

Bristol Select Board
Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2022

Present: Select Board members: Don Milbrand, Anita Avery, Carroll Brown, Shaun Lagueux, Les Dion and Butch Burbank, Interim Town Administrator.

Absent: none

Others Present for Public Sessions: Andrea Vient, Michael Mateja, Hub66; Paul Bemis, Chair Bristol Energy Committee; Steve Moore, Community Member; Christina Goodwin, Land Use/Assessing Manager, Deputy Interim Town Administrator; Cade Overton, Media Manager; Deborah Clarke-Tivey, Administrative Assistant-remotely

Work Session: Budget- The Board met to review, discuss, and clarify information presented in the proposed 2023 Town of Bristol Budget. Due to scheduling issues the Board will not meet on October 13, 2022, to continue their work on the 2023 Budget. The next Budget Work Session was rescheduled for 5:00pm on Monday, October 17, 2022. The Board asked that the following Department Heads; Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Highway Superintendent, and Finance/Human Resources Director attend the October 17, 2022, Budget Work Session.

Hub66 Update- Ms. Vient and Mr. Mateja informed the Board that Hub66 was ahead of schedule on Phase 2 of the fiber plan. They discussed the closing of the loop and the addition of phone and TV added to the services they were providing businesses and homeowners in the Bristol area. A discussion ensued between the Board and Hub66 representatives as to the office space Hub66 was renovating at the Town Offices. The Board felt it was important that a plan be made to move forward and that certain things be completed in order to get the area up to code. Representatives from the Town and Hub66 will meet with the Fire Chief to discuss the corridor space and placing one hour fire protective material on the walls, getting the space up to code and fixing a light switch that was moved. Hub66 is paying taxes on this space.

Nonpublic Session Per RSA 91-A:3, II (a), (b), (c) and (e) Mr. Milbrand made a motion to enter into nonpublic session under NH RSA 91-A:3, II (a), (b), (c) and (e) the motion was seconded by Ms. Dion. Roll call vote to enter nonpublic session: Mr. Milbrand, yes; Ms. Avery, yes; Mr. Brown, yes; Mr. Lagueux, yes; Ms. Dion, yes. Motion passed 5-0-0. Nonpublic session entered at 5:45pm.

Motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session was made by Mr. Milbrand. Motion seconded by Ms. Dion. Roll call vote taken: Mr. Milbrand, yes; Mr. Lagueux, yes; Ms. Avery, yes; Mr. Brown, yes; Ms. Dion, yes. The Board voted, 5-0-0, in favor of the motion. The motion passed. Nonpublic session adjourned at 6:30pm.

Public Session: Mr. Lagueux opened the public meeting at 6:30pm by having Mr. Bemis lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Milbrand made a motion to seal the non-public minutes of October 6, 2022, seconded by Ms. Avery. The Board voted 5-0-0, in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

Public and Nonpublic Meeting Minutes: Ms. Dion made a motion to accept the minutes of September 15, 2022, public and nonpublic meeting minutes, as written, seconded by Ms. Avery. No discussion. The Board voted 5-0-0, in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

Consent Agenda and Manifests: Ms. Avery made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda dated, October 6, 2022, to include the items named therein, motion seconded by Mr. Milbrand. No discussion. The Board voted 5-0-0, in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

Solar Exemption Warrant Article: Mr. Bemis asked the Board to consider supporting a Warrant Article that contained a property tax exemption for property owners in Bristol that invested in solar energy for their residences. He presented financial, environmental, resiliency and public relation benefits of residential rooftop solar. Mr. Bemis gave the pros and cons of why homeowners added and have not added rooftop solar. Mr. Bemis reviewed New Hampshire maps of municipalities from 2017 showing the amount of solar property tax exemptions certain municipalities gave. The Board was not ready to make any decisions on this request.

Town Administrator's Report: Mr. Burbank updated the Board on the sink hole that appeared near Emmons Funeral Home. He discussed the work that was completed and the paving that will happen by the State in the next few weeks. The Highway Superintendent asked the State to pave the sidewalk, but the State does not want to pay for the sidewalk paving. Mr. Burbank informed the Board that there may be a discussion when the bill comes in.

Mr. Burbank let the Board know that Ms. Goodwin reached out to the owners of the cell tower and the Verizon contact regarding the status of the Verizon antenna. The Board was informed that a supply chain issue will delay the installation until the Spring of 2023.

Mr. Burbank broke down the Hall Road fees and costs of the Highway/GMI paving, \$266,000.00. Reclaiming \$16,001.25, Fine Grade \$10,000.00, 2" Base Asphalt \$210,661.00, Flaggers \$5,000.00, Shoulder Gravel \$17,780.00= a subtotal of \$259,942.25.

The Board was reminded by Mr. Burbank that the Planning Board has kicked off their Community Survey for updating the Master Plan. The link for this survey is on the Town's webpage and the survey takes 15-20 minutes to complete.

At a prior Select Board meeting the Board requested that work be completed at the Historic Town Hall prior to the November elections. Mr. Burbank updated the Board on the work that was completed at the Historic Town Hall. He reported that the lock was fixed by Advanced Lock and Alarm and is in good order. He informed the Board that the Highway Department would be replacing the decking before the elections and Superintendent Bucklin is looking into railing options.

Select Board Items: Mr. Brown asked for an update on the Public Safety Building and was told that the Town now owns the plans for the project, some Geotech work had started, and an update would be placed on the Town's webpage. He also made a visit to the New Hampton Transfer Station and noticed that there were no railing or fences obstructing residences from disposing of materials over these obstacles and asked why Bristol's Transfer Station had fences and railings. Mr. Brown felt that these obstacles made it unsafe for some residence to dispose of items. Mr. Brown inquired if there could be transportation from the Town Office to the Historic Town Hall for voting.

Mr. Lagueux read a thank you letter from the Pemigewasset Valley Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution thanking the Board for their support for the promotion and education of Constitution Week.

Public Comments: none

Mr. Milbrand made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm, seconded by Ms. Avery. The Board voted 5-0-0, in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah A. Clarke-Tivey