

MARCH 13, 2014  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The March 13, 2014, Town Council Meeting was called to order by John L. Lewis, Jr., President of the Foster Town Council, at the Benjamin Eddy Building, Foster, Rhode Island, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:	Also present were:
<b>John L. Lewis, Jr., President</b>	Kelli Russ, Town Treasurer
<b>Pamela Fontaine, Vice President,</b>	William Ziehl, Police Chief
<b>Neal C. Whitelaw,</b>	
<b>Denise DiFranco, and</b>	
<b>Roger L. Hawes.</b>	Renee M. Bevilacqua, Town Solicitor, excused

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| <b>I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</b> | The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.   |
| <b>II. ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>       | <p>John L. Lewis, Jr. stated that the notice of the meeting was properly posted on the Secretary of State’s web site.</p> <p>Pamela Fontaine read the notice from the top of the agenda: <i>The Foster Town Council does not sanction any electronic audio/video recordings of Town Council Meetings made by the public. Any audio/video recordings made by the public are not public records under Title 38 Public Records.</i></p> <p><b>Agenda Change</b> John L. Lewis, Jr. announced that Joe Cardillo would not be present because he was tending to a problem with the furnace at the police station.</p> <p>Ron Cervasio stated that he had heard that Rick Ruggieri has passed away the night before. Mr. Ruggieri was a former Town Council member and John L. Lewis, Jr. asked for a moment of silence for him.</p>  |
| <b>III. MINUTES</b>            | <p>Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve the minutes of <b>February 27, 2014</b>. Denise DiFranco noted that on page iv, the name should be “Mark” DiFranco and not “Ken”.</p> <p>John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal Whitelaw, aye. Motion passed 5-0 with the correction.</p>   |
| <b>IV. WARRANTS</b>            | <p>Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve <b>Payroll Warrant #34</b> for \$28,916.63.</p> <p>John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, no; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal Whitelaw, aye. Motion carried 4-1.</p> <p>Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve <b>Payroll Warrant #35</b> for \$26,378.27.</p> <p>John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, no; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal Whitelaw, aye. Motion carried 4-1.</p> <p>Denise DiFranco moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to approve <b>General Warrant #15</b> for \$227,142.32. Discussion: Pamela Fontaine asked about purchases, but the Treasurer had not yet arrived. A few minutes later into the agenda, the Treasurer arrived, and Ms. Fontaine asked about a listing on page 3 for Home Depot, tools for buildings and grounds. Kelli Russ, Town Treasurer, stated that the purchase was for a saw, hand tools, and materials needed for shelving. Ms. Fontaine asked what the charge was for Power Phone. Ms. Russ said it was a class for one of the Dispatchers. She then asked about a charge from W. H. Rose listing asphalt gloves twice. Ms. Russ stated that it was for asphalt gloves and also parts but that the details were cut off when the warrant printed.</p> <p>John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal Whitelaw, aye. Motion carried 5-0.</p> |
| <b>V. MONTHLY REPORTS</b>      | None.   |

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- VI. QUARTERLY REPORTS

None. John L. Lewis, Jr., noted the inclusion of a letter that was sent to the Emergency Management Director and the Commander of the Ambulance Corps regarding the quarterly reports.
- VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resignation from Conservation Commission

Neal Whitelaw moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to accept the resignation of Joe Cardillo from the Conservation Commission due to his appointment as Director of Public Works.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal Whitelaw, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

b. Request for use of Fairgrounds for PTG Panther Dash

Neal Whitelaw moved, Denise DiFranco seconded, to allow the Capt. Isaac Paine School Parent Teachers Group to use the Foster Town Fairgrounds for their 5K / 10K Panther Dash on Sunday, June 22, 2014, from 8 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Mr. Whitelaw asked the clerk if the date was open. She replied that it was.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal Whitelaw, aye. Motion carried 5-0.
- VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None. DPW Director Joe Cardillo was unavailable for an update. John L. Lewis, Jr. stated that Mr. Cardillo would email and update the council regarding the progress on the Mill Road and Plainwoods Road bridges.
- IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

John L. Lewis, Jr. asked if there were any agenda items in addition to the ones listed. There was no response.

( Note: Those agenda items were:

• Minutes for January 23, 2014

• Minutes for February 20, 2014

• Procedure for collecting tangible taxes

• Foster Center Baptist Church Well Request

• Requests / Proposals from Building Inspector)

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Neal Whitelaw moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to go into Executive Session pursuant to a work session regarding RIGL 42-46-5 for the discussion of A(2) Collective Bargaining / Negotiations or Litigation 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 be closed and remain closed in accordance with provisions in RIGL 42-46-4 and 5.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal Whitelaw, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

The Town Council reconvened into open session.

John L. Lewis, Jr. announced that a unanimous vote taken was to close the minutes in accordance with RIGL 42-46-4 and to keep these minutes and the minutes of all previous minutes sealed. Another vote was taken to approve the signing of a three-year contract with the Rhode Island Laborers Union, Local #1322 which also passed unanimously.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Neal Whitelaw moved, Roger Hawes seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Pamela Fontaine, aye; Roger Hawes, aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; and Neal Whitelaw, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.
- A digital sound file is made a part of the record for a complete account of the council meeting.
- Submitted by
- Carol Lyons Sholly, CMC  
Town Clerk
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