

**Town of Bristol, Vermont  
Selectboard Meeting Minutes of  
Monday, November 4, 2019**

Selectboard members present: Chair Joel Bouvier, Peter Coffey, Peeker Heffernan (arrived 5:50pm), and Michelle Perlee.

Staff present: Town Administrator Valerie Capels, Police Chief Bruce Nason.

Others present: Bristol Police Officer George Crowe, Attorney Susan Edwards, Attorney Joseph Farnham, Attorney John Klesch, Jim Quaglino, State Police Sargent Szarejko.

**I. Call to Order: 5:10 p.m.**

Chair Joel Bouvier called the meeting to order at 5:10pm.

**II. Meeting with Legal Counsel re: Personnel Matter.**

Peter Coffey made the motion to enter executive session with legal counsel (1) for confidential attorney-client communications, because we find that premature general public knowledge of privileged communications will clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage and (2) to consider a disciplinary or dismissal action regarding a Town employee. Michelle Perlee seconded. The Selectboard met in executive session from 5:15pm to 6:05pm. Upon returning to open session, no action was taken.

**III. Hearing Re: Personnel Matter.**

Peter Coffey made a motion to enter executive session finding that premature general knowledge would clearly place the Selectboard or other parties at a substantial disadvantage to consider a disciplinary or dismissal action regarding a Town employee, with following persons to attend: Attorney John Klesch, Attorney Joseph Farnham, Police Chief Bruce Nason, Town Administrator Valerie Capels, Attorney Susan Edwards, Bristol Police Sargent George Crowe, and State Police Sargent Szarejko. Michelle Perlee seconded. The Selectboard met in executive session from 6:15pm to 8:25pm. Upon returning to open session, no action was taken.

**I. Regular Business.**

1. Approval of October 21, 2019 meeting minutes. Review of the minutes was postponed to the November 18, 2019 meeting.
2. Authorize accounts payable warrant and any liquor licenses. Warrant amount: \$91,232.71.

**IV. Other Business.**

1. Correspondence, reports, correspondence received. Valerie Capels drew the Selectboard's attention to her correspondence regarding a recent dog attack. No response has been received yet. If there is a response, or if the keeper of the dog does not comply, this may be a matter that will need to come before the Selectboard.
2. Peeker Heffernan reported that the last 2/10 mile of Beaver Meadow Road past the Darcy camp got washed out is not readily passable. There was a consensus of the Selectboard that there was not an urgent need to restore access and to wait until spring.

3. Peeker Heffernan reported about Green Mountain Power's request that a guardrail be installed to protect the utility pole at the intersection of Monkton Road and Burpee Road. Selectboard members expressed concern that the Town would then be responsible for installing and repairing the guardrail to protect their pole and it would be difficult to mow around. There was not support for installing a guardrail. They suggested if the pole was moved to the south and east, it would still line up with the others and be less in harm's way.

4. Michelle Perlee inquired about the status of the Hatch 31 street light repair. Valerie Capels said that East View Electric said it needed a new ballast, light, and other work and that it would be expensive. The suggestion was made to see if the ballast from the lamp that broke and is stored at the Town Garage could be used and to check with Chris Griggs to see if it was worth fixing.

5. Peeker Heffernan raised the question about compensation for the Public Works Foreman for the extra, long hours he has been putting in alongside the other men following last week's storm. As a salaried position, he is not eligible for overtime. Peeker recalled that the Selectboard had discussed something similar with the previous foreman regarding disaster-related overtime, but the decision was not remembered. Following further discussion, Michelle Perlee made a motion to allow for additional compensation for the DPW Foreman over 40 hours under the same extraordinary circumstances provided for in the Police Chief's current contract. Peter Coffey seconded. So voted.

**V. Adjourn.**

Michelle Perlee moved to adjourn the meeting. Peter Coffey seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Capels, Town Administrator