

Minutes

Bristol Select Board

April 5, 2018

Present: Select Board members: JP Morrison, Rick Alpers, Les Dion, Don Milbrand, and Town Administrator Nik Coates.

Absent: Wayne Anderson

Others Present: Department Heads and members of the public.

Mr. Milbrand made a motion to go into non-public session at 5:30PM under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a), (b), (c), and (e) seconded by Mr. Morrison. A roll call vote was held. The Board voted 4-0 in favor of the motion. Mr. Milbrand made a motion to come out of non-public at 6:00PM, seconded by Ms. Dion. A roll call vote was held. The Board voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

The public meeting was opened at 6:00PM. Jennifer Schillinger from Belknap County Sheriff's Department sang the National Anthem to open the meeting.

Swearing In Ceremony: Mr. Alpers informed the public that after an arduous interview process, the Board knows that the correct decision has been made in hiring James McIntire as the new Police Chief for the Town of Bristol. Town Clerk Raymah Simpson officiated the swearing in of James McIntire as Chief of Police.

The meeting was recessed at 6:10PM to allow the public present to meet with Chief McIntire.

The meeting was reconvened at 6:40PM.

Minutes:

Ms. Dion made a motion to approve the public and non-public minutes from March 15, 2018, seconded by Mr. Milbrand. The Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes as written.

Consent Agenda: Mr. Milbrand made a motion to approve the consent agenda dated April 5, 2018, to include the items named therein, seconded by Ms. Dion. The Board voted 4-0 in favor of the motion to approve the consent agenda.

Tax Deeding: Town Clerk/ Tax Collector Raymah Simpson informed the Board that deeding starts on May 3rd. Ms. Simpson reviewed individual agreements and payment schedules with the Board. Ms. Simpson will continue to contact other owners regarding payment agreements.

Recycling: David Allen from Casella met with the Board regarding changes to the recycling program and gave an overview of how the recycling process works. Mr. Allen commented that the glass market has

been dying a slow death over the last 20 years. Casella has been encouraging communities to find local outlets for glass. The state does permit towns to use crushed glass as a drainage medium. Mr. Allen informed the Board that taking glass out of the recycling will reduce the tonnage weight by 20%. Casella now charges all customers for recycling pickup. Bristol is currently recycling 300 tons per year and at a rate of \$100 per ton the cost to the town will be approximately \$30,000 per year for recycling. This will be effective May 1st. The charge is based on a formula and the commodity revenue will be taken off the charge per ton. Mr. Alpers commented that the town has the option to take the glass out of recycling or to stop recycling altogether as it's ultimately a business decision. Mark Bucklin commented that it would be hard to start the recycling program again if it is stopped and that pulling glass out is the easiest option. Mr. Bucklin commented that there will be signs up informing people to take the glass out of their recycling and there will be a separate container at the transfer station to put glass in. Mr. Alpers commented that the costs should be looked at month to month for now.

Space Needs Committee Update: Mr. Coates informed the Board that the charge for the Space Needs Committee ended after year one and that the Board reappointed them for a second year. Mr. Coates asked what the Board feels is the current status of the Committee. Mr. Alpers commented that the Committee is in a holding pattern until further down the road. The Board will be making decisions on the potential purchase of a building if that transpires.

Budget Committee Update: Mr. Coates informed the Board that there are 12 members at large and 1 select Board rep. on the Budget Committee. The warrant article passed at Town Meeting reduces the Budget Committee to 7 members. Even if the 4 open positions are not run and filled in 2019 the Committee would still not be at 7 members. Legal counsel has said that it is up to the Select Board to come up with a fair and equitable solution. Town Clerk Raymah Simpson commented that she would like to call the Secretary of State and the Attorney General regarding this issue. The Board will wait to hear back from Ms. Simpson before any decisions are made.

2018 Budget Update: Mr. Alpers informed the public that the Department Heads and the Select Board met this afternoon and came up with a resolution regarding the budget cut. The MS forms are due to the state by February 6th. The budget cut is in the amount of \$370,450. The Board agreed to the recommendations with some minor changes. No employees were eliminated and the merit raises were not eliminated either. The Board voted unanimously on the \$370,450 cuts. Mr. Coates will put a list of the budget cuts on the town web site.

Contracts: Mr. Coates informed the Board that an RFP for a new phone system was completed. TSE Digital Voice is the recommended company. The cost of the first year will be on par with the previous year. With the second year and on the town will see a savings with costs going from \$25,000 to \$10,000 per year. The contract needs to be amended to remove the hold harmless language.

Mr. Milbrand made a motion to approve the contract with TSE Digital Voice as amended and to authorize the Town Administrator to execute the contract. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dion. The Board voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

Mr. Coates informed the Board that an RFP was done for IT services. White Mountain IT Services was selected to provide the town with IT service. The town will be paying close to the same as last year but this puts all town departments on the same IT contract. The contract needs to be amended to remove the hold harmless language. The contract will start on May 1st.

Ms. Dion made a motion to approve the contract with White Mountain IT Services as amended and to authorize the Town Administrator to execute the contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milbrand. The Board voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

Town Administrators Report: Mr. Coates informed the Board of the following updates:

Reed Wilson wrote a thank you letter to the Board in regards to the opportunity to create a park at the Mica building lot. Mr. Reed invited the Board to his Eagle Scout ceremony on April 14th at the Old Town Hall.

Select Board Items:

Mr. Alpers commented that he was asked to have the town look at the fees being charged to use the Old Town Hall. Mr. Coates replied that this has already been discussed and he will report back to the Board with information.

Public Comment:

Tom Keegan commented that the reduction to the town budget shows that we are going backwards and that he is upset by it as it just isn't right. The vote at the end of the meeting to take money out of the capital reserves wasn't right either.

Paul Manganiello commented that it was not the Select Board's decision to reduce the capital reserves but that it was made from me as a citizen. He felt the amendment would help save money for the new town office building.

Shaun Lagueux thanked the Department Heads for all their work on the budget. Mr. Lagueux also commented that New London has its own separate facility for crushing glass and isn't sure if they take glass from other communities. Mr. Alpers replied that Ashland crushes glass too and the town might be able to take glass there.

Nancy Dowey commented that she recommends that the budget be presented at the beginning of Town Meeting as people leave the meeting the longer it gets.

Shaun Lagueux commented that he feels that a new web site shouldn't slide too long as the current one is not user friendly.

John Sellers asked if the computer contract includes new computers. Mr. Coates replied that it does.

John Sellers commented that the made a motion to the budget and that people came out to vote and approved this budget. This is a reduction in an increase. Tom Keegan replied that it was a reduction to the actual amount spent last year.

Mr. Milbrand made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Dion. The Board voted 4-0 in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Duggan