

Town Council Meeting
January 28, 2021

The January 28, 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
Cheryl Hawes
David Paolino

Also present:

Joanna Achille, Solicitor
Julia Chretien, Solicitor

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS / PUBLIC COMMENT

III. CONSENT AGENDA

(December Reports)

- Building and Zoning
- Human Services
- Police Reports
- Tax Assessor
- DPW
- Planning
- RIRRC

(Quarterly Reports Oct-Dec)

- EMA
- Foster Ambulance Corp
- Foster Center Fire
- Library Report
- Planning Report
- South Foster Fire
- Engineering Board
- Land Trust
- School Committee
- Tax Board of Review

Chris Stone moved, Heidi Rogers seconded, to approve 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. OLD BUSINESS

A. Wright's Auto Update

Denise L. DiFranco said she did not see the man present who requested an update on Wright's Auto. Julia Chretien asked for this to be on this agenda.

Ms. Chretien said that groundwater is regulated by DEM and that any complaints about groundwater should be directed to them. She felt that she had been asked by the man for legal advice, which she cannot provide per contract with the town. Ms. Dillon will find out the man's name and Denise L. DiFranco will reach out to him.

Denise L. DiFranco said that Wright's Auto will be on the agenda at the end of February

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resignation of Emergency Services Coordinator

Denise L. DiFranco said that Tom Walden submitted a resignation letter as Emergency Services Coordinator. Cheryl Hawes moved, Chris Stone seconded, to accept the letter with thanks for his service and with regrets.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

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

B. Appointment of Emergency Services Coordinator

Denise L. DiFranco said that she asked the Engineering Board to submit a name for the Emergency Services Coordinator. They recommended Charles Stockwell. Chris Stone moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to appoint Charles Stockwell as Emergency Services Coordinator.

Discussion: Cheryl Hawes and Heidi Rogers

Motion passed 5 - 0.

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

C. FPS – Town House Repairs

Denise L. DiFranco said they had received a letter from Ed Robinson of the Foster Preservation Society requesting repairs to the ceiling of the Town House. Denise L. DiFranco said they had applied for a grant but did not get it. There were monies that were put aside but since Kelli is not present, she would like to wait for the February 11, meeting to hear from her. Heidi Rogers said the estimate was for \$13,000 and the amount set aside is \$62,000. Ms. Rogers thought we had more than enough and didn't know how long they wanted to wait. Denise L. DiFranco said the funds were not restricted and Kelli might want to do something else, which is why she wanted to wait.

Ms. DiFranco asked how old the estimate was. Mrs. Robinson said it was probably a year and a half. David Paolino suggested getting new estimates. Denise L. DiFranco noted that only certain contractors can do repairs on a building of that type and that she will talk to Gordon about it and maybe Chris Stone can coordinate. Mrs. Robinson said she would ask Ed to forward the list of contractors to them.

Mrs. Robinson also discussed the flooding problem and requested that Gordon look at it. Lynne Rider suggested that when Mr. Rogers goes to look at it that he meet with Ed Robinson.

Cheryl Hawes moved, David Paolino seconded, to move the repairs of the Town house to the February 11 meeting. Motion passed 5 - 0.

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

D. Planning Board Appointment

Denise L. DiFranco said that Mike Carpenter's name was inadvertently left off during reappointments. He is still interested in being on the Planning Board for a 5-year term.

Heidi Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to reappoint Mike Carpenter to the Planning Board for a five-year term.

Motion passed 5 - 0.

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

Future Agenda Items

Denise L. DiFranco said there were some future agenda items:

- Regional School would like to attend on February 11
- The letter from the FPS about the Town House
- Julia Chretien suggested the Building Permit Ordinance correction
- Cheryl Hawes suggested DPW
- Trailer Fee Ordinance

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Heidi Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to go into Executive Closed Session pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 for discussion or work sessions regarding Collective Bargaining, Contract Negotiation, or Litigation according to R.I.G.L 42-46-5 (A)(2), and to reconvene in open session, and further to keep the minutes of said meeting closed the minutes of all previous meetings remain closed according to RIGL 42-46-5

Motion passed 5 – 0.

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

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Julia Chretien reminded everyone that the Mobile Food
Truck Ordinance is on for a Public Hearing on the next
meeting.

No votes were taken.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Heidi Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to adjourn.
Motion passed 4- 0.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p .m.

Submitted by,

Susan M. Dillon, Town Clerk