

Bristol Selectboard Meeting

March 12, 2012

Selectboard Attendance: Chairman John “Peeker” Heffernan, Joel Bouvier, Alan Huizenga, Carol Wells and. Town Administrator Bill Bryant and Town Clerk Therese Kirby. Filmed for NEAT TV by Mary Arbuckle. Also attended by: John Moyers and Dave Packie.

1. Current Chairman Joel Bouvier called the Selectboard meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Carol Wells moved to nominate Peeker Heffernan as Chair for the upcoming year. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted. Joel Bouvier moved to accept Bill Bryant’s schedule for the regular meeting schedule of the Bristol Selectboard as every other Monday, unless changes or emergency meetings are deemed necessary. Carol Wells seconded. So voted. Carol Wells moved to designate the Addison Independent as the newspaper of record. Joel Bouvier seconded. So voted. Discussion of Town Officer appointments. Bill Bryant will schedule appointments for April 9, 2012. Thursday, April 19, 2012 at 3:00 pm will be the annual road trip. The Water, Sewer and Landfill public hearings will be held on Monday, May 7, 2012.

2. David Packie was here regarding the New Haven River Kayak Race to be held on April 21, 2012 and April 22, 2012. He feels it will be a much smaller event this year as there will not be corporate funding this year. It will be a time trial event and he will provide the Town of Bristol with a proof of insurance. The ambulance has been notified and they will have emergency medical technicians (EMT) on site. The Selectboard thanked David for his time, and wished him well on his event.

3. Public Forum: John Moyers was here to discuss an issue that arose at the March 6, 2012 Planning Commission (PC) meeting. He said the meeting was brief and had been set to discuss some language the PC was working on in the draft Town Plan. The PC voted on the language changes and then asked for public input, so John felt it was designed to exclude visitor participation. He urged the Selectboard to view the meeting video. The Selectboard thanked John for his time.

4. The Selectboard discussed the Revolving Loan Fund Committees recommendation of loaning Aqua Vitea \$80,000. Aqua Vitea brews kombucha tea and is currently leasing space at Bristol Works. Aqua Vitea will be matching the \$80,000 with their own equity that they are raising via investors. Carol Wells moved to approve the loan to Aqua Vitea for \$80,000 at 4% interest over 8 Years with a balloon payment due at 5 years and authorizing Bill Bryant to sign the closing documents. Alan Huizenga seconded. There will be an equipment list provided to the Town for security of the loan. So voted.

5. Discussion of a park and ride site in Bristol. Carol Wells suggested designating five spaces at the south side of the green or creating a park and ride site at the parking area on Lincoln road. Peeker Heffernan suggested advertising parking is available on the park via Front Porch Forum and the Town’s website without designating specific spaces.

The Selectboard directed Bill Bryant to look into available grant funding for possible upgrades to the Lincoln road space.

6. Receipt of the draft Town Plan from the Planning Commission (PC). The PC adopted this on March 6, 2012 as their proposed Town Plan. The Plan will be free to the public, but there may be a small charge for the appendix, to cover the cost of the color copies. There was a brief discussion of the plan. Carol Wells would like the Selectboard to read the plan and then invite a couple members of the PC to a future Selectboard meeting to answer any questions the Selectboard may have. Bill Bryant explained the Selectboard is required to hold at least two public hearings. If they make substantial changes, they need to have two more public hearings after the changes are made. Bill will invite PC members to the April 23, 2012 meeting to answer any of their questions. Joel Bouvier moved set Monday, May 14, 2012 as the first public hearing. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted.

7. The Selectboard signed an accounts payable warrant for \$36,324.12 and liquor licenses for the Bristol Bakery, Bristol Discount Beverage and Bobcat Café.

8. Therese Kirby thanked people for all of their help with the Presidential Primary/Town Meeting election and especially to all the voters. She also reminded residents their dogs need to be licensed by April 1, 2012 and that property taxes are due April 5, 2012. She handed out a draft Conflict of Interest policy and asked the Selectboard and Bill Bryant to give their notes to Jen Stetson so she can combine them into one draft for discussion at a future meeting. Joel Bouvier moved to authorize Therese Kirby to sign as plaintiff on behalf of the Town in a Small Claims suit against Douglas Foregger for the collection of delinquent taxes. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted.

9. Selectboard Roundtable: Joel Bouvier spoke about the request of the Burlington Free Press to install blue newspaper boxes near subscriber's driveways. Bill Bryant has been in contact with the Burlington Free Press regarding this issue. They told Bill if a customer requests the paper be delivered to their porch and not their driveway, they will do that. The Selectboard opposes the placement of blue newspaper boxes in the village. Carol Wells said on Sunday, March 18, 2011 Bernie Sanders is coming to Bristol at 11 am for a Town Meeting at Holley Hall. Maple Magic will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2012 in the downtown stores; this event is sponsored by the Bristol Downtown Community Partnership (BDCP).

10. Town Administrator's Report: Bill Bryant asked the Selectboard if they wanted mowing contracts to go out to bid since current vendors are holding their prices again this year. The Selectboard did not think it necessary. Bill handed out Andrew Jackson's plan to handle water runoff from his driveway; Andrew will be at the next meeting to discuss it. Joel Bouvier signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and Big Heavy World. Bill updated the Selectboard on the South Street Bridge and Carol Wells will put Dave Sharpe's email out on Front Porch Forum encouraging people to write to him to help him push for a 5% share instead of 10% share of the South Street Bridge construction costs.

11. Carol Wells moved to go into executive session for to discuss one legal loan issue, one zoning legal matter, one lawsuit the Town is litigating and two real estate matters involving the Town where premature general public knowledge of the subject matter would clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage. Joel Bouvier seconded. So voted. The Selectboard met in executive session from 8:46 pm to 10:05 pm.

Carol Wells moved to extend the current terms on the Revolving Loan Fund loan to Meg Wendell/Village Corner Store for an additional year. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted.

Alan Huizenga moved to direct the Town Administrator to issue a letter to Officer Ed Shepard regarding his employment status as discussed by the Board this evening. Carol Wells seconded. So voted.

Carol Wells moved to accept the proposed settlement of the Toner zoning matter as reached by the Town Administrator and attorney through mediation with the Toners for presentation to the Environmental Court. Joel Bouvier seconded. So voted.

The meeting was adjourned at 10: 15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Therese Kirby
Clerk