



**Select Board Meeting
MINUTES
Bristol Town Office, September 28th, 2022**

Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates.

Also present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Alex Beaudet; Tom Bishop; Sandra Brackett; Charles Farrell; Warren Grant; Steve Jorgensen; Mike Melville; Keith Mestrich; Pat Porter

Discussion with volunteers for Budget Committee and Appeals Board:

Chair Chad Hanna called the meeting to order at 6.30 pm. He explained that this was a session intended to inform the Board's appointment of members to vacant positions on the Budget committee and Appeals Board, as four positions must be appointed on the Appeals Board and five on the Budget Committee. This is an opportunity for those residents who have filled out the form to apply to serve on a Town Board to introduce themselves and say a little about why they wish to serve.

Hall explained the distinction between the Budget Committee, whose powers were granted by Town Meeting and whose role is purely advisory, and that of the Appeals Board, whose powers are set in statute and which has a quasi-judicial role recognized by the Maine courts. Hanna noted that in some years the Appeals Board may never be called to hear a case, while in others it may hear two or three appeals, sometimes complex, which require understanding and interpretation of the Town's ordinances.

The Chair asked the residents present to introduce themselves, which they did in the following order: Melville (applied for Budget Committee but also interested in the Appeals Board); Grant (interest in Appeals Board; citing his previous service on various county boards in Florida); Farrell (had applied for the Budget Committee but is now interested in the Appeals Board, citing his experience as a court-appointed mediator in both family and ordinance disputes); Porter (completing a term on the Budget Committee and interested in continuing for a second); Jorgensen (experience as director of a non-profit, and on the Finance Subcommittee of the Comprehensive Plan Committee); Bishop (business experience and service on the Comprehensive Plan Committee); Mestrich (retired bank CEO, recently moved to Bristol); Brackett (previous service, now wishing to go back onto the Budget Committee); Beaudet (farm business; completing one term on Budget Committee and seeking a second). Hall reported that Sheila McLain, applicant for the Budget Committee, was unable to attend this night due to a school sports commitment with her daughter.

Discussion of the likely schedule of the two bodies followed. The Budget Committee typically holds a brief organizing meeting in December, to elect a Chair and to set dates for its public hearings. These are typically one meeting in January to hear requests from non-profit service organizations, and two evenings in February to hear the Town, Fire, School and Parks budgets. The Appeals Board does not have a set schedule but Hanna recalled that at one time it had been the practice of the Appeals Board to meet regularly regardless of appeal cases, to monitor business before the Planning Board and Code Enforcement Officer; he felt it would be good for the new Appeals Board to meet to review procedures, so that they were not entirely 'cold' when a case comes before them.

Hanna thanked the volunteers and said the Board would make the appointments the following Wednesday, October 5th. Members will take home the application forms and consider the appointments individually during the week.

Warrants: the Board reviewed and signed Warrants for Payroll and Accounts Payable for the School, and Accounts Payable for the Town, Fire Department, and Bristol Parks & Recreation.

There being no other business before the Board, the Board adjourned at 7.11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hall

Town Administrator