about it. He stated that he felt that if people followed the rules it should be okay.

The licenses and fees were discussed. Heidi asked if there would be any cost to the town. Kelli Russ stated the only cost would be for a police detail of \$400, but the compensation would come out of the Recreation budget. Recreation Director Tammy Steinkamp verified this. Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to charge \$25 per season for the truck events and have Recreation pay for the detail if necessary.

Discussion: Eric stated there should be no license fee.

Joanna Achille mentioned the possibility of using a mass gathering permit instead of individual licenses. Eric stated that he would write a check for \$300 for all three events.

Heidi Rogers withdrew her motion; Chris Stone withdrew his second.

Heidi Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to continue with the food event and to charge \$100 per event from Eric and have the recreation department cover the detail costs.

Motion passed 4 – 0. Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Denise L. DiFranco, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Financial Town Meeting

Bob Boyden stated that he and Bobby Depalo put a lot of thought into alternative methods to have a possible meeting. They submitted possibilities such as having it outside on the Foster Fairgrounds.

Bob Boyden stated that he thinks it could work and he supports going forward with this plan, but it would need approval from the state.

The League of Cities and Towns is drafting a number of options to propose to the legislature to extend the timeframe to adopt or to have the town council to adopt the budget without the required town meeting.

They felt that they owed it to the people of the town to have tried every possible option.

Chris Stone moved, Heidi Rogers seconded to move Bobby Depalo's ideas forward and send to the state for approval.

Motion passed 4 – 0. Denise L. DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye.

It was clarified that if there is rain, the meeting could be opened and then postponed.

(vote taken after item B.)

B. DPW – Loader Purchase

Chris Stone stated the Kip Colwell expressed concern with the transmission and a safety issue with the pins that

oscillate the bucket being halfway worn through. He has looked into buying a new loader.
Kelli Russ stated that it was a budgeted item and that she had wanted him to hold off three weeks because of outlays and cash flow concerns with the budget.
Patti Moreau noted that the tax bills wouldn't go out until August 1 because of the delay in certifying the tax roll.
Kelli Russ asked Mark Tourgee to put something in the RFP to protect the town if funding is held up.
Tabled to the following week. May 28 is the deadline to adopt.

Return to Financial Town Meeting

Heidi Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to have the Financial Town Meeting on Saturday, June 20, at 10:00 a.m. at the Foster Fairgrounds if the proposal is approved. Advertising ahead of time is required.
Motion passed 4 – 0. Denise L. DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye.

C. Phase II Recreation Field

When the contract arrives, it can be put on the agenda.

D. Letter RE: restaurants

Denise L. DiFranco stated that the Director of DBR Liz Tanner sent out a letter to all the municipalities to help restaurant owners. It states no fees for any new permits to restaurant owners, and to strive to make the paperwork to make outdoor dining as simple as possible, waiving unnecessary steps, etc. Ms. DiFranco stated she has contacted the restaurants in town to see if they are interested in outdoor dining. Chris Stone spoke with others. Heidi Rogers asked if any action was needed. Mark Tourgee stated that they must be sure that if they have a parking lot there is a barrier between that and the dining area. Ms. DiFranco wanted to know if the council wanted to sign on.
Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to sign on to the restaurant opening guidelines with the additional provision that there be a barrier between any vehicles and patrons in the event that it is set up near the parking lot and that it be inspected.
Motion passed 4 – 0.
Denise L. DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye.

E. Board of Canvassers Resignations

Denise L. DiFranco stated they had three, two regular and one alternate resignations.
Cheryl Hawes moved, Chris Stone seconded, to accept all three resignations from the Board of Canvassers: LaDelle Arnold, Tammy Steinkamp, and Donna Bianca, with regrets.
Motion passed 4 – 0.
Denise L. DiFranco, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Heidi Rogers, aye.

F. Selecting of Board of Canvassers

Denise L. DiFranco stated that she sent an email to the chair of the Republican Town Committee and the Democratic Town Committee telling them that five names be submitted to replace the vacant Board of Canvasser positions as required under RIGL Title 17.

G. Contract for Oil

Kelli Russ announced the bids.
Rambone & Sprague \$1.45 / gallon locked in for a year. Vaughn never responded and Woods Heating \$139.00 but will not lock in a price at any rate. Kip Colwell recommended Rambone & Sprague.
Chris Stone moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to lock in the oil price for. Rambone & Sprague for next year as recommended by Mr. Colwell
Motion passed 4 – 0.

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

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

Replacement of Loader

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to go into Executive Closed Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws 42-42-4 for the reason stated in Rhode Island General Laws 42-46-5 for discussion of work sessions regarding contract bargaining, contract negotiations or litigation according to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2)

Motion passed 4 – 0,

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

**Return to Opens Session
To announce votes**

There were three votes taken in Executive Session. One was for the Town of Foster vs. Jencks Road. The town agreed not to charge Matt Schmura. Motion passed 4 - 0.

The second was regarding the Laborers' Union. The Town agreed to charge the same amount for Health Care so there would be no loss in pay and no lay off clause in return for a one-year freeze.

Motion passed 4 - 0.

The third was to accept the Rambone contract for 5 years from 2020-2025 as presented.

Motion passed 4 - 0.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Submitted by

Susan M. Dillon, Town Clerk