

Bristol Selectboard Meeting

September 24, 2012

Selectboard Attendance: Chair John “Peeker” Heffernan, Joel Bouvier, Carol Wells and Sharon Compagna, Town Administrator Bill Bryant and Town Clerk Therese Kirby. Filmed for NEAT TV by Mary Arbuckle and reported for the Addison Independent by Xian Chiang-Waren. Also attended by: Jim Quaglino, Taylor Allred, Devin Currens, Attorney Kevin Brennan and Police Chief Kevin Gibbs.

1. Carol Wells moved to appoint Joel Bouvier as acting Chair. Sharon Compagna seconded. So voted. Joel Bouvier called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.
2. Taylor Allred was here regarding his Eagle Scout project at Memorial Park. Taylor presented the Selectboard with a typed outline of his project and a sketch of the area and work site. He will be concentrating on brush removal and renovating the railing system on the backside of the stream. He would build and place new posts. He would be placing 16 - 4x4 pressure treated posts in concrete then creating a railing with 2x6's. Sharon Compagna moved to authorize Taylor Allred to carry out his Eagle Scout project as presented. Carol Wells seconded. So voted. Carol Wells moved to authorize the Town to pay for one half of the cost of project materials pending a material list from Taylor Allred from the Capital Building Fund. Sharon Compagna seconded. So voted. The Selectboard thanked Taylor for doing the project.
3. Sharon Compagna moved to authorize the Hub to hire Ariana Borah for the AmeriCorps opening. Sharon Compagna seconded. So voted. This position does not cost the Town any money as the Hub uses grant funding to pay Bristol's share. (Post Script: The candidate declined the position.)
4. Discussion regarding the legal status and winter maintenance of the driveway off East Street once known as Gardner Lane. Bill Bryant, Peter Bouvier and Alan Huizenga met with Virginia Bukowski, John Burbank, Peter and Karen Wisell last week. Bill has also reviewed the matter with surveyor Ken Weston who has done some work in this area. It appears the right of way for East Street is 4 rods (66 feet) which is wider than typical highway rights of way. It also appears that the right of way widens even further along the Wisell's frontage, similar to the way the driveway spurs off of the road. It may be that the driveway in front of the Wisell property is part of the highway right of way for East Street and that it ended at the Burbank lot boundary. The Burbank and Bukowski properties were one lot and there would have been no need for a road to run into the property part way. The issue then is whether to take a right of way or easement for the driveway on the Burbank and Bukowski properties, and if so, what legal format that should take. There was discussion about the area that Peter, Alan and Bill identified on the site visit as being needed for plow turnaround and snow storage if the Town is to continue maintenance. The Board was still unsure whether it is willing to make this a town highway. There was also discussion about the cost of creating a proposed snow storage area, who would pay to have that area prepared and about future costs and responsibilities of maintaining the street/driveway. Bill suggested and it was agreed that

this matter should be rescheduled for the next meeting when the parties and Selectman Huizenga can be present for the discussion.

5. Sharon Compagna moved to approve the minutes of September 10, 2012 as written. Joel Bouvier seconded. So voted.

6. The Selectboard signed an account's payable warrant of \$255,104.65.

7. Therese Kirby presented a renewal of a loan to People's Bank in the amount of \$45,000 at 2.35% interest with an annual principal payment of \$15,000 plus accrued interest. This loan is to pay for the 1994 waterline improvement and the payment is made by the Bristol Water Department.

8. Selectboard Concerns: Joel Bouvier wanted to know if any more was done on the High Street water line. Bill said Peter Bouvier can move forward with paving as the replacement of the water line does not affect the street. Lance Perlee is getting quotes and will report back to Bill. Joel would like Bill to contact the proprietors of Almost Home to ask them to cut back the flowers out front as they are becoming a traffic hazard. Sharon Compagna thanked the Road Crew for planting trees and the homeowners for taking care of them. Carol Wells would like the Selectboard to consider appointing an Economic Development Committee to help move the business park and other issues forward. She would like Bill to put it on a future agenda once she has gathered more information on the concept. Joel would like to know how the demolition work on the basement of Howden Hall is going. Bill said the contractor has been hired and once he gets other work done he will start. The work does not need to be completed until spring.

9. Town Administrator's Report: Connie LaRose would like permission for the Boy Scouts to stay at Eagle Park overnight on Friday, October 12, 2012 for a camp out and work day. They would also like to donate two or three picnic tables and create a stone or concrete pad to put them on and anchor them down so people stop throwing them in the river. Bill feels the picnic table issue should be referred to the Conservation Commission as they have been working at Eagle Park recently. Joel Bouvier moved to allow the Boy Scouts to have a camp out and work day Friday, October 12, 2012. Sharon Compagna seconded. So voted. Bill would like authorization to allow the Treasure to pay Trudell Engineering \$742.43; the bill was not ready for tonight's warrant. Sharon Compagna moved to authorize Treasurer Therese Kirby to pay the invoice. Carol Wells seconded. So voted. This invoice will come out of the federal earmark for the Prince Lane project.

Bill updated the Selectboard on the Addison County Dental Center plans for locating on Park Street. Peg Martin is working to move the community development grant process forward and Bill is working on resolving questions about impacts of the proposed grant application on the Town's revolving loan fund (the grant may require commitment of some of the Town's RLF because it was originally capitalized from community development funds). The dental center grant application will be on a November or December agenda for a public hearing. Bill reported that the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board have approved funding for the Saunders conservation purchase. Another grant to fund that project is still pending. Bill spoke with the Selectboard regarding recent postings on Front Porch Forum regarding the

gravel pits behind the Mount Abraham Union High School. The gravel pits are owned by the Town of New Haven, Town of Bristol and Perry Kilbourn. The Town of Ferrisburg also owns a pit nearby. Road Foreman Peter Bouvier believes the Town has approximately 10 years of life left in our gravel pit. Bill stated if you closed our pit now and left the estimated amount of material there, at today's prices that material would have a value of \$500,000. Bill feels this is a good time for Bristol and New Haven to think about what they will do with the pits at the end of their use. There are no required reclamation plans as the pits are so old. Joel Bouvier said the part of the school property behind the football field abuts Casella Waste Management property. Bill stated ultimately the Selectboard needed to decide what they want to do. The Town has applied to renew our indirect discharge permit for the sewer system and Green Mountain Engineering prepared the application. Bill also approved the rubber duck race as a fundraiser for the MAUHS school play at Sycamore Park. This is an annual event.

10. Sharon Compagna moved to go into executive session to discuss two real estate matters regarding emergency facilities, one personnel matter involving the appointment, employment, or evaluation of public officials or employees and one legal tax appeal matter involving the Town where premature general public knowledge of the subject matter would clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage. Carol Wells seconded. So voted. The Selectboard met in executive session with Kevin Brennan, Kevin Gibbs and Therese Kirby joining them at different times from 8:23 pm to 10:05 pm.

The Selectboard came back into open session at 10:06 pm. Sharon Compagna moved to authorize the Town Administrator to sign a proposed settlement agreement regarding the Terasem Movement Transreligion, Inc. appeal about property tax exempt status. Carol Wells seconded. So voted. Joel Bouvier moved to approve quote of real estate appraiser Mike Furey for \$425.00 to provide a fair market appraisal report for the Allen and Lee Bilson property, which abuts the firehouse on North Street and to approve the quote of Nop's Metal Works for \$500.00 to provide a report concerning the feasibility and estimated cost of relocating the historic house to another location. Carol Wells seconded. So voted. The meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Therese Kirby