WARNING
BRISTOL POLICE DEPARTMENT
SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018

The legal voters of the Police Department Special Service District of the Town of Bristol are hereby WARNED and NOTIFIED to meet at Holley Hall in said Bristol, on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, between the hours of 7:00 a.m., at which time the polls will open, and 7:00 p.m., at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot on the following articles of business:

At 6:02 pm Selectboard Chair, Peeker Heffernan, started the meeting. George Smith asked why was the administrative budget increasing by $5,000. Selectboard didn't have response. Bruce Nason, Lt. explained that the previous Chief increased the budget for work to be done by admin personnel which allows police officers to be on the street more. The Department is planning to use the increased amount ($5,000) listed on budget. George Smith - Why is there an increase in health insurance plan costs. Up $20,000 from last year's budget. Lt Nason - The budget included a family plan for the new chief. Last year there was only one family plan and this year there are two family plans. George Smith - Why is there more money in Workmen's Comp. Peter Coffey – Town had three (3) claims ($49,000 for 3 years) and there was a miscalculation last year and it was corrected in current year. George Smith - Chief and patrol officer were hurt on own property – why didn't it go through their homeowners. Peter Coffey - The officers were on duty at the time the incident happened. They were fully dressed in uniform getting in or out of cruiser. Selectboard did review the matter.

Val Hanson – what is timeline for hiring new chief. Selectboard - The deadline for applications is April 6. Committee to review and screen applicants April 9 through April 13. After screening process interviews will take place by end of April. May 14, 2018 the top two candidates will have public interview along with Selectboard and will make an offer based on the public interviews. Selectboard's goal is for the new chief position to be filled for the new fiscal year. Town's Personnel policy states that it will hire within when possible. Peeker Heffernan agrees with Val that the process has taken too long. Where did money go if we had money for Kevin – why didn't we have money to hire new chief. Selectboard - The Chief retired so the Town had to pay vacation and sick time and hadn't been prepared to pay those amounts out.

Ron LaRose – salaries - $160k divided by 3 – approximately $50k a year. Didn't budget for 4th person – if the Chief hired is not on staff then we would have to go overbudget or let someone go. Selectboard - No one will lose their job. New Chief will need to work within budget whether cutting part-timers or hours. Selectboard – didn't feel the Town could support a fourth person. If we have four people then overtime would cease to exist and that money would pay that 4th person. The $20,000 in budget is there for part-time salaries.

Peter Ryan – cut budget too close to line. Don't have to go to higher budget for 4 people and putting monkey on new Chief's back. Should have calculated when former Chief retired to start process for new Chief – starting January 1. Went through every application and whittled them down – shouldn't be public committee. It's the Town's employee and it's the Town's responsible to monitor that employee(s).

Joel Bouvier – back to question on 3 or 4 – add full-time and part-time and shift differential and overtime it comes to an average of $55,000 (divided by 4). Officers we have now – don't think we will have a problem with budget. If we have someone who wants more money than $55,000 then we have to cut somewhere else.

Craig Allen – does the dept feel the budget is adequate to protect its residents – referred to Royalton murder (wife killed by estranged husband). Peter Coffey – can't give someone 24-hour service – even though there is a protective order you can't enforce continually. Craig Allen - Do they resources to monitor these types of orders? Val Hanson – thinks Bruce should answer that. Michelle Perlee – Selectboard asked for budget for a 4th person and status quo. Lt Nason – we have adequate resources to cover calls and if we need more resources we would reach out to other law enforcement agencies.

Selectboard - A four person police department would require an 8% increase in taxes. After last year with big increase – can't ask for more taxes. With only 600 taxpayers it would be the highest increase after school tax.

Ken – Traffic Control – if a call came in outside police district would we go. Lt Nason - No we would not go. Selectboard – Police Department would go if State Police requests that they go. If life threatening situation and Bristol Police are nearby then they would go. Chet Richardson – his two kids are cops. What are the response times for Town. No one on at 10 pm? How long does it take State Police or Sheriff's Dept to respond? Sheriff's Dept is short right now. What is response time in District? Lt Nason - There is someone scheduled at 10 pm. If within district after hours then response time could be 5 minutes or 15 depending on where they live. Chet Richardson - Should we be thinking about this response time?

Craig – wouldn't let anyone go. Is there a chance they would see lower income but without overtime there would be an impact?

George Smith – how is the proposed merger? Selectboard – The proposal to go town wide is not dead but we are not pursuing it at this time.

Brett LaRose – follow-up to George Smith's question. Does the Selectboard have the authority to make the police department Town wide. Selectboard - it would require town wide vote. Kevin LaRose - When might we expect a vote? Selectboard - People outside police district don't want an increase in taxes. We need to get police force shored up and then think about going town wide.

ARTICLE 1: Will the voters of the Bristol Police District adopt the proposed 2018-2019 fiscal year budget in the amount of ***$461,374***, a portion thereof in the amount of ***$422,974*** to be raised by a District special assessment property tax; the tax rate on the 2018 Grand List of the property in the area included within the District sufficient to raise said special assessment property tax sum as taxes to be determined by the Selectboard?

To be voted on Tuesday March 6, 2018 from 7 am to 7 pm.

Informational Meetings: ***The legal voters of the Bristol Police District are further notified that informational meetings will be held at Holley Hall in Bristol on Monday, February 19, 2018 during a regular Selectboard meeting which will commence at 6:00 p.m., and on Monday, March 5, 2018 during a special Selectboard meeting which will commence at 6:00 p.m. (preceding the Annual Town Meeting which will commence at 7:00 p.m.), for the purpose of discussion about the proposed Police District Budget.***

Adopted and approved at a meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Bristol duly called, noticed and held on January 22, 2018. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Bristol on January 23, 2018.

Peeker Heffernan adjourned meeting at 6:33 pm.

Bristol Selectboard:

/s/
John "Peeker" Heffernan, Chair

/s/
Joel Bouvier

/s/
Peter Coffey

/s/
Theodore Lylis

/s/
Michelle Perlee

ATTEST:

/s/
Jen Myers, Town Clerk