

Selectboard Member's present: Chair Joel Bouvier, Sharon Compagna, Brian Fox, John "Peeker" Heffernan and Michelle Perlee. Also present was Town Administrator Therese Kirby, Town Clerk Jen Myers, Mary Arbuckle with NEAT TV, Police Chief Kevin Gibbs, Fire Chief Brett LaRose, Sergeant Randy Crowe, Jori Fairbanks, State Representative Fred Baser and Jim Quaglino

1. At 6:00 pm Joel Bouvier called the meeting to order.
2. Joel Bouvier opened the Police District Informational Meeting for the 2015-2016 fiscal year budget. Police Chief Kevin Gibbs joined the Board to discuss the budget. The Budget is up 3.3% due to some minor increases for Administrative help within the office, payout of on call pay for officers and an increased contribution to the Capital Vehicle Fund to decrease the number of years between the purchase of new cruisers.
3. Police Chief Kevin Gibbs introduced Jori Fairbanks to the Board. Kevin discussed her work history. Therese Kirby asked if she went to the part-time certification at the Police Academy. Jori said she had gone twice; both times Vergennes had sponsored her there. Joel Bouvier asked Kevin how many hours per week he would use Jori. Kevin said currently the budget allows for 12 hours of part-time labor per week, she would be added in to the schedule with the two other active part-time officers. Michelle Perlee asked if she would give up the part-time position in Vergennes to come here. Jori said she would keep the Vergennes job now, but would eventually like to give that up and come to Bristol. Joel asked if she would have to go back to the academy to become a full time certified. Kevin said yes. The Board thanked the Chief and Jori for their time.
4. Fire Chief Brett LaRose joined the Board to ask for approval for a grant through the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. He is applying for new pagers to replace pagers that are currently out of date. There is no match required for the grant and if they were awarded the grant it wouldn't be until the fall. Peeker Heffernan asked if submitting a Police Department grant and a Fire Department grant at the same time would affect the chances of receiving the grant. Brett LaRose will ask Homeland Security. Brian Fox moved to allow Brett LaRose to apply for with Vermont Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security for \$41,775.40. Michelle Perlee seconded, so voted.

Brett would like the Board to clarify whose responsibility it is to clear hydrants. Currently, the Water Department is clearing them using Town equipment and this can only be done when the equipment is available.

5. Randy Crowe joined the Board to discuss two grants through Homeland Security. This grant would be to purchase radios, repeaters for vehicles, computers. Peeker Heffernan asked what the goal is with the mobile repeater, as he said this won't increase reception this will only help with poor transmission. Randy said there is no match for this grant. Sharon Compagna moved to allow Sergeant Randy Crowe to apply for a grant through Homeland Security for up to \$20,000. Michelle Perlee seconded, so voted. Randy discussed the Federal Innovative Policing grant. This would be used to get information from cell phones and computers. The grant covers the equipment, training and webinars. No matching funds that he knows of. Sharon Compagna moved to allow Sergeant Randy Crowe to apply for the Federal Innovative Policing grant for \$11,000. Peeker Heffernan seconded, so voted. Randy discussed the Smart Policing Initiative Grant. This would allow the department to purchase 6 body camera's two charging/downloading stations. Therese Kirby asked if the department needed 6 body cameras. Randy said they are assigned to a specific officer. When you download the information it goes to a file specifically for that camera, therefore separating out video for multiple officers on the same camera would be difficult and time consuming. Chief Kevin Gibbs said on occasion there are multiple officers working which wouldn't allow everyone to have a camera. He also said it would be ideal to

have a spare camera if needed. With funding available now, it made sense to ask for the 6 cameras; if they ever went Town wide they would already have some equipment. Joel Bouvier would like a policy regarding the use of the cameras. Kevin stated he is working on a draft audio/video policy. Peeker is concerned with the change in technology over the years. Randy explained how the camera and storage worked. Michelle moved to allow Sergeant Randy Crowe to apply for 2015 Smart Policing Initiative Grant for up to \$8200. Sharon Compagna seconded, so voted. The Board thanked Randy for his time.

6. Jonathan Corcoran joined the Board to discuss the proposed Tour D'Farms bike ride to be held on September 26, 2015. He guessed this would draw about 400-500 riders. He has worked with Alan Karnatz and VBT to create two routes, one 35 miles and one 15 miles. Both would end on the Bristol green at the harvest festival. Therese Kirby asked about insurance and liability. Jonathan said every rider signs a waiver and they will provide the Town proof of insurance. Jonathan currently is in contact VTrans to develop signage to advise motorists this is taking place. Jonathan will contact surrounding First Response towns and the Bristol Rescue Squad to inform them of the race. Brian Fox moved to allow the Tour D'Farms bike ride to begin and end in Bristol on September 26, 2015. Sharon Compagna seconded, so voted. The Board thanked Jonathan for his time.

7. Recreation Director Darla Senecal joined the Board to discuss part-time staffing at the Hub Teen Center. Darla explained how the part-time position currently worked. They are proposing the job be 23 hours per week completely paid by the Hub budget. This would prevent the VMERs contribution and the requirement to provide Health Insurance. She explained they would still use the money budgeted for this position. She would like to start advertising right away. Brian Fox moved the part-time position to become an average of 23 hours per week funded by the Youth Center Budget. Sharon Compagna seconded, so voted. The Board thanked Darla for her time.

8. Public Comment: State Representative Fred Baser joined the Board to discuss Town Meeting on March 2, 2015. The Board agreed they would break after Article 8 for the School District Meeting. Therese Kirby explained the articles that were different than in the past. Therese will send Fred a copy of the warning. The Board thanked Fred for his time.

9. Sharon Compagna moved for the Selectboard to sign the No-Appeal or Suit Pending for the 2014 Grand List. Michelle Perlee seconded, so voted.

10. Therese Kirby had the Board approve and sign the documents for the Town to receive money from the Water Planning Revolving Loan Fund. Brian Fox moved for the Board to sign the Resolution and Certificate for a general obligation water planning loan with the Vermont-EPA Local Assistance State Revolving Loan Fund. Sharon Compagna seconded, so voted.

Brian Fox moved to authorize the Board to sign a Water Planning Note for \$28,700 at 0% interest from 12/1/19-12/1/23 between the Town of Bristol and the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank. Sharon Compagna seconded, so voted.

Brian Fox moved to authorize the Town treasurer to sign the General Obligation note. Sharon Compagna seconded, so voted.

Brian Fox moved to authorize the Board and the Treasurer to sign the tax certificate. Sharon Compagna seconded, so voted.

Brian Fox moved to authorize Selectboard Chair and Town Clerk and Treasurer to sign the Water Planning Loan WPL-240 Agreement. Sharon Compagna seconded, so voted.

11. The Board discussed hiring Carol Wells at \$35/hour to complete the Downtown Transportation Grant for the Village Green Lighting Project. Therese Kirby explained they need to apply for another grant or else they will have to pay back the funds used for engineering. The new grant would require matching funds, but the money previously expended on the current Village Green Grant are eligible to be the matching funds. The Board discussed what they would like to be completed on the park. Brian Fox asked how many hours this would take Carol to complete. Therese said 10-12 hours. Brian Fox moved to hire Carol Wells at \$35 per hour to apply for another Downtown Transportation Grant to complete the basic plan for the Village Green Lighting Project. Peeker Heffernan seconded, so voted.

Brian Fox moved to accept the Resolution of the Board stating they wish to apply for downtown grant funds from the State. Sharon Compagna seconded, so voted.

12. The Board signed an Accounts Payable warrant in the amount of \$62,047.11

13. Sharon Compagna moved to approve minutes of January 19, 2015, January 26, 2015, and February 2, 2015. Peeker Heffernan seconded, so voted.

14. Town Clerk Roundtable: Jen Myers said absentee ballots are here and can be requested in person or via phone.

15. Selectboard Roundtable: Sharon Compagna asked for clarification of the S.O.S. reports regarding water being pumped. Therese Kirby spoke with Green Mountain Power about switching to off peak hours from 11pm until 4 am, this will hopefully decrease electricity use. Sharon thanked the office for writing letters regarding plowing across the road as it is dangerous. Peeker Heffernan and Brian Fox met with Dave Sharpe, Fred Baser and John Casella. He is looking to pursue an aggressive time table. He would like information from Dean Grover by the end of the week to see what is left for capacity. After this Jon Casella, State Representatives Fred Baser and Dave Sharpe along with Peeker and Brian will set up a meeting with Commissioner Mears and hopefully the Governor. At this meeting they would give them a plan which would state how the Town would like to proceed to close the Landfill. If the plan is approved, they wouldn't need a resolution passed because the proposed closure plan would be in effect. Casella wants to fill the entire Landfill including the area designated for brush and scrap metal. Peeker, Brian, Dave Fred, John and Joe are tentatively meeting with the commissioner on March 2, 2015 at 10 am. Joel Bouvier asked what would happen to our closure fund money. Peeker said if Casella closes the entire Landfill we would keep it all for post closure if the can only close a portion of the Landfill we will use some of it to offset the cost. Michelle Perlee asked about VMERs. Therese explained the contributions will increase in 2015. Joel asked about hydrants. Therese will speak with Lance tomorrow about clearing the hydrants and clarified S.O.S said they would clear the hydrants when Town equipment was available to do so. Joel asked about increased pumping in January. Therese reminded the Board the blow off is running on Rocky Dale to help keep pipes from freezing. Michelle asked about the frozen water at the Fire Station. Therese said Craig Brown is coming this week to hopefully thaw it and then they will keep it running after that. They currently have water as they are hooked to the Library.

16. Town Administrator's Report: Therese asked the Board about thawing water. She explained it is difficult for the Town because we don't have a machine that will thaw the lines. For \$3000-\$4000 we can purchase the machine that could be used to do this, but is the Town interested in starting to do this. Peeker Heffernan suggested looking at surrounding water systems and seeing what their policy is. Therese will contact

surrounding water systems to ask how they handle similar situations. Therese is scheduling the closing for the Landfill and Mount Abraham Boundary Line Adjustment. The Town had received a letter from George and Louise Vince regarding the offer made by the Selectboard for to purchase their house on North Street. They respectfully declined the offer made by the Town to purchase their property. Therese discussed a schedule for the building committee. Peeker said after speaking with Kevin Harper they would need to figure out the different rooms needed and then wants versus needs. This would allow his architect to sketch a drawing and bring that back to building committee to review. Therese had taken the original draft of goals and objectives made for the building committee and made some changes based on the current situation. The Board discussed making this a public safety building. Peeker asked if they should consider storage for their antique fire equipment. Joel Bouvier explained the history of the antique fire truck. Police Chief Kevin Gibbs expressed some of his concern with the current Police Department space. Therese said she has the closing on the Carter Property on Wednesday. She will also meet with an Eagle Scout about painting the Lord's Prayer Rock. Therese and Peter Bouvier went to a FEMA training, they have the information they need to submit at claim and she also gave the Fire Department the information to see if they could make a claim as well.

At 8:35 pm Michelle Perlee to find that premature general public discussion of confidential attorney-client communications would place the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage because the Selectboard risks disclosing its negotiation strategy. Sharon Compagna seconded, so voted.

Michelle Perlee moved to go into executive session to discuss confidential attorney-client communications pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313(a)(1) and two issues regarding the appointment or employment of a public officer or employee, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. section 313(a)(3). Brian Fox seconded, so voted.

At 9:15 pm executive session ended. Sharon Compagna moved to hire Jori Fairbanks as a part-time police officer at \$16.25 per hour to increase to \$16.75 per hour upon successful completion of field training. Michelle Perlee seconded, so voted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Myers
Town Clerk