

Selectboard Attendance: Chairman Joel Bouvier, Carol Wells, Sharon Compagna, Alan Huizenga and John “Peeker” Heffernan. Town Administrator Bill Bryant and Town Clerk Therese Kirby. Filmed for NEAT TV by Mary Arbuckle and reported for the Addison Independent by Andrew Stein. Also attended by: John Moyers, Peter Dominico, Kristen Underwood, Jim Lockridge, Bruce Duncan, Kris Perlee, Lance Perlee, Darla Senecal, Allen Karnatz, Ryan Krushneck, Dave Henderson, Heather Simson, Bruz Brown, Neil Farish, and Kevin Gibbs.

1. Joel Bouvier called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Bristol Conservation Commission members were here to request use of \$1,000 in Conservation Reserve Funds to support development of land conservation projects on Route 116 North for the Robert Fuller and Paul & Elizabeth Farr properties. The funds will be used to offset the cost of appraisals for the land owners. The total fee for the appraisal is \$4250 for the Farr property and \$3500 for the Fuller property. The funds from the Reserve Funds will be given to the land owners to partially offset the 50% of the appraisal cost the landowner is required to pay. Allen Karnatz explained the Vermont Land Trust process and the process used to hire an appraisal service. The land owners would be selling a conservation easement that prevents development and/or subdivision of the property. The appraiser is asked to give the open market value of the property and the value after the easement is granted. Vermont Land Trust pays the property owner the difference. Carol Wells moved to authorize \$1000 from the Conservation Commission Reserve Fund for easements. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted.

The Conservation Commission also discussed with the Selectboard with their proposal for a moratorium on gravel extraction in the Conservation zoning district. Peter Diminico said they sent a letter to the Planning Commission requesting this moratorium until the mapping project they are undertaking have been completed. Dave Henderson said the Planning Commission voted on this suggestion and it was denied. Kristen Underwood said it appears likely the Town of Bristol will be receiving grant money for the mapping project. They will be notified in the spring of the amount of grant money awarded for the three year mapping project.

The Conservation Commission is requesting an appropriation of \$10,000 for the 2012/2013 fiscal year. They would also like their yearly operating expenses to be increased from \$250 back to \$500.

The Selectboard thanked the Conservation Commission members and Allen Karnatz for their time.

2. Recreation Director Darla Senecal, Hub Director Jim Lockridge, Ryan Krushneck, and Heather Simson were here regarding the Hub teen center’s mission, utilization, funding and staffing. Jim Lockridge presented graphs regarding attendance and residency for 2011. Bill Bryant suggested not mingling events attendance numbers with general after school visits. Jim said the majority of teens attending the Hub are male students and they are strategizing on how to make the Hub more inviting to female students. Discussion of the remaining presentation and how data is collected. Heather Simson stated she counts the students using the skate park even if they only use the restroom at the Hub. Ryan Krushnek showed a video created by Heather with the students. He also presented letters from different members of the community in support of expanding his hours at the Hub. Ryan explained there are daily visitors that require Hub staffing, there is grant writing, workshops preparation, event scheduling, and program planning to be done. He also feels the expanded hours help Hub employees to be available to some of the at risk youth, such as high school drop outs, students with individual education plans, and students with alternative school hours. Ryan would like to expand his hours to 28 hours per week and those hours will be paid completely by grant money. Darla Senecal spoke on behalf of Jim Lockridge, Ryan Krushnek and his request of increasing his hours. Bill Bryant stated the programming at the Hub has changed over the last few years and he wants to be sure the Selectboard is supportive of the events, programming, and field trips happening and that they agree with their mission. He also knows the Hub staff is very good at grant writing but he would like to see better grant administration. Bill understands the Hub has four grants in place to cover Ryan’s hours. By increasing Ryan’s hours it requires him to pay into the Vermont Municipal Employee Retirement System and the Town to pay their share. Ryan stated the grantors have agreed their money can be used for salary and benefits. Bill Bryant outlined how worker’s compensation and back retirement will be paid. Alan Huizenga was happy to hear about the structure at the Hub and pleased to see the data collected. The Selectboard needs to justify the expense to the taxpayers so he was happy to see this

presentation. He likes the mission statement they have drafted but would like to see life skills (job interviews, etc.) incorporated. Peeker Heffernan said he appreciates their creativity in programming and finding grant money to pay for it. Darla wanted to know the best way for the Hub staff to communicate with the Selectboard regarding upcoming events, programming, and general information. Sharon Compagna would like it in writing so they can ask questions of the staff if necessary. Carol Wells reminded the Recreation Department they and the Selectboard are a team and sometimes the Selectboard needs to put the brakes on to be certain everyone has the same understanding. Joel Bouvier is concerned the staff skills are driving the programming at the Hub. Darla assured him the students are driving the programming not the other way around. Joel also wants to be sure travel is not paid for by taxpayers. Bruce Duncan walks by the Hub on a regular basis and it looks like a fun place for kids. He would like them to raise the bar on creating a partnership with students and adults via governance. Bruce would also like to see them gather information on attendance for students with disabilities, gays & lesbians and transgender. Lance Perlee's concern is the amount of grant money used to subsidize the Hub and when the grant money dries up he does not feel the taxpayers can pick up that burden. Peeker Heffernan said his understanding is when the grant money ends, so does the position and some of the extras. The Selectboard asked for the updated attendance information by the end of 2011.

Darla Senecal stated the people running Bristol Best Night is looking for Bristol Recreation Department to take it over the festivities next year. Darla does not feel the Recreation Department can take on the event and suggested they start a committee of community volunteers to run it next year. For now, Bristol Best Night would like the fee for renting Holley Hall to be waived and the need for a certificate of insurance. Bill Bryant suggested collecting the fee for usage of Holley Hall but consider the Bristol Recreation Department as a partner for the event at Holley Hall so the proof of insurance could be waived. The Selectboard agreed with Darla's suggestion that Bristol Best Night gather volunteers for a committee. Alan Huizenga moved to allow the Bristol Recreation Department to co-sponsor the events for Bristol Best night at Holley Hall. Sharon Compagna seconded. So voted.

3. Andrew Jackson was here regarding his driveway access permit application for High Street. He would like to get a zoning permit to build a house on his second lot, but needs the driveway access permit application finalized before the zoning permit can be issued. At a meeting last December he was told he needed an engineered plan. He presented a drawing tonight and a check for \$60 with his application. Andrew explained his drawing to the Selectboard. Bill Bryant explained this is a lot on the side of the mountain and is a difficult curb cut to grant without some engineering regarding drainage. Alan Huizenga wanted to know the size of the stone catch basin and how the water is going to get there. He went on to state there are no dimensions of the drive way turn around and he is concerned one check dam is inadequate. Discussion of the plan. Bruz Brown stated in the storm of 2004 there was a significant amount of water that came down the gulley onto his property. Peeker Heffernan would like clarification of where the water is going. Andrew will get clarification from the designer of the plan and return with updated information. Joel Bouvier believes the standard is minimal water from his driveway should end up on the street. Bruz feels Andrew is increasing impervious surface by building a driveway and putting a roof on his house, thus increasing the chance of flooding in Bruz's basement. Bruz also reminded the Selectboard he offered Andrew \$2,000 for an engineering study to calculate how much water is going to come off the property and create a system to manage it. He does believe Andrew has the right to build a house there, but a responsibility to manage the runoff. Joel thanked Andrew for coming tonight and Andrew will submit a revised drawing. For purpose of this application Andrew is waiving his 30 day right for a decision on his application. Carol Wells moved to leave the application open with the agreement that Andrew waives his 30 day right. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted.

4. John Moyers presented the Selectboard with a copy of the Memorandum of Decision of the Lathrop Gravel pit. He had highlighted parts of the Decision he felt were important for the Selectboard to revisit and again was here to encourage them to participate in the ACT 250 process. Bruce Duncan questioned the reason for the standing executive session item. Bill Bryant explained reasons the Selectboard goes into executive session.

5. Fire Chief Peeker Heffernan spoke regarding the proposed 2012/2013 Fire Department budget. He would like to remove the \$2000 revenue line for billing for heavy rescue. He found out it is not possible to bill specifically for extraction unless EMS and Fire are the same entity. He is proposing increases in the following line items: building maintenance by \$500, he would like a \$500 line created for the Brush Truck, and he would like to add a line for hose replacement for \$1500.
6. The Town has a 2003 International single axle dump truck they will be selling in 2012, that has 52000 miles on it. The Town of New Haven is interested in purchasing this truck in as is condition with the understanding the Town of Bristol will use it until April 2012. New Haven plans to use it as a back-up truck to replace their current 1996 truck. Peeker Heffernan would like to have the truck appraised before we sell it to New Haven. If the appraised value is near the offered price he is in favor of selling it to the Town of New Haven.
7. Sharon Compagna moved to accept the Warrant for Impoundment of Unlicensed Dogs. Carol Wells seconded. So voted.
8. Budget Update: There will be a bond vote at March Town Meeting for up to \$250,000 dollars, for the Town's 10% share of the South Street Bridge replacement project. We will get a line of credit as interim financing from People's United Bank for the construction phase, and then go to the bond bank for a 20 year bond after construction. Alan Huizenga wants to be sure the construction price includes the water line. The Bristol Cemetery Commission informed Bill Bryant they will be level funding their appropriation request. Bill also handed out a wage spreadsheet for 2012/2013 and explained expected savings this year on health insurance.
9. Sharon Compagna moved to accept the minutes of December 5, 2011. Peeker Heffernan seconded. So voted.
10. Selectboard Roundtable: Alan Huizenga said one light on each of the Twin Bridges are currently operational. Bill Bryant will write a letter to VTrans asking them to repair the broken lights. Carol Wells suggested that we look at monitoring what is being brought in and accepted on hazardous waste days to make sure we are not paying for things that are not really hazardous waste items, like latex paint. Joel Bouvier spoke with Addison County Solid Waste and they are interested in handling our hazardous waste. Bill and Kris Perlee will follow up with that. Joel Bouvier thanked the Police Department for the list of street lights with lights out.
11. Peeker Heffernan moved to authorize Joel Bouvier to sign the \$2,700 grant award from the Vermont Coalition of Teen Centers. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted.
12. Bill Bryant updated the Selectboard on landfill matters and that our new Common Level of Appraisal is 89.40%, an increase of 5.02%. This should extend the time until the next town-wide reappraisal is necessary.
13. Sharon Compagna moved to go into executive session to discuss three personnel issues and three legal issues involving the Town where premature general public knowledge of the subject matter would clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage. Peeker Heffernan seconded. So voted. The Selectboard met in executive session from 10:20 pm to 10:55 pm with Police Chief Kevin Gibbs in attendance for a portion of the session. Upon return to open session, Alan Huizenga moved to accept the recommendation of the Chief to hire Joshua Otey as a part-time officer for the Bristol Police Department at the rate of \$16.00 per hour. It was noted for the record that Mr. Otey has formerly worked for the Vergennes Police Department, which he left as a result of his wife's military service. They are returning shortly to Vermont, and Mr. Otey is a full-time certified officer in Vermont. Carol Wells seconded. So voted. Carol Wells moved to approve an increase in hours for the part-time position of Hub assistant currently filled by Ryan Krushnek, from 16 hours per week to 30 hours per week, retroactive to July 1, 2011, subject to the additional hours and associated benefits being paid

for from grant funding. It was noted for the record that should grant funding for these additional hours cease to be available; the position would be returned to its previous status as a 16 hour per week position. Benefits to be paid for from grants would include the additional cost for workers compensation for the additional hours, and 100% of the Town contribution to the Vermont Municipal Employee Retirement System because the position would be subject to VMERS at the trigger level of 24 hours per week. It was noted that Ryan will owe approximately \$800 to VMERS for hours worked from July 1st to now, and it was agreed that the Town will pay this contribution up front subject to Ryan's reimbursement through payroll withholding, back to the Town between now and June 30, 2012. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted with 4 in favor and Joel Bouvier opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Therese Kirby  
Clerk