Select Board Meeting February 13, 2017

Selectboard Member's present: Chair Michelle Perlee, Peeker Heffernan, Peter Coffey, Ted Lylis and Joel Bouvier. Also present was Town Administrator Therese Kirby, Board Clerk Tasha Bouvier, filming for NEAT TV by Mary Arbuckle, Jim Quaglino, John Gibbs, Bill Gibbs, Joshua Otey, Shawn Freegard, Craig Allen, Chief Kevin Gibbs, Gaen Murphree (Addison Independent), Bob Bernstein, Heather Heffernan, Melanie Kessler.

- 1. At 6:00pm Chair Michelle Perlee called the meeting to order. Michelle Perlee made a correction to the agenda regarding the approval of meeting minutes. The meeting minutes for approval are January 16, 2017 and January 30, 2017.
- 2. Brian McCormick was here asking the Board to address the dog issue on Hardscrabble Road. Brian has made numerous complaints regarding the incessant barking of Todd Baldwin's dogs. Therese has written to and spoken with Todd, as well as driven to Hardscrabble Road to investigate the complaints. Todd has purchased bark collars, but has noted his concern with the dogs wearing them 24/7, as they can start to injure the dog's necks. Therese stated that in regard to the Town ordinance, the dogs are already chained, confined and registered. The Humane Society has been called previously, because someone thought the dogs might be mistreated. That was not the case, as they are fed and well taken care of. They are hunting dogs. Shawn Freegard was here tonight as he keeps four dogs on Todd's property. He is purchasing an ultrasonic bark control device. The Board discussed Todd's proposed plan to build a berm and install a fence around the dogs, but the Board did not feel that idea would work. The Board is giving until March 1, 2017 for the owner to purchase and install an ultra-sonic bark control device near the dogs and in the meantime, to keep the bark collars on the dogs. In regards to Todd's concern about a fox getting his chickens, the Board suggested he keep his chickens in the barn and secure it as necessary. The owner has until April 1, 2017 for the issue to be resolved. Therese will make a site visit and speak with Brian at that time.
- 3. Michelle Perlee stated there had been some concern regarding Peeker Heffernan's involvement with the decision on 32 North Street, since he is now a bidder. Michelle felt that since the process to create the RFP and proposal was done in open session, Peeker did not have any advantage over another bidder. Since this is a conflict of interest, Peeker Heffernan is going to recuse himself from the discussion and will be a member of the public during any discussions.
- 4. Bob Bernstein's plan for 32 North Street is to restore the front of the historic structure make the property into a museum. He would apply for some historic preservation grants and use his own money for the project and not borrow money. Bob outlined all of the support his project has received on Front Porch Forum, Facebook and how he feels making the old fire station into a museum would draw visitors to Bristol.
- 5. Bill Gibbs' plan for 32 North Street is to restore the entire building and turn the upstairs into a residential property for him and the downstairs into a home occupation, as Bill is an accomplished woodworker. Bill Gibbs stated in detail how he would restore the building and his desire to create a PVC

bell to install in the tower. In reference to the completion of his renovation to the building, he stated "she will be a gem". Bill stated he would do the roof first, next the outside of the building and then the rest. His residential quarters wouldn't be done until the outside is finished. Bill has been preapproved for financing for the project, plus his own money.

- 6. Heather and Peeker Heffernan's plan for 32 North Street is to turn into Fire House Inn. This would require a zoning by-law change at the March 2018 Town Meeting, as the current zoning regulations require the owner or manager reside on site. They would like the regulation changed to require the owner reside in Bristol. Heather would restore the floor, front of the building and roof. There would be 4 bedrooms, two upstairs and two downstairs, with a kitchen and only breakfast would be served. The guests could then cook themselves other meals. There would be common area open to the kitchen. In their proposal, Station 2 would be removed. Peeker Heffernan advised he would relocate that building to a different property he owns. A Board member asked about handicap accessibility and he stated there would not be an elevator required.
- 7. Melanie Kessler is requesting to hold a Human Powered Parade & Festival May 20, 2017 or May 21, 2017. There would be a parade that goes by the schools and ends at the park where there would be vendors and music with another location for music down by the National Bank of Middlebury, so people would go to the downtown businesses. She knows she can't use Route 116. Therese asked Melanie if she had considered speaking with the Recreation Club about holding the festival there, as they have restrooms and trash receptacles. If Melanie holds the festival on the park, she would need to arrange for port-o-lets, trash receptacles, trash removal, and speak to the Police Chief regarding the possible need for additional officers. The Board advised she can move forward, but needs to get insurance, complete the paperwork to use the park, arrange for port-o-lets, trash removal and police. The Board will expect her to contact Therese with the information she has gathered, by February 27, 2017 meeting.
- 8. The Board discussed their plans on when they will proceed with a decision regarding the proposals they heard tonight regarding 32 North Street. The Board is going to review the information they have received on the three proposals, and have an executive session on February 27, 2017 to discuss them and make a decision that night.
- 9. Joel Bouvier moved to authorize Darla Senecal to apply for a grant from the US Tennis Association in the amount of \$2,500 with no matching funds required, for summer programming/equipment for youth and adults. Ted Lylis seconded, so voted.
- 10. Joel Bouvier moved to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2017 Selectboard meeting with no corrections. Peeker Heffernan seconded, so voted. Ted Lylis moved to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2017 Selectboard meeting as amended. Peeker Heffernan seconded, so voted.
- 11. Authorize accounts payable warrant \$68,705.49. Liquor license renewal for Rite Aid is approved.

- 12. Selectboard concerns: Michelle Perlee asked when Kevin Gibbs meets with the principal at Mount Abe as outlined in the MOU and he creates a report on the Police Departments responses there, that the Board receives that report as well. Joel Bouvier asked what came out of the discussion with the second cruiser. Therese said, if an officer is on call then they can, if they choose, to bring the cruiser home. Joel asked if Jorie Fairbanks every takes a cruiser home to Rutland. Therese said she doubted it, but will add this to the February 27, 2017 meeting when Chief Kevin Gibbs comes for the meeting to discuss his updated parking ordinance.
- 13. Town Administrator's Report: Road Foreman Peter Bouvier's town truck caught on fire last Friday. Thankfully, he was not injured. The Bristol Fire Department responded to the fire and the vehicle was towed to Charlebois for repair. Insurance advised it's about \$14,000 to fix and doesn't include rental, tow and salt loss. The Town of Bristol is renting a dump truck from Heffernan Brothers Aggregate at an hourly rate, and they did sign a rental agreement. Therese addressed a concern Ted Lylis had brought up several weeks ago regarding Barb Prime's Christmas tree. Peter Bouvier had spoken with Barb prior to cutting her tree and she asked him to aggressively prune it, as she is taking it down in the spring. Therese Kirby advised her, Brett LaRose, Kevin Harper and Milford Cushman met to discuss lighting the sign at the fire department, and they will be lighting the sign. They are using the same light strip that has already been purchased. It's an adjustable light that Milford is having fabricated and installed at his expense. Mary Dearborn put a very nice statement about the road crew on FPF, and Therese wanted to thank her for taking the time to do so. . Green Mountain Power advised the price will go up for the street lights unless they are all updated to LED lights. If they are changed, the cost will go from \$16.17 to \$10.38 per light instead of going up to \$16.98. Joel and Peeker said we had already converted the street lights. Therese said she knows, but thought maybe these are a different LED light. She will give GMP a call to see which ones are not updated.
- 14. At 7:57pm Joel Bouvier moved to enter executive session to discuss confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal service to the Board per 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(1) and for the evaluation of an employee per 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3). Peeker Heffernan seconded, so voted.
- 15. The Board came out of executive session at 8:50 pm. Peeker Heffernan moved to authorize a 1% adjustment to Randy Crowe's salary retroactive to September 1, 2016. Peter Coffey seconded, so voted. At 8:53PM Peeker Heffernan moved to adjourn. Joel Bouvier seconded, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted, Tasha Bouvier