

## Bristol Town Administrator

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**From:** Bristol Town Administrator  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 11:31 AM  
**To:** Will Elwell  
**Cc:** Bristol Clerk  
**Subject:** RE: Bristol Rescue Squad Appropriations Request  
**Attachments:** Bristol\_Social\_Service Appropriation\_Policy\_2016.pdf;  
Letter\_Bristol\_Rescue\_change\_in\_appropriation\_request\_2023-10-02.pdf

Hi Will,

Thank you for your letter. I will share it with the Selectboard; however, there would be no action for them to take at this time except, perhaps, to provide feedback.

Attached is Bristol's Social Services Appropriation Policy. It requires that a petition be submitted with qualifying signatures for inclusion on a Town Meeting warning for any requested increases in voted appropriations. After three consecutive years of voter approval, a petition would no longer be needed and the voted amount in subsequent years would just need a letter of request. Attached is your current request and that from last year for reference.

Thank you and your team for your service to the community,

--Valerie

Valerie Capels, Town Administrator  
Town of Bristol  
1 South Street  
P.O. Box 249  
Bristol, VT 05443  
P: (802) 453-2410 Ext. 1  
F: (802) 453-5188  
E: [townadmin@bristolvt.org](mailto:townadmin@bristolvt.org)  
W: [www.bristolvt.org](http://www.bristolvt.org)  
FB: <https://www.facebook.com/bristolvt/>  
IG: <https://www.instagram.com/townofbristolvt/>  
Tw: @BristolTownAdm

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**From:** Will Elwell <[welwell@bristolrescuevt.org](mailto:welwell@bristolrescuevt.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 2:56 PM  
**To:** Bristol Town Administrator <[townadmin@bristolvt.org](mailto:townadmin@bristolvt.org)>; Bristol Clerk <[clerk@bristolvt.org](mailto:clerk@bristolvt.org)>  
**Subject:** Bristol Rescue Squad Appropriations Request

Good afternoon Valerie and Sharon,

I have attached a letter formally requesting a change in fund appropriations for the Bristol Rescue Squad. Does the town of Bristol require additional paperwork to bring this up to the town voters?

Respectfully,

William Elwell, NRAEMT  
Chief, Bristol Rescue Squad



P. O. Box 227  
Bristol, VT 05443  
[info@bristolrescuevt.org](mailto:info@bristolrescuevt.org)

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**Bristol Rescue Squad Inc.**

October 2, 2023

Dear Town Manager/Administrator,

The Bristol Rescue Squad (BRS) has seen an increase of 30% in calls, over the past two years. Despite the growing call volume, we have worked improve our response times and capabilities as an Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service. While we have adjusted to the increased demand in the communities that we serve, BRS has found the need to increase our staffing (including adding more paid staff) and to purchase (and maintain) quality equipment for the safety of our crews and the communities we serve. As a result of these improvements, the Bristol Rescue Squad would like to change our town allocation request to a formula-based appropriations request.

Bristol Rescue Squad is requesting funding from your community of \$6 per capita in the area that Bristol Rescue provides coverage to. The amount requested from the town of Bristol on that basis will now be \$22,692, based on a population of 3,782 people.

This model allows BRS to provide more equitable funding requests based on the portion of calls, population density, and new developments/construction in each town. It is the first time in years that BRS has increased its funding request, at a time when we are also faced with increased inflationary costs for medical equipment and supplies, fuel for the ambulances, and increasing staffing needs.

Please feel free to contact William Elwell, Chief of Bristol Rescue via cellphone at (802) 989-9290 or email at [welwell@bristolrescuevt.org](mailto:welwell@bristolrescuevt.org). Myself and our treasurer, Mark Boltz-Robinson are always happy to sit down and discuss any questions, comments, or concerns you may have.

Respectfully,

William Elwell, NRAEMT  
Chief, Bristol Rescue Squad Inc.  
Cell: (802) 989-9290  
[welwell@bristolrescuevt.org](mailto:welwell@bristolrescuevt.org)



P. O. Box 227  
Bristol, VT 05443  
info@bristolrescuevt.org

**Bristol Rescue Squad Inc.**

January 17, 2023

Town of Bristol  
Selectboard  
1 South Street  
Bristol, VT 05443

To Whom It May Concern:

In 2022 Bristol Rescue Squad Inc. (BRS) had continued calls related to the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to calls ranging from lift assistance (helping someone up), to motor vehicle accidents, and other health issues that affect our community. The year 2022 saw our highest call volume yet, with Bristol Rescue handling over 900 calls for our 5 Towns service area, plus mutual aid assistance to our partners in 12 surrounding towns in Addison County. This represents a 120% increase over the average call volume of the last three years.

We have served our friends and neighbors in Bristol and the surrounding towns for 52 years now, providing emergency medical services and transport. We continue to provide 24/7/365 coverage, responding to calls within our service area and mutual aid partnerships

We rely on the support of our subscribers, billing, and the Towns we serve, for the funding that allows us to provide our services. We have a mixture of paid staff, as well as over 25 volunteer members that work 12-hour shifts to ensure we remain in service and available to those in need. We have also worked on acquiring new life-saving equipment, such as our LUCAS 3 CPR assistive device, and our Stryker PowerLoad cots that allow our providers to quickly and safely load patients into the ambulance.

Although our cost of operations continues to increase, for the coming fiscal year we are keeping our funding requests level with last year's request.

For the Town of Bristol we are requesting funding in the amount of \$13,500.00 to appear in the 2022-23 Town Report. As always, any assistance the Town can provide is greatly appreciated.

For the Town of Bristol, Bristol Rescue Squad provided 382 responses, not counting cancellations, or fire standbys for 2022.

If you have any questions regarding this request, or the services provided by Bristol Rescue, please feel free to call or email. I am also available to attend a Selectboard meeting if you feel that would be beneficial.

Thank you in advance for your continued support. We look forward to serving the Five Town region for the next 50 years.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Boltz-Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mark Boltz-Robinson, NREMT

Treasurer, Bristol Rescue Squad