



Town of Bristol, Vermont

Town of Bristol
Holley Hall
P.O. Box 249
Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-2410 ● Fax 453-5188

Daniel Shepard
3031 S. Route 116 Road
Bristol, VT 05443

Subject: Notice To Appear- Selectboard Public Hearing Order Regarding Recent and Historical Attacks

Dear Mr. Shepard:

The Selectboard of the Town of Bristol will conduct a public hearing on February 9th at 7:00PM at Holley Hall to review a recent dog attack involving your dog and the leashed dog of your neighbors, as well as multiple prior complaints regarding aggressive behavior and your dog running at large.

This hearing is being held pursuant to the Town of Bristol's Animal Control Ordinance and Vermont statutes governing domestic pets and wolf-hybrids. You are required to appear in person or through a representative to address these matters.

Summary of Recent Complaint

On 1/11/2026, your neighbor submitted a formal written complaint stating that:

- Her husband, Edmond Mayer, was attempting to walk their leashed dog, Bentley, from their driveway.
- Your dog allegedly ran across their lawn at high speed, having apparently broken free from the line it was attached to, as a portion of the line was seen dragging behind it.
- Despite Edmond attempting to retreat to the house, your dog attacked and bit their dog.
- This incident represents their third formal complaint and the fifth attack they report having experienced involving your dog.
- They expressed fear for their safety and the safety of their dog, stating that "someday someone is going to get seriously hurt."
- They reported that when they informed you of the incident, you were not receptive and did not express concern or apology.

The complainant also referenced prior communications and history documented in her email dated November 28, 2022.

Historical Context

The Town has previously received multiple complaints regarding your dog running at large, exhibiting aggressive or threatening behavior, and physically attacking neighboring dogs. Prior warnings and citations have been issued by the Bristol Police Department.

The Selectboard will review this history as part of the hearing.

Documents to Be Reviewed

The Selectboard will consider:

- The new formal complaint submitted by Judy Mayer (1/11/2026)
- Any prior animal complaint forms on record
- Police reports, warnings, and citations issued to you
- Relevant correspondence between you and Town officials
- Testimony from the complainant(s), witnesses, and the Bristol Police Department
- Any information or evidence you choose to present

Your Required Attendance

You are required to attend the hearing:

Date: Monday, February 9th 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Holley Hall, 1 South Street, Bristol, VT

Failure to appear may result in the Selectboard proceeding in your absence and issuing an order based on the evidence presented. This may include requirements for restraint, confinement, registration, or other measures deemed necessary to protect public safety.

Questions

If you have questions prior to the hearing, please contact Police Chief Bruce Nason at 453-2533 or bruce-nason@vermont.gov, or the Town Administrator's Office at 453-2410 ext. 1.

Sincerely,

Gregory W. Faust

Town Administrator

cc:

Town Clerk / Police Chief Bruce Nason

