

## Town Council Meeting January 26, 2017

The January 26, 2017, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Denise DiFranco, President of the Foster Town Council, at the Benjamin Eddy Building, Foster, Rhode Island, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

**Denise DiFranco, President**  
**Chris Stone, Vice President**  
**Gordon Rogers**  
**Michael Dillon**  
**Cheryl Hawes**

Also present:

Solicitor, Atty. Mark Tourgee  
Assistant Solicitor, Atty. Joanna Achille  
Police Chief William Ziehl  
Kelli Russ, Treasurer  
Juliana King, Town Planner

### **I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Denise DiFranco made one announcement that there is a signup sheet for the new website which is going live on February 13, 2017; anyone who would like information sent to their email address, please signup.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Police Chief Bill Ziehl spoke on behalf of the Super Plunge event in support of the Special Olympics. The Super Plunge will be held at Salty Brine State Beach starting at noon on March 4<sup>th</sup>; the Foster Police will be participating at 1 p.m. The various teams will plunge into the freezing Atlantic every hour for 24 hours straight until March 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon. For more information please see the "Foster Police Department" page on Facebook, or contact Bill Ziehl if anyone is interested in donating.

### **IV. MINUTES**

Gordon Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to accept the meeting minutes for **January 12, 2017**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye; Motion carried 5-0.

### **V. WARRANTS**

Gordon Rogers moved, Mike Dillon seconded, to approve **Payroll Warrant #27** for \$39,605.95.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to approve **Payroll Warrant #28** \$38,230.86.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Gordon Rogers moved, Mike Dillon, to table **General Warrant #13** and **#13a**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

### **VI. MONTHLY REPORTS**

Gordon Rogers moved, Mike Dillon seconded, to accept the Monthly Reports as presented for November and December.

Denise noted that Public Works did not submit reports for November and

**Town Council Meeting  
January 26, 2017**

December.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**VII. QUARTERLY  
REPORTS**

Gordon Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to accept the Quarterly Reports as presented for November and December from the Board of Canvassers, Civil Preparedness, Conservation Commission, Engineering Board, Foster Ambulance Corps, Foster Center Fire Co., Foster School Committee, Land Trust, Libraries, Planning Board, Recreation Committee, South Foster Fire Co., and Tax Board of Review. Two that were not yet submitted were Moosup Valley Fire Co. and Foster Home Repair.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Julianna King, Town Planner, stated that she will forward the letter she received from Foster Home Repair stating they are no longer funded (which is why no report was submitted).

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Recreation Field  
Bid.**

Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to approve the Recreation Field Bid (specifically Project D of the proposed bid submitted December 15, 2016, by Premier Tree Service).

Discussion: Gordon stated that it would be a waste of money to install an underground holding tank as it is not needed.

Denise DiFranco, nay; Chris Stone, nay; Cheryl Hawes, nay; Gordon Rogers, nay; and Michael Dillon, nay. Motion Fails 5-0.

**B. Pole Request**

Gordon Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded to table the Pole Request on Paris Olney Hopkins Road.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**C. Appointment to  
Juvenile Hearing  
Board**

Gordon Rogers moved, Mike Dillon seconded, to appoint Thomas DiRaimo to the **Juvenile Hearing Board**.

Discussion: Mr. Rogers noted that Thomas DiRaimo is also on the Zoning Board, and it has been noted in the past that a person could not serve on two boards. Atty. Tourgee, Town Solicitor, stated that he had researched the issue and explained that according to the Town Charter, a person may serve on two boards; the only exception being that they could not sit on both the Planning and Zoning Boards.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Marijuana  
Presentation**

Gordon Rogers made a motion to move the Marijuana Presentation from Agenda item "K" to "A" at the beginning of New Business and then following the posted Agenda order after that.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**B. Department**

Gordon Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to have the council appoint

## Town Council Meeting

January 26, 2017

### Liaisons

liaisons to Building and Zoning, Public Works, Finance, Human Services, Planning, Police and Tax Assessor departments.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Gordon Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to appoint Mike Dillon as the liaison to the **Building and Zoning Department**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Chris Stone moved, Mike Dillon seconded, to appoint Gordon Rogers as the liaison to the **Public Works Department**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0

Gordon Rogers moved, Mike Dillon seconded, to appoint Chris Stone as the liaison to the **Finance Department**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0

Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to appoint Denise DiFranco as the liaison to the **Human Services Department**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0

Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to appoint Denise DiFranco as the liaison to the **Planning Department**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0

Mike Dillon moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to appoint Cheryl Hawes as the liaison to the **Police Department**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0

Cheryl Hawes moved, Mike Dillon seconded, to appoint Gordon Rogers as the liaison to the **Tax Assessor**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0

### C. Boards and Commissions Liaisons

Cheryl Hawes moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to appoint Denise DiFranco, as the liaison to the **Planning Board**.

Denise DiFranco, nay; Chris Stone, nay; Cheryl Hawes, nay; Gordon Rogers, nay; and Michael Dillon, nay. Motion Fails 5-0.

Cheryl Hawes moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to appoint a council member as a liaison to the **Zoning Boards**.

Denise DiFranco, nay; Chris Stone, nay; Cheryl Hawes, nay; Gordon Rogers, nay; and Michael Dillon, nay. Motion Fails 5-0.

**Town Council Meeting  
January 26, 2017**

Gordon Rogers moved, Mike Dillon seconded, to appoint a member of the council as the liaison to the **School Committee**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Gordon Rogers moved, Mike Dillon seconded, to appoint Chris Stone as the liaison to the **School Committee**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**D. C.A.S.T. Funds to  
(JHB)**

Gordon Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to reallocate the unused funds from C.A.S.T. (Citizens And Students Together) over to the Juvenile Hearing Board.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to amend the motion to (include the dollar amount and) reallocate \$1000.00 of unused funds from C.A.S.T. to the Juvenile Hearing Board.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**E. Update of New  
State Commercial  
Solar Tax Rate**

Julianna explained how the Commercial Solar Tax Rate was configured.

**F. Road and Bridge  
Plan**

Chris Stone moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to table the Road and Bridge Plan for our new DPW Director to review.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**G. Appointments to  
the Foster  
Recreation  
Committee**

Gordon Rogers moved, Michael Dillon seconded, appoint David Tirrell to **Foster Recreation Committee**.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Gordon Rogers moved, Michael Dillon seconded, to appoint Ron Cervasio to the **Foster Recreation Committee**. Mr. Rogers noted that Mr. Cervasio had already submitted his letter to the council in a previous packet.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**H. Copies of Code of  
Ethics, Open  
Meeting**

Copies of the *Code of Ethics* were handed out to each Town Council Member and an email was sent by the Town Clerk with PDFs of the *Public Records* and *Open Meetings* laws as requested by Cheryl Hawes and directed by Denise DiFranco.

**I. Additions &  
Abatements**

Gordon Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to accept the Tax Assessor's Additions and Abatements for Tangible 1<sup>st</sup> appeals in the amount of \$697.50.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Town Council Meeting  
January 26, 2017**

**J. FY 2017-18  
Budget Calendar.**

Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to approve that meetings for budget workshops begin on Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**X. FUTURE AGENDA  
ITEMS**

- A. Equipment Swap – February 9, 2017
- B. 2018 End-To-End-Census Test Presentation – February 9, 2017
- C. Financial Statements and Standards Policies and Procedures for Non Town Entities Receiving Appropriations
- D. Kennel Ordinance Revisions
- E. Town House Basement Stair Replacement
- F. Pole Request Paris Olney Hopkins Road
- G. Marijuana Ordinance

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Gordon Rogers moved to adjourn, Chris Stone seconded. Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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

Submitted by

Susan M. Dillon  
Town Clerk