

Minutes of the informational meeting regarding the South Street Bridge Bond Vote held on Monday, March 5, 2012. Upon suspension of the rules at 8:54 pm on Monday, March 5, 2012, the regular Town Meeting was paused for presentation of information and discussion of the following article to be voted on by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 6, 2012.

WARNING
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TUESDAY MARCH 6, 2012

The legal voters of the Town of Bristol are hereby WARNED and NOTIFIED to meet at Holley Hall 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: Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Bristol in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid and other sources of funding and subsidized debt repayment, be issued for the purpose of financing the Town's share of the cost of making certain public highway improvements, viz: reconstruction of the South Street Bridge at an estimated cost of Two Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$2,350,000)?

Alan Huizenga said the \$300,000 is to be used for the Town's 10% share of the cost of the project. Alan explained the bridge is going to be a little wider and there will be an insulated water line placed across the bridge. The project is scheduled to start in 2013. Dave Rosen wanted to know if there will be a designated pedestrian lane. Alan Huizenga said no, the new design does not include a dedicated pedestrian lane. He pointed out the chart at the back of the hall that people could look at, that shows the design. Anne Wallace wanted to know what the downsides of having the bridge closed for a while longer are. Joel Bouvier said the cost to build the bridge would increase if construction was postponed, you could get out of the States schedule of bridges to be built and emergency vehicles cannot cross it. Joel has been emailing the Legislators regarding a bill on the floor next week to decrease the Towns percent of project costs from 10% to 5%. Ken Weston understands the expense of a pedestrian lane but would like the Selectboard to force the State to include one. Alan Huizenga said the painted lanes will allow room for walking, but are not specifically designated raised lanes. Peter Grant spoke about the State and their bridge projects. Bill Bryant explained a \$300,000 bond will be an additional payment of \$20,000 to \$25,000 in a future budget, but if the State drops our share to 5%, a bond payment could be as low as \$10,000 to \$12,000 in debt service in a future budget. The informational meeting was concluded at 9:14 pm and the meeting returned to regular Town Meeting business.

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 regular Selectboard meeting which will commence at 7:00 p.m., and on Monday, March 5, 2012, during the Annual Town Meeting which will commence at 7:00 p.m., for the purpose of explaining the proposed public highway improvements and the financing thereof.

The legal voters of the Town of Bristol are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

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:

Joel Bouvier, Chairman

Sharon Compagna

John "Peeker" Heffernan

Carol Wells

Alan Huizenga

ATTEST:

Therese Kirby, Town Clerk