

**Minutes
Bristol Select Board
January 16, 2020**

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

Absent:

Non-Public Session: Mr. Alpers made motion to enter nonpublic session per RSA 91-A, II (a) (b) and (e) at 5:05 PM. Seconded by Mr. Milbrand. Roll call vote taken. 5-0-0 in favor, motion carried. Motion made by Mr. Alpers to leave nonpublic session at 6:12 PM. Seconded by Mr. Milbrand. Roll call vote taken. 5-0-0 in favor, motion carried. Motion made by Mr. Alpers to adjourn non-public session at 6:15 PM, seconded by Mr. Milbrand. All in favor. 5-0-0 in favor, motion carried.

Public Session: Chair Dion opened the public meeting at 6:18 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion made by Mr. Milbrand to seal the non-public minutes of January 16, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Anderson. The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor; motion carried.

Others Present: Fire Chief Ben LaRoche; Police Chief Jim McIntire; Paul Bemis, Energy Committee Chair; and Patrick Mohan, Melanson and Heath Auditors.

Meeting Minutes: Mr. Alpers made a motion to approve the minutes of December 31, 2019 as written. Seconded by Mr. Milbrand. There was no discussion. The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of the motion to approve the minutes.

Consent Agenda: Mr. Milbrand made a motion to approve the consent agenda dated January 16, 2020, to include the items named therein, seconded by Mr. Morrison. The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of the motion to approve the consent agenda.

Audit Report: Patrick Mohan of the Town's auditors, Melanson and Heath, presented the 2018 audit report to the Select Board. He went over the primary highlights of the report and answered questions from the Select Board. The Town has met all necessary accounting standards and long-term debt is in control. The overall financial health of the Town is good.

2020 Warrant Drafting: Water and Sewer Solar PPA: Mr. Milbrand asked about the wording of the article warrant relating to the appropriation of \$14,000 for the first year's purchase of electricity under the PPA and the reduction of Water and Sewer Department operating budgets for electricity to \$1.00 each. It was agreed to reword the article to make it more understandable. Mr. Bemis' video explaining the project for the public was viewed. The video will be put on the Town website and Facebook page and will be included in a public informational forum to be held at the library on a date to be determined. Further discussion on the project followed. The Board thanked Mr. Bemis for all his efforts.

Mr. Coates went over the article regarding the allowing of a property tax exemption of 100% for persons owning property equipped with solar energy systems. Discussion followed on the details of this article.

Discussion took place on the article to raise and appropriate \$100,000 to prepare architectural, engineering and studies for a future public safety building. Fire Chief LaRoche and Police Chief McIntire gave their input on the details of the contract with Grown Construction and the project in general. The Select Board asked the Fire and Police Chiefs questions on the public safety building project. Mr.

Anderson motioned to move forward on the contract with Groen Construction for architectural, engineering and related studies for a future public safety building contingent upon Town Meeting approval. Seconded by Mr. Milbrand, the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor; motion carried. Further discussion followed in which Mr. Morrison inquired on the plan for the old Fire Department building. Chief McIntire answered that selling is an option as it has commercial value or possibly the Highway Department could use the space.

Select Board Items: Mr. Morrison asked about scheduling of meetings and public hearings.

Public Comments: None

Adjourn: Motion made by Chair Dion to adjourn public meeting at 7:45 PM, seconded by Mr. Milbrand. All in favor. 5-0-0 in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Smith