

SEPTEMBER 15, 2016
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The September 15, 2016 Special Town Council Meeting was called to order by John L. Lewis, Jr., President of the Foster Town Council, at the Town House, Foster, Rhode Island, at 6:02 p.m.

The following members were present:

John L. Lewis, Jr., President
Denise DiFranco, Vice President,
Gordon Rogers, and
Jon Restivo.
Cheryl Hawes, excused

Also present:

Kelli Russ, Treasurer
Police Chief William Ziehl
Tom Walden, Engineering Board

**I. OPEN
SESSION
PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**II. ANNOUNCE-
MENTS**

John L. Lewis, Jr. stated that the notice of the meeting was properly posted on the Secretary of State's web site. Mr. Lewis also stated that this special meeting was due to problems with the police station communications system. There was a telephone issue with an emergency line that was out, and the radio system was sporadic earlier this week. Mr. Lewis asked the police chief to update the Council on what was going on.

**III. NEW
BUSINESS
a.) Emergency
Repairs to,
And Funding
Of Police
Station
Telephone
Line**

Chief Ziehl stated that Verizon had reviewed the telephone line situation and believed the issues were due to the buried phone lines 100' from the police station, which had been damaged from heavy equipment in November/December 2012. The splicing of the 100-wire cable that had been completed at that time was only meant to be a temporary fix. The wires were now failing.

The solution would be for Verizon to bring in telephone lines from Howard Hill Road, which they were in the process of completing, at no cost to the town.

- and -

**b.) Emergency
Repairs to,
And Funding
Of Police
Station Radio
System**

The police Chief reported that temporarily CyberCom was forcing a stronger signal to the station to temporarily alleviate the radio issue; but this was a short-term solution.

Some long term solutions could be: stringing new lines on poles or leasing space on Verizon poles; digging and installing a new line; or investing in microwave dishes.

The Chief was waiting for thorough reviews and pricing from multiple vendors, all of which are on the State Master Price Agreement list, eliminating the need for the Town to go out to bid.

Discussion was held regarding snaking the existing conduit and putting in new Cat 3 wire; whether DPW could do some of the digging and snaking; concerns about relocating buried wires if a new police station were to be built; the potential costs for the various methods, and whether to take the money from the contingency fund.

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**NEW
BUSINESS, cont.**

Jon Restivo moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to authorize a certain amount of money to be used in the most cost effective way possible, based on consultation with the DPW department, with the money to come from contingency.

John Lewis moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to amend the motion to add the price not to exceed \$14,000.00 maximum from the contingency fund.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Jon Restivo, aye; and Gordon Rogers, aye. Amended motion passed 4 – 0.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Jon Restivo, aye; and Gordon Rogers, aye. Main motion passed 4 – 0.

**IV. ADJOURN-
MENT**

Gordon Rogers moved, Jon Restivo seconded, and it was so moved to adjourn the meeting.

John L. Lewis, Jr., aye; Denise DiFranco, aye; Jon Restivo, aye; and Gordon Rogers, aye. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

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

Submitted by,

Jane H. Christopher
Town Clerk