

Town of Bristol
Town Administrator
1 South Street
P.O. Box 249
Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-2410 ext. 1
townadmin@bristolvt.org

March 6, 2024

** CERTIFIED MAIL **

Michael Mulligan
1750 Lower Notch Road
Bristol, VT 05443
And via e-mail: mikeymulligan168@gmail.com

Subject: Resumption of Nuisance Dog Complaint >> Notice of Rescheduled Public Hearing

Dear Mr. Mulligan:

On Monday, February 12, 2024, the Selectboard convened a public hearing in response to a renewed complaint concerning incessant barking of your dogs. A copy of the February 1, 2024 letter notifying you of the complaint and hearing is enclosed. It was sent to you by certified mail and you were also notified by e-mail. After three attempts by the Post Office to notify you of the certified letter, it was returned unopened by the Post Office to the Town Office.

The e-mail contact apparently worked because you attempted to attend the hearing by phone, but we were not able to make a connection after several attempts.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the hearing has been rescheduled to Monday, March 11, 2024. As before, the meeting will begin at 7:00pm. Although the order of agenda items has not yet been finalized, this matter is expected to be among the early items on it. You and others may participate in person or remotely via Zoom or telephone. If you are not able to be present, we encourage you to have someone else be present to represent your interests. The agenda will be posted at the Town Office and on the Town Web site by the Friday afternoon prior to the meeting and will also be available by e-mail.

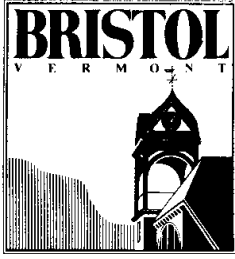
Please be aware that, because the options offered as a result of the March 13, 2023 hearing appear not to be working, the Selectboard may consider requiring that you install bark collars or some other mechanical or technological device on your dogs to inhibit them from barking.

Contact me at 453-2410 ext. 1 or townadmin@bristolvt.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Valerie Capels
Town Administrator

C: Bristol Police Department
Sharon Lucia, Town Clerk
Complainants



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February 1, 2024

** CERTIFIED MAIL **

Michael Mulligan
1750 Lower Notch Road
Bristol, VT 05443

Subject: Resumption of Nuisance Dog Complaint

Dear Mr. Mulligan:

It has come to our attention that the issues associated with the excessive barking of your dogs have resumed. As you were previously informed and cited, excessive barking is identified as a nuisance in Section 125-2 of the Bristol Dog Ordinance and is prohibited per Section 125-4. In addition to the impacts such disturbances have on the “quiet and comfort of others by frequent, habitual or persistent barking ...”, concern has also been expressed again about the well-being of the dogs.

Following a hearing before the Selectboard on March 13, 2023, you were provided with options to find a solution to control the excessive barking. Below are options that were suggested:

- Keep the dogs inside during the workday;
- Keep the dogs inside and hire and or otherwise find someone to walk them during the workday;
- Arrange to take one or both dogs to a doggy day care facility for the workday; and/or
- Enlist the services of a dog trainer to address behavioral issues.

Upon a follow-up investigation at that time, it appeared then the situation was under better control.

Because this was a matter heard and decided by the Selectboard and the situation is reported to have deteriorated, **YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that the Selectboard will be holding a public hearing to determine a course of action at their meeting on **Monday, February 12, 2024**. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm. Although the order of agenda items has not yet been finalized, this matter is expected to be among the early items on it. You and others may participate in person or remotely via Zoom. If you are not able to be present, you may wish to have someone else represent your interests. The agenda will be posted at the Town Office and on the Town Web site by the Friday afternoon prior to the meeting and will also be available by e-mail.

Michael Mulligan
February 1, 2024
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Contact me at 453-2410 ext 1 or townadmin@bristolvt.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Valerie Capels
Town Administrator

C: Bristol Police Department
Sharon Lucia, Town Clerk
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