

Selectboard Member Attendance: Chair Sharon Compagna, Brian Fox, Joel Bouvier, Alan Huizenga and John "Peeker" Heffernan. Also attended by: Town Administrator Bill Bryant, Town Clerk Therese Kirby, filmed for NEAT TV by Joanna Etko, Recreation Director Darla Senecal, Jill Kopel, Representative Dave Sharpe, Naomi Drummond, Randall Freeman, Fred Schroeder, Jim Quaglino and First Assistant Fire Chief Brett LaRose.

1. Chair Sharon Compagna called the Selectboard Meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Darla Senecal and Jill Kopel were here regarding the Town Green Playground project. They updated the Selectboard on what they would like to purchase; they have started a fundraiser and have started writing a grant for \$15,000. Their committee sponsored an electronic survey and it was available on Front Porch Forum, sent out to an email list compiled by their committee and on the Bristol Recreation Department website. They had 110 responders. They are also looking at a "community build" model where community members and the vendor work together to build the new playground. It gives the community ownership and decreases the cost of installation. Darla said she and Bill Bryant met with an employee of VLCT Pacif, and just complying with their safety requirements would have cost the Town \$10,000 to \$15,000. They are sponsoring a playground design contest and the deadline is November 1<sup>st</sup>. Alan Huizenga wanted to know if they were limiting the design to the current footprint and Darla said yes. Bill Bryant suggested the Selectboard earmark \$15,000 from the Capital Building Fund towards this project. Darla and Jill understand this project will need to be phased in over the next few years, as they secure funding. Sharon asked how people can join the Playground Committee and Darla said they could call her at the Bristol Recreation Office. They are also working on a Facebook presence. The Selectboard thanked Darla and Jill for their time.

2. Fred Schroeder, resident of the Notch Road, was here to discuss his concerns regarding traffic on the road. Fred was here in the spring and continues to be concerned about the speed of the traffic on his road. It is currently a 35 mph zone and he would like to see that lowered. Bill Bryant reminded the Selectboard of efforts they had made regarding Fred's concerns. Fred said the speed cart put out by the Bristol Police Department was not placed near his house, as he hoped it would be and he would like there to be traffic enforcement done on his road. He would also like some signage placed at the Notch Road and Lower Notch Road intersection notifying drivers of the speed from High Bridge down to Notch Road. Bill Bryant said the Traffic Planner from Addison County Regional Planning commission (ACRPC) did a study of the road and found the average speed was 39 mph to 40 mph. Peeker Heffernan does not think it is unrealistic to ask the Bristol Police Department to patrol the Notch Road to show a presence and deter the behavior. Brian Fox also encouraged Bill to contact Lt. Genova at the New Haven State Police Barracks and ask him to target this area for patrol. The Selectboard asked Bill to go back to ACRPC and ask them for a specific plan on where signs should be placed and what those signs should be. The Selectboard thanked Fred for his time.

3. Representative Dave Sharpe was here to update the Selectboard on the Legislative session. He has received phone calls and emails regarding Health Connect. He understands the website has been overloaded with residents trying to sign up. Sharon Compagna said there are emails going around that

are scaring seniors by making them think seniors will be losing services. Dave said Health Connect does not create any changes to seniors on Medicare. Bill Bryant felt that Town employees understand the change in their own coverage and they are taking on a higher portion of their healthcare costs. Dave would like people to contact him and let him know what does not work for them, once they are enrolled and using Health Connect. On other matters, Dave said the Vermont Veterans home was inspected and found to have some deficiencies, so the State is considering accepting the overflow from Massachusetts Veterans home. The Legislature is also hoping to have more beds for the mentally ill open by 2014. On a personal note, Dave wanted the Selectboard to reconsider their approval of the design that would install bulb outs at the traffic light intersection. The Selectboard explained their reasoning for approving the design and noted the contract has already been signed. The Selectboard thanked Dave for his time.

4. First Assistant Fire Chief Brett LaRose was here regarding the Forest Service reimbursement funds he was awarded. He was awarded \$3,363 for the March 2012 rescue operation at the Bristol Cliffs Wilderness area. He also submitted a reimbursement request of \$3,100 for the July 4-5, 2013 recovery operation on the New Haven River and that application will be considered at a later date. Brett would like the \$3,363 to be deposited into the Bristol Fire Department's 2013/2014 operating budget, in the following line items: \$1,200 for the CTI Towers lease, \$600 for the fire fighter equipment repair line item (for servicing the \$22,000 worth of extraction tools purchased by NH Munsill) and \$1,563 into the general supply line to purchase a gear ready rack. Brian Fox moved to approve Brett LaRose's request. Joel Bouvier seconded. So voted. Peeker Heffernan commended Brett for his work on behalf of the Fire Department. The Selectboard thanked Brett.

5. Public Forum: Naomi Drummond was here to get an update on the Stoney Hill project. Bill said he, Peeker Heffernan, Randy Snelling of VTrans, Road Foreman Peter Bouvier and Naomi Drummond met on Stoney Hill to discuss pedestrian traffic on Stoney Hill Road. The consensus was to fix the shoulder of the road. The Town will provide material, compact it and cut back the vegetation. The State will provide traffic control for the Town's Road Crew during that process. The State feels they plow the snow back an appropriate distance, but if the Town wants it sanded they will have to do that themselves. Naomi wanted to know how often the shoulder would be sanded. The Selectboard would not set a schedule; that would be up to the Road Crew and their time availability. Bill completed the application to work in the right of way and it was approved by VTrans. Peeker Heffernan noted this is not a pedestrian pathway; it is just an extension of the shoulder. Alan Huizenga approved (retroactively) Bill Bryant's submittal of an application for a permit to work in the State's right of way for shoulder restoration on Stoney Hill Road. Brian Fox seconded. So voted. Joel Bouvier noted his disappointment with Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR), as they are not willing to accommodate the residents of South Street by increasing/adding a bus route to them. The residents of Bristol give them a sizable appropriation every March and Joel feels they should be more accommodating due to the circumstances.

6. Joel Bouvier moved to accept the KAS Engineering proposal for \$1,810 to update the Town's Solid Waste Implementation Plan. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted.

7. Proposal from WCVT for the new phone system for the Town Offices. It will be approximately \$20 per month more than our current system, but with many more options. Our phone system is now obsolete and can no longer be maintained by WCVT. Alan Huizenga moved to approve Waitsfield Champlain Valley Telecom's proposal for a phone system for the office similar to the one installed at the Bristol Police Department. Brian Fox seconded. So voted.

8. Peeker Heffernan moved to approve the minutes of September 23, 2013 as written. Joel Bouvier seconded. So voted.

9. The Selectboard signed an accounts payable warrant for \$199,079.65. They also signed a municipal note, resolution and non-arbitrage certificate with the National Bank of Middlebury for the \$35,000 Howden Hall improvement note they voted on at the September 23, 2013 meeting. Joel Bouvier did not sign the note documents as he is an employee of the National Bank of Middlebury and recused himself from the September 23, 2013 discussion.

10. Selectboard Roundtable: Brian Fox wanted to know where the Town stands regarding the plantings in front of Almost Home. He received a telephone call today from someone who was almost involved in an accident there recently. Joel Bouvier moved to authorize Bill Bryant to send a letter to the landowner stating the plantings cannot be over 12" from the top of the curb per the agreement made when the Selectboard approved the planting area originally. Peeker Heffernan seconded. So voted. Peeker Heffernan said the Saunders project is progressing well and should be wrapped up by the end of the week. Bill Bryant said the closing on that project will be this Thursday at 1:00pm.

11. Town Administrator's Report: Bill Bryant said water usage continues to be steady after the waterline repairs made on West Street and Taylor Avenue. Art on Main would like an Art Gallery Liquor Permit for 10/18/2013 from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm they can serve wine or beer. Alan Huizenga moved to approve it the Art Gallery Liquor Permit for 10/18/2013. Peeker Heffernan seconded. Police Chief Kevin Gibbs did not have any concerns. So voted. Peeker Heffernan moved to waive the bid process and approve a purchase order for \$32,000 for winter sand at a cost of \$8 per yard, to be purchased from Allen Rathbun. Brian Fox seconded. So voted. Joel Bouvier moved to approve a contract with Green Mountain Engineering for construction phase services work for the South Street Bridge, on an hourly basis. Peeker Heffernan seconded. So voted with Alan Huizenga recusing himself as he is the owner of Green Mountain Engineering. Peeker Heffernan moved to approve dark green as the color for the yard arms for the stoplight intersection project. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted. Carol Wells will be stepping down January 1, 2014 as executive director of Bristol Downtown Community Partnership (BDCCP). The Selectboard thanked Lister and BCA Member Craig Scribner for his work on a tax appeal to the State Appraiser. Bill Bryant informed the Selectboard on the color of the tile that will be installed in the basement of Howden Hall. He also updated them on Sycamore Park and plans there during the construction of the new Route 116 Bridge.

12. Alan Huizenga moved to go into executive session to discuss 1 personnel matter involving the appointment, employment or evaluation of public officers or employees where premature general public knowledge of the subject matter would clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage.

Brian Fox seconded. So voted. The Selectboard met in executive session from 9:00 pm to 9:30 pm. Police Chief Kevin Gibbs joined them for executive session. Peeker Heffernan moved to approve buying back six weeks of vacation/sick/holiday leave from Kevin Gibbs. Alan Huizenga seconded. So voted. The Selectboard meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Therese Kirby, Clerk