

**Bristol Town Administrator**

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**From:** Garrett Baxter <gbaxter@vlct.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2019 11:50 AM  
**To:** Bristol Town Administrator  
**Subject:** RE: Process to eliminate archaic appointed positions?

Good morning Valerie,

The governing law for these antiquated positions [see 24 V.S.A. § 871] was changed just a few years ago so that Selectboards no longer must but may appoint voters to fill these offices. The Selectboard must still appoint a tree warden, but if it no longer wants to have fence viewers, a poundkeeper; inspectors of lumber shingles, and wood; weighers of coal; a town service officer; and or a grand juror, then there should be a motion stating as such at a regularly scheduled meeting for the Selectboard to approve.

**24 V.S.A. § 871. Organization of selectboard; appointments**

- (a) Forthwith after its election and qualification, the selectboard shall organize and elect a chair and, if so voted, a clerk from among its number, and file a certificate of such election for record in the office of the town clerk.
- (b) The selectboard shall thereupon appoint from among the registered voters a tree warden and may thereupon appoint from among the registered voters the following officers who shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified, and shall certify such appointments to the town clerk who shall record the same:
  - (1) three fence viewers;
  - (2) a poundkeeper, for each pound; voting residence in the town need not be a qualification for this office provided appointee gives his or her consent to the appointment;
  - (3) one or more inspectors of lumber, shingles, and wood;
  - (4) one or more weighers of coal;
  - (5) one town service officer; and
  - (6) one grand juror.

I hope that helps!

Sincerely,

*Garrett A. Baxter*

Garrett A. Baxter, Esq.  
Senior Staff Attorney, Municipal Assistance Center  
Vermont League of Cities and Towns  
1-800-649-7915

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**From:** Bristol Town Administrator <[townadmin@bristolvt.org](mailto:townadmin@bristolvt.org)>

**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2019 11:22 AM

**To:** Info <[info@vlct.org](mailto:info@vlct.org)>

**Subject:** Process to eliminate archaic appointed positions?

Hi,

What would be the process if the Selectboard wanted to eliminate the appointed position of Weigher of Coal? Does it require voter approval? A public hearing?

Thanks,

--Valerie

Valerie Capels, Town Administrator  
Town of Bristol  
1 South Street  
P.O. Box 249  
Bristol, VT 05443  
P: (802) 453-2410 ext. 22  
E: [townadmin@bristolvt.org](mailto:townadmin@bristolvt.org)  
W: [www.bristolvt.org](http://www.bristolvt.org)  
FB: <https://www.facebook.com/bristolvt/>  
Tw: @BristolTownAdm