

Minutes of the informational meeting regarding the Bristol Police District fiscal year 2012/2013 proposed budget. The following article is to be voted on by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 6, 2012.

**WARNING  
BRISTOL POLICE DEPARTMENT  
SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING  
TUESDAY MARCH 6, 2012**

The legal voters of the Police Department Special Service District of the Town of Bristol are hereby WARNED and NOTIFIED to meet at Holley Hall in said Bristol, on Tuesday, March 6, 2012, between the hours of 9:00 a.m., at which time the polls will open, and 7:00 p.m., at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot on the following article of business:

**ARTICLE 1:** Will the voters of the Bristol Police District adopt the proposed 2012-2013 fiscal year budget in the amount of \$343,728, a portion thereof in the amount of \$303,628 to be raised by a District special assessment property tax; the tax rate on the 2012 Grand List of the property in the area included within the District sufficient to raise said special assessment property tax sum as taxes to be determined by the Selectboard?

Joel Bouvier called the Selectboard informational meeting to discuss the Bristol Police District proposed 2012-2013 fiscal year budget to order at 6:00 pm. Chief Kevin Gibbs discussed the proposed changes to his budget that include the increase part-time salary line. The Police Department now has three full-time officers (one is out on workers comp) and the part-time officers are used to cover leave time and to cover time for Kevin to catch up on administrative duties. George Smith asked about a survey the Police Advisory Board that may put out at the November election to ask Town voters if they would be interested in moving the Police District Town wide. Joel Bouvier said the topic has come up at Police Advisory Board meetings but it may not be happening in November. The committee is looking into the issue. Chauncy Eldridge wanted to know how many officers they have and how much time they spend out of the district. Kevin explained there are currently two full time officers working and they are supplementing with four part time officers. If the Officers are outside of the district, that time is being billed to either the Town or School unless the Officer is following up on a complaint. Chauncy asked since the village is part of the Town are they are getting billed twice. Kevin said yes, and this was also true when this service was contracted with the Sheriff's Department. Bill Bryant explained that until recently the open shifts were either being covered by Kevin and Randy as overtime or the shifts were left uncovered. Officer Josh Otey has been recently hired and is currently working full time to cover Ed Shepard's hours, as he is out on workers compensation from the Fire Department. Gerald Heffernan said if they have time to be outside of the district why do they need extra hours inside the district. Kevin Gibbs explained since the Bristol Police District took over the Sheriff's patrol contract they have been short handed, so it is really going undone. Gerald wanted to know how much time Officers spend doing paperwork. Kevin said it is hard to quantify as it depends on the type of case they are investigating. Kevin said a DUI processing takes 15 minutes but the paperwork takes two to three hours. Peeker Heffernan wanted Kevin to give him an hourly amount for the Towns contract for patrol.

Kevin said approximately two to three hours per week is the amount they patrol and bill the Town for. Joel Bouvier also explained with the new Mobile Data Terminal's (MDT) they can process some paperwork in their cruisers. Kevin said due to the MDT's, half of the paperwork can now be done in the car and the remaining must be done in the office. George Smith commented on the low turnout for this informational meeting. The Selectboard thanked everyone who came early for attending the meeting. Chauncy wanted to know what were considered past deep cuts as mentioned in the Town Report. Kevin said a couple of examples are losing a full time position and uniform cuts to \$50 when it takes \$2000 to outfit an Officer. Chauncey wanted to know how the spending is going to continue for the current fiscal year. Alan Huizenga explained staffing can be an issue since we are short handed. Peeker also explained they have had several shifts left uncovered and are not paying Ed's salary so the Police Department may have a surplus. Carol Wells also commented this savings in salary is coming at a cost as you can see the increased burglaries occurring in the district. Kevin discussed his staffing model. Jo Van Buskirk thinks the Selectboard and police chief are doing a good job. Alan Huizenga moved to adjourn at 6:33 pm. Peeker Heffernan seconded. So voted.

Informational Meetings: The legal voters of the Town of Bristol are further notified that informational meetings will be held at Holley Hall in the Town of Bristol on Monday, February 27, 2012 during a Selectboard meeting which will commence at 7:00 p.m., and on Monday, March 5, 2012, during a Selectboard meeting which will commence at 6:00 p.m. (and that will precede the Annual Town Meeting which will commence at 7:00 p.m.), for the purpose of discussion about the proposed Police District Budget.

Adopted and approved at a meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Bristol duly called, noticed and held on January 30, 2012. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Bristol on January 30, 2012.

**Bristol Selectboard:**

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Joel Bouvier, Chairman

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Sharon Compagna

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John "Peeker" Heffernan

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Carol Wells

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Huizenga

ATTEST:

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Therese Kirby, Town Clerk