

Attendance: Chair John "Peeker" Heffernan, Sharon Compagna, Carol Wells, Alan Huizenga and Joel Bouvier. Town Administrator Bill Bryant, Town Clerk Therese Kirby, reported for the Addison Independent by Xian Chiang-Waren and recorded for NEAT TV by Mary Arbuckle. Also present: Jim Quaglino, Naomi Drummond, Jim Moulton, Greg Edwards, Bob Donnis, Kristen Underwood, Chico Martin and Kevin Gibbs.

1. Peeker Heffernan called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Jim Moulton of Addison County Transit Resources was here regarding their annual appropriation. Naomi Drummond was also here. They provided a recap of the services they provide to Bristol residents as well as an update on their new facility. Ridership is up 30% since 2011. Bristol has funded ACTR in the past via voted appropriations at a rate of \$8,900 for the past three years and they would like Bristol to now increase their funding to \$10,100. Sharon Compagna wanted to know the last time they increased fares. Jim said 2009 and they are having a consultant come in to look at the operation and make suggestions regarding how they can run more efficiently and that may be one of their suggestions. Bill Bryant asked what other municipalities pay ACTR. The Selectboard discussed whether or not ACTR would need to petition. Peeker suggested the Selectboard could include in the warning half the increase this year and the other next year without ACTR having to petition, but if they want the entire \$10,100 on the warning this year, they must petition. Jim appreciated the option. Sharon Compagna moved to include ACTR's increased funding request from \$8,900 to \$9,500 on the warning, but if they want \$10,100 they must petition. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted. Joel abstained as his daughter works for ACTR.

2. Greg Edwards of Stantec was here regarding the Main Street/North Street Intersection Improvement Project and the alternative designs. Bill Bryant wanted to know if Alternative A could have the same mast arm as Alternative B. Greg said yes it could be done. Discussion of public comments that had been received since the last meeting. Bill Bryant wanted to talk about how they were going to signal pedestrians and if there could be no right turn on red for the entire intersection. Greg said the pedestrian lights could be adjusted any time after they are installed. The pedestrian signal will only come up if someone presses the button and yes it could be a no right on red intersection, however that is rare. Discussion of the bulb outs that were in Bristol years ago versus the newly designed bulb outs. Peeker Heffernan explained the old bulb outs were not designed properly, so one held water and the other was driven over. The advantage of the bulb outs now, is they will be designed to allow water to drain and shorten the crosswalks. Greg agreed to address the drainage issues. Alan Huizenga would like to see pressed brick versus real brick. Alan Huizenga moved to support Alternative B with the bulb outs and drainage. Joel Bouvier seconded. Joel would like to see an advanced green with left turn arrow in the morning and afternoon to accommodate school traffic. So voted with 4 yes and 1 no (Sharon). The Selectboard thanked Greg for his time. Bill will send a letter to VTrans informing them of the Selectboard's decision.

3. Kristen Underwood, a member of the Conservation Commission, was here regarding an application for grant funds to support Saunders conservation project on the New Haven River. Sharon Compagna moved to approve an application for \$15,000 to the Vermont Watershed Grant and \$1500

from the New Haven River Anglers Association for habitat improvement. Carol Wells seconded. So voted. Kristen said she should know by March if we are awarded the \$15,000. The Selectboard thanked Kristen for her time.

4. Public Forum: Naomi Drummond wanted to know if the law was you make a right turn on red after a full stop. Peeker Heffernan said it was. She would like the Selectboard to eliminate right turn on red at the intersection. She also does not like the white hand up all the time for the pedestrian crossing signal and is afraid people will just ignore it. Carol Wells and Sharon Compagna agree. Jim Quaglino wanted to wish the Selectboard a Merry Christmas and happy and healthy New Year.

5. Chico Martin, Bristol's representative to the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) was here to discuss Vermont Gas Systems proposed expansion to Addison County. Chico would like the Selectboard to consider sending a letter to the public service board affirming the Town's desire to take advantage of natural gas if it becomes available. Vermont Gas has addressed ACRPC twice and Chico left a memorandum that outlined all of the ACRPC's concerns for the Selectboard to read. He outlined Vermont Gas System's proposed expansion plans and possible funding. A gate station may be placed at Plank Road so a distribution line could be run into Bristol. Chico would like the letter written to the public service board saying the Selectboard supports Vermont Gas' expansion, with conditions, and that they have an interest in service, they request a date that Bristol residents could have assurances they could receive services and they reserve the right to comment on specifics as they arise. Chico said if the letter is done by tomorrow it could be submitted with the ACRPC's packet and it should also be copied to the public service board and Adam Lougee. Sharon Compagna's concern is the safety of natural gas. Peeker Heffernan said Vermont Gas is willing to train local Fire Departments how to deal with it. Chico said Vermont Gas is noted for their safety and going beyond the minimal requirements. There is also technology that searches for leaks and distribution lines are under much less pressure than main lines. Alan Huizenga moved to authorize Bill Bryant to write the letter including the conditions Chico outlined earlier. Carol Wells seconded. So voted. Chico said the ACRPC numbers were out and their appropriation has increased by 3% to \$4,192.56 for 2013/2014.

6. Discussion of street lighting and signage at crosswalks. Alan Huizenga moved to postpone this issue for a future meeting, but no second to the motion was offered. Bill Bryant said he signed the authorization form with Efficiency Vermont for funding of changing street lights to LED lighting. Bill explained the current lighting near the crosswalk in front of St. Ambrose and stated the Selectboard could have an additional light added near the crosswalk or could upgrade the existing light's replacement from an LED 20 to LED 30. Joel Bouvier said St. Ambrose is now placing a crossing barrel in the crosswalk in front of the church when services are held and that is helping to slow down drivers. Bob Donnis said there are two LEDs in Bristol now, one on West Pleasant Street and one on Stoney Hill.

7. Carol Wells moved to approve the grant application to the Vermont Department of Health for \$12,600 for the PREP program by the HUB and authorized Peeker Heffernan to sign the grant agreement. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted.

8. Alan Huizenga moved to approve Kris Perlee's grant application to the Agency of Natural Resources for a \$2,100 solid waste implementation grant to offset the cost of the hazardous waste collections, and authorized Bill to sign all grant documents. Joel Bouvier seconded. So voted.
9. Sharon Compagna moved to approve the Revolving Loan Fund Committee recommendation to lend \$5,000 to Reed Prescott dba Verde Mountain LLC for a loan term of 5 years at 4% interest with all of the assets of Verde Mountain LLC and Reed Prescott's personal guarantee as collateral. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted with Carol Wells recusing herself as Reed is a tenant. Bill Bryant updated the Selectboard on the Aqua Vitea closing.
10. The Selectboard signed an accounts payable warrant of \$80,189.04.
11. Sharon Compagna approved the minutes of December 3, 2012 as written. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted.
12. Therese Kirby updated the Selectboard on office hours over the holiday. She said they would be closing at noon on December 24, 2012, closed on December 25, 2012 and closed on December 26, 2012. She explained the staff would be using vacation and holiday time to cover the hours.
13. Selectboard Roundtable: Sharon Compagna wanted to commend Darla Senecal and Valerie Hanson from the Recreation Department on Breakfast with Santa, caroling and the holiday concerts they have sponsored. She also thanked the other volunteers and downtown businesses for the Cool Yule festivities they sponsored. Joel Bouvier updated the Selectboard on the dry hydrant grant program. They are still working on installing a dry hydrant on Laura's Lane; they have installed a screen in a hydrant on Routes 116 & 17 and will return to work on the Lower Notch Road in the spring. They are also looking for a secondary location to install a pond since the proposed location on Hardscrabble Road was denied by the State of Vermont.
14. Town Administrator's Report: Bill Bryant updated the Selectboard on a \$2,500 grant award from the Vermont Community Foundation for the Hub's music program, the Department of Taxes increased our CLA from 89.40% to 92.06%, Russell Hibbard's wetland permit was approved by the State of Vermont, Don Gale sent his annual tree taping plan for the Lincoln Waterworks property, the Department of Health agreed to pay \$2,859.55 of the 2010/2011 START grant, FEMA approved Bristol's hazard mitigation plan, the Road Crew trimmed a tree in front of St. Ambrose, Ken Johnson is willing to write a letter to NRCS asking for financial assistance with planning for reclamation of the Town's gravel pit, the State of Vermont is desperate for landfill space and he is wondering if it is worth pursuing a conversation with Addison County Solid Waste District to see if they are interested in a regional landfill. Alan Huizenga said a major hurdle for a new landfill is the steep slope, gravel beds and water table and in his opinion is this would not be an option. Bill also said the Department of Environmental Conservation has chosen the Baldwin property on Estey Road for their pilot tire removal program. They did an inventory and said there are 7,000 tires on the Baldwin property and over 32,000 on the Carter property. Since the pilot program has limited funding, they chose the Baldwin's. Sharon Compagna has agreed to represent the Selectboard to discuss issues on the Recreation Club property. Bill will renew

the Town's application to the Agency of Natural Resources clean water project grant program, so the sewer project will stay on the State's list.

15. Sharon Compagna moved to go into executive session to discuss 1 personnel matter, 1 legal matter and 1 real estate negotiation involving the Town where premature general public knowledge of the subject matter would clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage and involving the employment and evaluation of an employee. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted. The Selectboard met in executive session from 9:26 pm to 11:20 pm, with Police Chief Kevin Gibbs joining them for a portion of the executive session. After returning to open session, the following motions were made:

Motion made by Alan Huizenga, seconded by Joel Bouvier and carried to direct the Town Administrator to prepare and issue a written reprimand in conformance with the Board's deliberations in this matter to Police Chief Kevin Gibbs regarding unreimbursed START grant expenses for fiscal years ending 6/30/12 and 6/30/13; to require Chief Gibbs to pay restitution to the Police District in the amount of \$6,895 for such unreimbursed expenses by June 30, 2013; and that said restitution shall be subject to reduction by any further reimbursements which might be received from the Vermont Department of Health for these grant periods.

Motion made by Alan Huizenga, seconded by Carol Wells and carried to authorize the Town Administrator to sign a purchase and sale agreement for acquisition of the residential property located at 2 Garfield Street and owned by Dwight A. and Marjorie Bilson for expansion of the Town's adjacent Fire Department facilities, for a price of \$250,000 and in accordance with other terms and conditions agreed upon during recent negotiations and to be prepared in consultation with attorney Kevin Brennan.

Motion made by Joel Bouvier, seconded by Carol Wells and carried to request attorney Kevin Brennan to enter an appearance on the Town's behalf with the Vermont Environmental Court in the appeal of David and Susan Folino of the November 5, 2012 and November 28, 2012 decisions by the Bristol Board of Adjustment regarding zoning permit #12-42 for construction of an addition to an accessory building located on their property at 270 Rounds Road.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Therese Kirby
Clerk