

Bristol Town Administrator

From: Bristol Town Administrator
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 5:46 PM
To: Lathrop Forest Products
Subject: RE: Selectboard meeting re: Stage Race

Hi Jodi,

Thank you for providing more information about your concerns and for bringing them to our attention. If you don't mind, I would prefer slotting this for Oct. 7 so that I can be present for the discussion. It would probably be good for the race organizer to also have an opportunity to be there so that he/they can directly learn about and respond to the issues.

To your questions, there is no direct benefit to the town and no fee is paid for the event or use of the roads. There may be indirect benefits to the local economy if racers, spectators, and/or organizers stay or return to enjoy some of the local businesses and amenities. The race organizers contract directly with law enforcement folks. They do provide a certificate of insurance to the Town with the Town listed as an additional insured.

You raise some important issues and I look forward to having the conversation. I will follow up with you as Oct. 7 draws near. Thanks, again.

--Valerie

Valerie Capels, Town Administrator
 Town of Bristol
 1 South Street
 P.O. Box 249
 Bristol, VT 05443
 P: (802) 453-2410 ext. 22
 E: townadmin@bristolvt.org
 W: www.bristolvt.org
 FB: <https://www.facebook.com/bristolvt/>
 Tw: @BristolTownAdm

From: Lathrop Forest Products <lathropsmill@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 4:21 PM
To: Bristol Town Administrator <townadmin@bristolvt.org>
Subject: Re: Selectboard meeting re: Stage Race

Valerie:

Either works for me. I have a couple general questions you may need time to research. What exactly does the town get from the company that stages the race? Do they pay the town a fee? Do they pay for the town police officers time on duty? All officers not just extras? What insurance do they have? Why do they have to use the Notch Road and South Street? Do we have to let them use our town roads?

As a business owner and large private land owner I am tired of these people using our private property and being exposed for their insurance liability. This year was the worst I have experienced in terms of dangerous behaviors of racers on the town roads. The Notch and South Street have a speed limit for a reason they are dangerous. The road

surfaces are not in the greatest shape. I personally experienced being sworn at and treated poorly by racers on both my properties and I was just trying to drive in and out of the spaces. The medical van took it upon themselves to use private property for their short need. They at least were not rude. However they became my liability during that short time. As did the many flat tire broken rim cyclists, fans etc.

The problem is the race has worn out it's welcome. It's been 15 or 16 years of us folks on the route enduring the ridiculous behavior.

The race company is taking advantage of our town roads that are often after rain weather in poor condition. The Notch is a dangerous enough stretch of road for a car and a single bike to meet or pass each other with traffic. But 4 to 8 bikes riding in packs across all the lanes of travel as they fly 45 and 50 miles an hour down the hill onto south street is illegal and dangerous. I shouldn't have to plan to leave my property on "race day" before 8 am and not return until noonish-1:00 pm. I think this town has given the race company free reign long enough.

If this race occurs next year with the town's positive sanction on the same route I am demanding to be listed as additionally insured on the town general liability policy as well as the race groups policy. I also want a police officer at the bottom of Rounds road or at the Hewitt Road Bridge area with a radar gun giving out tickets for speeding. The posted speed limit is 35 mph. These bikes are doing far faster then that 4 and 5 across both travel lanes. My lawyer says we are well within our rights to request this.

I will wait to hear from you in regards to which date works best.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Jodi Lathrop

On Wed, Sep 11, 2019 at 2:02 PM Bristol Town Administrator <townadmin@bristolvt.org> wrote:

Hi Jodi,

Jen Myers forwarded your e-mail to me. The next Selectboard meeting is this Monday, Sept. 16. I will not be present at the meeting, but will be finalizing the agenda for the packet to go out Friday. The next one will be October 7. Do you have a preference? The meeting would start at 7:00pm.

--Valerie

Valerie Capels, Town Administrator

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From: Lathrop Forest Products <lathropsmill@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, September 7, 2019 9:03 AM

To: Bristol Clerk <clerk@bristolvt.org>

Subject:

Good morning:

I would like to be put on the select board agenda to discuss the last stage race. After 13 years of being trapped on my property or not able to return to it or my businesses. I have had enough. Please let me what date and time. I'm happy to bring my attorney with me as well.

Thank you

Jodi Lathrop