

MINUTES
BRISTOL SELECT BOARD
November 7, 2013

PRESENT: Select Board Members: Don Milbrand, Joe Denning, Betsy Schneider and Town Administrator Michael Capone.

Mr. Milbrand opened the meeting of the Bristol Select Board at 6:00 PM.

Minutes of October 17, 2013

Mr. Denning motioned to approve the minutes of the October 17th meeting, seconded by Ms. Schneider. Motion passed 3-0 in favor of approving the minutes.

Manifest of November 7, 2013

Mr. Denning motioned to approve the manifest of November 7th, seconded by Ms. Schneider. Motion passed 3-0 in favor of approving the manifest.

New Business:

Martha Richards- Grafton County Commissioner

Martha Richards introduced herself to the audience. She updated the Board on fellow County Commissioner Ray Burton, who is dealing with health issues. Mrs. Richards discussed the role of a County government and provided the Board with a list of elected County Officials. She explained the role of Commissioners in budget planning. Mrs. Richards discussed the upgrades to County Jail and the health and safety improvements made to accommodate various inmates. There are more than 400 employees employed at Grafton County facilities. Mrs. Richards reviewed the various details of the services provided with the Grafton County Complex facilities including the nursing home, County farm, jail, and offices. She also discussed the revenue produced through the County farm and the inmate's roles at the farm. Mrs. Richards discussed the various social services that receive benefits from the farm. She commented on the downtown and Library improvements in Bristol. Mrs. Richard has been working on alternative energy sources in Grafton County such as a wood-chip biomass plant that has been implemented into the Grafton County facilities. She explained the reduction in costs versus heating with oil. Mr. Morrison inquired if Grafton County had a plan in place for individuals who are receiving welfare to pay back their assistance. Mrs. Richards indicated they did not.

Mrs. Richards reviewed the current tax rate, as Bristol's share of the county rate increase 1.15% for this year, which increased the County payment to \$769,000. With no further questions, she invited members of the public to visit the Commissioners or a meeting and provided her contact info. She also stated she is opposed to the Northern Pass project as well as the wind projects.

The Board thanked Mrs. Richards for attending the meeting.

Public Hearing – Maintenance of Ernest and Jonelle Drive

Mr. Milbrand opened the Public Hearing at 6:26 p.m. on the Ernest and Jonelle Drive. Mr. Capone stated the meeting was properly noticed in two public places as well as a newspaper of general circulation and notices were mailed to all property owners. Mr. Milbrand read a letter from the Murphy's, who are property owners, asking for the Board's support with accepting the roads for maintenance. Mr. Milbrand opened the hearing up for public comments. Mr. Revels stated the residents of Ernest and Jonelle have complied with all Town requirements and met with Mark Bucklin who requested additional gravel and drainage improvements. Surfacing requirements were discussed. Mrs. Revels stated they also share the Murphy's comments in asking for the Board's support. Mrs. Malloy commented about the need for the Town's maintenance on the road. Mr. Morrison added that the road was built in a very wet season and has kept up over the years. Mr. Revels stated the residents were willing to put the gravel down with the assistance of Mr. Morrison and his equipment. Ms. Schneider added that she would like to see Mr. Lagueux present at the meeting since he researched the matter since a full Board was not present to vote on the proposal. Mr. Milbrand stated there were procedures for approving a road and discussed under RSA 231:33, a signed agreement and a motion along with a Board's approval is needed to approve this. Mr. Capone has reviewed the material with Town counsel. However in order to protect the rights of all, a drafted agreement has been sent to Town counsel for review, but was not available for the hearing. Mr. Capone suggested having the agreement available for review and approval at the next meeting. Mrs. Revels inquired whether all the residents need to be present at the next meeting to finalize the agreement. It was suggested to obtain a proxy from all property owners. Mr. Revels stated that they anticipated the proper paperwork had been submitted already and this hearing would provide the Board's approval. At this time, they may not be able to put down gravel if the ground is frozen and they are running out of time. Mr. Capone stated the rights of everyone need to be protected so this process needed to be done correctly. Mr. Morrison inquired whether Town Counsel had supplied the Town with correct wording. Mr. Capone stated he drafted an agreement and sent it off to Counsel. Mrs. Revels inquired whether all responses had been received from all owners. One owner did not respond. The Town could accept an agreement signed by all of the property owners and it would be up to the Board if they wanted to waive a signature requirement for owners who could not be reached. Mr. Capone stated the decision was up to the Board ultimately however there was a level of risk on both parts. Mr. Milbrand stated the residents could risk adding the gravel not knowing whether the road would be taken over as well as the Town risk legal action by proceeding with the petition without all resident's signatures. Mr. Morrison commented that individuals who purchased property in the area for privacy reasons are no longer there. One resident inquired on the two options for clarification. A discussion on the betterment assessment took place.

Mrs. Revels inquired on when she could obtain a document to have it signed by residents. Mr. Capone will look into when he can obtain the document from counsel. Mr. Capone will provide a complete list of all owners and speak with Town counsel. Mr. Morrison suggested the Town does not provide the list to the Revels in order to prevent missed residents. Mr. Milbrand advised the Revels to double check the list prior to final submittal. With no further comments, Mr. Milbrand closed the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Old Town Hall Repairs

Mr. Capone reviewed a list of possible items for repair at the Old Town Hall based on the budget appropriated at Town Meeting. Estimates provided for work required came to more than the amount appropriated. The Board discussed possibilities for repair and decided it would be best for the entire Board to be present for voting purposes. Ms. Schneider stated she didn't see the need to spend money on a building that is not being used. Although Mr. Denning agreed, he stated it was appropriated and they had to do something based on the vote from Town Meeting. Mr. Milbrand explained what options were available if the Board did not spend the funds appropriated.

Budget Update

Mr. Capone provided the Board with an updated budget for review. He has worked with Finance on changes to the proposed budget and watching the finances for the remainder of the year.

Public Comments

With no other public business to come before the Board, at 7:16PM Mr. Denning made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Schneider. The Board voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kelly Lacasse

Don Milbrand, Select Board

Joe Denning, Select Board

Betsy Schneider, Select Board

Janet Cote, Select Board

Shaun Lagueux, Select Board

