

**FEBRUARY 16, 2017**  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

The February 16, 2017, Town Council Meeting was called to order by Denise DiFranco, President of the Foster Town Council, at the Foster Town House, 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  
Police Chief William Ziehl  
Kelli Russ, Treasurer  
Ron Cervasio, member Planning Bd. and Rec. Comm.  
Guenter Bay, Emergency Mgt. Director

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Council President Denise DiFranco asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Dick Colwell.  
Ms. DiFranco also wanted to thank the Fire Stations, Ambulance Corps, and the DPW for all their work during the storms.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Lynne Rider and Ron Cervasio.

**IV. MINUTES**

Gordon Rogers moved, Mike Dillon seconded, to approve the January 26, 2017, meeting minutes.  
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, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to approve **Payroll Warrant #29** for \$33,105.70.  
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 #30** for \$33,366.97.  
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 approve **General Warrant #14** for \$58,317.08.  
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 **General Warrant #13** for \$63,721.71.  
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 approve **General Warrant #13a** for \$150.00.

Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, recuse; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 4-1, with 1 recusal.

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**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Census Presentation** Presentation by Yara McSweeney on the 2018 End-to-End Census Test in preparation for the 2020 Census.
- B. Marijuana Resolution** Gordon Rogers moved, Mike Dillon seconded, to adopt “A Resolution to Oppose ‘The Marijuana Regulation, Control, and Taxation Act’: and the Creation of a Commercial Marijuana Industry in Rhode Island and This Community” (see Exhibit A).  
Discussion: Cheryl Hawes, Gordon Rogers, Atty. Mark Tourgee, Denise DiFranco, Mike Dillon, Chief Ziehl, Ron Cervasio, Lynne Rider, and Guenter Bay.  
Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.
- C. Marijuana Ordinances** Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to send several Marijuana Ordinances adopted by other communities that were included in the January 26, 2017 packet, together with input from Chief Ziehl, to the Planning Board for their review.  
Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.
- D. Recreation Committee** Gordon Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded, to accept the request from Timothy Dannenfelse to appoint him to the open position on the Recreation Committee.  
Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.
- E. Use of Town House** Request was withdrawn.
- F. Use of Town Fairgrounds** Chris Stone moved, Gordon Rogers seconded to grant permission for the Northern RI 4H Horse Show to use the Fairgrounds on May 7, 2017.  
Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.
- G. Assessor’s Additions and Abatements** Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to accept the Tax Assessor’s Additions and Abatements: Motor Vehicle Additions totaling \$559.79.  
Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.
- H. Sealed Bids LESCO** Gordon Rogers moved, Chris Stone seconded to accept Chief Zeihl’s request to send out for sealed bids to sell the John Deer Engine and the list of forfeited/seized/acquired property.  
Discussion: Denise DiFranco and Atty. Mark Tourgee.  
Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

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**VII. FUTURE AGENDA  
ITEMS**

- 1) Financial Statements and Standards Policies and Procedures for Non-Town Entities Receiving Appropriations
- 2) Kennel Ordinance Revisions
- 3) Town House Basement Replacement Stairs Bid

**VIII. EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Gordon Rogers moved, Cheryl Hawes seconded, to go into Executive Closed Session pursuant RIGL 42-46-5, pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, (A), (9) - Personnel. Pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, (A), 2 - Litigation. Pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, (A), 2 – Litigation. Pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, (A), 2 – Litigation. Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Executive Session began at 8:19pm.  
Executive Session ended at 8:55 p.m.

**RECONVENE IN  
OPEN SESSION**

Denise DiFranco moved, Gordon Rogers seconded, to approve, adopt and seal the minutes – with or without corrections – of all prior executive closed session minutes and to close and seal the current executive closed session minutes in RIGL 42-46-4 and 5; and further move to reconvene into public open session to announce any votes taken during executive closed session that must be disclosed as required under Rhode Island General Laws 42-46-4. Denise DiFranco, aye; Chris Stone, aye; Cheryl Hawes, aye; Gordon Rogers, aye; and Michael Dillon, aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Session resumed 8:56 p.m.

Denise DiFranco stated that no votes were taken during Executive Session.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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