

SOUTH BRISTOL TOWN BOARD MEETING

November 10, 2025

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular meeting of the South Bristol Town Board was called to order November 10, 2025 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT

Daniel Marshall, Supervisor
Stephen Cowley, Councilman
Jim Strickland, Councilman
Meg Fuller, Councilwoman
Scott Wohlschlegel, Councilman

RECORDING SECRETARY

Judy Voss, Town Clerk

OTHERS

Jim Wight, Scott Trumbower, John & Ian Bolton, Gloria Harrington, Ginny Lalka, Marcia Smith, Joe Kohler, Jonathan Heiderich, Jamie Hall, Lisa Moore, Chris Bennem, Chris Abraham, Online: Brooks Lyon, Nick Kreuter, Liz Caprini, John McCabe, Mark Boylan

I. ROLL CALL

Supr. Marshall opened the meeting with roll call.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Councilman Wohlschlegel and seconded by Councilman Cowley, the Regular Town Board minutes of October 14, 2025 were ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, Strickland and Wohlschlegel.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supr. Marshall said that before we go any further with Privilege of the Floor he wanted to make some introductions; thought it would be appropriate to introduce the next Town Supervisor for South Bristol, Lisa Moore, and Jamie Hall and Chris Abraham.

IV. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Joe Kohler asked to be placed at the end of the meeting.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS: **HIGHWAY**

Councilman Cowley read the Highway Report:

Following is a brief summary of the last month at the Highway Department.

- Done mowing Town properties for the season
- Done mowing roadsides for the year
- New Western Star dump truck was delivered last week.
- Road striping was finished up for the year.
- Shoulders were completed on Gannett Hill going up to the County Park.
- Shoulders were done on the section of Gulick we paved.

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- Shoulders were done on Lower Egypt.
- All plow equipment has been installed on the big trucks and most of the small trucks.
- And unfortunately we went out this morning to plow and salt most roads (First time this year).

On a motion made by Councilman Cowley and seconded by Councilwoman Fuller, the Highway Report was ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, Strickland and Wohlschlegel.

FINANCE

Supr. Marshall said the Board will be finishing up the 2026 Budget this evening. Supr. Marshall also reported that the 3rd quarter sales tax revenue was received. The amount received was \$467,615.00, 4.3% higher than the quarter last year. Our year-to-date for sales tax revenue received \$1,295,276.00 which have all ready met our sales tax revenue for the year. The 4th quarter revenue goes directly to the Unexpended Fund Balance.

VI. OLD BUSINESS: **UPDATES TO THE PRELIMINARY 2026 BUDGET**

Supr. Marshall said he was jumping ahead on the Budget with the purchase of the playground equipment. If we do that, we would have to move funds around on the 2026 Budget. The best should discuss the proposed purchase of the playground equipment. Councilman Strickland took on this project and can speak to the particulars.

Councilman Strickland explained that the current playground needs to be updated. There a few pieces of equipment that has gotten dangerous and tired. Councilman Strickland also proposed closing the playground until the new equipment is installed.

Councilman Strickland contacted a company in Lima, Bear Playgrounds, and they offer cedar playgrounds. This playground would need a tremendous amount of maintenance because of the cedar. Naples recently tore down their playground to put in a more up to date set and wouldn't recommend at all.

Councilman Strickland contacted a company in Fairport and gave us 3 different proposals. These are all ASTM Certified, which is ADA compliant, for ages 2-12. This is going to be a complete re-haul of the playground. The material that is there, the Highway Superintendent has agreed to pull all the old equipment. The company will install all the new equipment. The cost is \$69,405.00 which we were thinking was going to be more than \$100,000.00. The swings will stay and there will be a couple of new benches and a picnic table. The company will do all the installations. Before we start that playground should be closed. The company is hoping to start working at the end of April into May.

Supr. Marshall said the contract requires a 50% deposit before the end of the year. The current budget does not have a line item for playground equipment; however, we have the ability to move funds from other lines that have access funds as we approach the end of the year. The second payment can be added to the 2026 Budget and worst-case scenario would be to take the funds from the Unexpended Fund Balance. There are also changes that could be made to certain line items within the budget. We budgeted, for 2026, the project that is currently being completed in the Town Clerk's office, so those funds will be available. There is no impact whatsoever to the tax payer.

Supr. Marshall continued, if the Board would like to proceed with the playground project or not, and if we do, we ought to approve that before approving the 2026 Budget.

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Councilman Wohlschlegel and Councilwoman Fuller both agreed to move forward with the playground. Councilwoman Fuller asked if we are doing anything different with the fence?

Supr. Marshall said that part of the fence that needs stabilization in one corner. That would be the Town's responsibility.

Councilman Strickland agreed and said it is the Town's responsibility to get the site prepped when they come in. The reason they need ½ down now is because 3 pieces of the playground equipment come out of Canada and because of our situation and tariff's that needs to be procured now.

On a motion made by Councilman Strickland and seconded by Councilwoman Fuller, the quote from FLXREC for \$69,405.00 was ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, Strickland and Wohlschlegel.

Supr. Marshall continued with changes to the 2026 Budget: The preliminary budget will need to be adjusted to include the 50% to be paid in 2026. There is one other item that needs to be adjusted. The quote for the new software the Code Enforcement Department is requesting funding for: *Cloud Permit*. An updated quote came in for an additional \$1,500.00 and the preliminary budget line 8010.4 needs to be increased by that amount.

Councilwoman Fuller said she did speak with the CEO Department and the price goes up every 3-4 month; that is the price.

Supr. Marshall said he is looking for a motion for the changes to the 2026 Budget; additional money for the playground and for the *Cloud Permit* software.

On a motion made by Councilman Wohlschlegel and seconded by Councilman Strickland, the changes to the 2026 Preliminary Budget were ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, Strickland and Wohlschlegel.

Councilwoman Fuller asked about the Justice Budget line and asked if he looked into that?

Supr. Marshall said he had a conversation with the Judge and explained that the new Court Clerk will be hired at \$20 per hour and that resolved the line item.

ADOPT THE 2026 BUDGET

Supr. Marshall said this budget will include the 2 updates we just discussed and asked if there were any additional questions about the budget.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Fuller to approve the 2026 Budget with the 2 changes and seconded by Councilman Cowley was ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, Strickland and Wohlschlegel.

(Insert Budget)

VII. NEW BUSINESS: APPROVAL – CHESHIRE FIRE DEPT. CONTRACT

Supr. Marshall said the Cheshire Fire Dept. contract was received, a 3-year contract. The Town will be paying \$135,000.00 in 2026, \$145,000 in 2027 and in 2028, \$157,000. The funds are budgeted, just needs Board approval to sign the contract.

On a motion made by Councilman Cowley to approve the Cheshire Fire Department Contract for \$135,000.00 and seconded by Councilman Strickland was ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, Strickland and Wohlschlegel.

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Councilman Wohlschlegel asked if there were any meetings with the fire department to discuss the contract?

Supr. Marshall said yes, there were 2 or 3 meetings and Councilwoman Fuller sat in on the meetings as well.

Councilwoman Fuller said that they discussed spreading the adjustments over time which they did.

Discussion.

Supr. Marshall noted that the Village of Naples also submitted their 2026 Fire Contract for \$125,572.00 that needs approval and signatures.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Fuller and seconded by Councilman Strickland, the Naples Fire Contract was ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, Strickland and Wohlschlegel.

MOTION TO CHANGE TERM FOR TOWN SUPERVISOR

Supr. Marshall explained, currently the Town Supervisor term is for 2 years. On election day, a resident came into my office and insisted we do something to change from 2 years to 4 years. Now it the opportune time to do this, if the Board wishes. If this gets accepted, changing from 2 years to 4 years, that automatically requires a Referendum. The Referendum becomes a proposition on the November ballot stating whether it should be 2 years or 4 years. If it passed, the first term for a Supervisor would not begin until 2028. The only requirement is that the Resolution to change the term must be made 150 days prior to the election. We could do it tonight, or 150 days from the next election. Supr. Marshall asked for the Board's opinion.

Councilman Wohlschlegel said he thought it would be worthwhile to have a 4-year term for the Supervisor. The reason is, as a Board member, it is a 4-year term.

Supr. Marshall said every one is a 4-year term except the Supervisor. This came before the Town many years ago and was voted down.

Councilman Strickland said he would vote against it, personally. The reason for that is 10 years ago when he joined the Board, we had a Town Supervisor and Town Board that was negatively effecting our Town and if that had gone on for another 2 years; they all ready cost us quite a bit of money, the damage could have been even worse.

Councilwoman Fuller said she would too because we just went through this process and I, as someone who is elected, found it incredibly rewarding to have to interact with the residents and hear what people have to say. It made me a better at this position and I think the person who is the head of our Town government should be forced to interact with the residents as often as possible, through that process. If you have someone at that job that not the right fit, it is good to have constant discussion about how they are doing. I am not opposed to going to a public referendum and having a vote.

Supr. Marshall said if the Board elects to pass this Resolution, it will automatically go before the residents with a vote. This would happen at the next election in November, 2026.

Councilman Cowley said he thinks it is a good idea to give people the choice. I am not sure if I am for it or against it, probably not a bad idea, timing wise, with a new Board coming in and give the people of South Bristol a choice.

On a motion made by Councilman Wohlschlegel and seconded by Councilman Cowley, Resolution No. 46-2025 was ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 3. Voting NAY: 2. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley and Wohlschlegel. Voting NAY: Fuller and Strickland.

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RESOLUTION #46-2025
SUBMITTING REFERENDUM PROPOSITION CHANGING TERM OF TOWN
SUPERVISOR OF THE TOWN OF SOUTH BRISTOL

WHEREAS, section 24-a. 1. Of the Town Law of the State of New York empowers a Town Board to “adopt a resolution to provide that the term of office of any elective town official thereafter elected shall be four years; and

WHEREAS, the Town of South Bristol Supervisor is an elective town official whose current term is two years; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of South Bristol believes that it will be beneficial to the Town to increase the term of the Town of South Bristol Supervisor to four years in order to give the Town Supervisor a better opportunity to plan and implement Town projects under his or her supervision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of South Bristol, in regular session duly convened as follows:

1. Commencing upon the biennial town election to be held in 2028 for the term beginning January 1, 2029, the Town of South Bristol Supervisor shall hold such office for a term of four years.
2. In accordance with provisions of section 24-a.1. of the Town Law of the State of New York, this resolution shall not become effective unless and until it has been approved at the next biennial town election by the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the Town voting upon the proposition.

I, Judy Voss, Town Clerk of the Town of South Bristol do hereby certify that the aforementioned resolution was adopted by the Town Board of the Town of South Bristol on November 10, 2025 by the following vote:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Daniel Q. Marshall	x	_____
Scott Wohlschlegel	x	_____
Stephen Cowley	x	_____
James Strickland	_____	x
Meghan Fuller	_____	x

Dated: November 10, 2025

Judy Voss, Town Clerk

SEAL

VIII. REPORTS:
CEO

On a motion made by Councilman Cowley and seconded by Councilman Strickland, the CEO Report for October, 2025 was ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, Strickland and Wohlschlegel.

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TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTION

On a motion made by Councilman Cowley and seconded by Councilman Strickland, the Town Clerk's Report for October, 2025 were ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, Strickland and Wohlschlegel.

IX. ACCOUNTING: SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supr. Marshall read the Executive Summary, as of October 31st, the Town has \$3,630,739.29 in the bank. Expenditure through October on average should equal 83.30% of the annual budget. The General Fund is at 79.98% of the annual budget and the Highway Fund is 77.43% of the annual budget.

Supr. Marshall said that the percentages do not include the recently purchased truck.

Supt. Wight said the purchase of the truck is from encumbered funds from 2024 and shouldn't effect the budget. The good news is that the trucks have only gotten more expensive but now we have the luxury of putting truck, cab and chassis, in the budget one year and the next year or two and pay for the plow package.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Fuller and seconded by Councilman Wohlschlegel, the Supervisor's Report for October, 2025 was ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, and Strickland.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

On a motion made by Councilwoman Fuller and seconded by Councilman Cowley, the Abstract of Vouchers, totaling \$352,254.16 was ACCEPTED. Voting AYE: 5. Voting NAY: 0. Voting AYE: Marshall, Cowley, Fuller, Strickland and Wohlschlegel.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Joe Koher of Cliffside Drive, thank you to any Veterans that had served. I followed up on your suggestion, Mr. Supervisor, and meet with your approval. I have purchased two memorial bricks to go in the garden. One for Fred Sarkis, the other for my father. I wanted to thank Councilman Wohlschlegel, how many years Scott? Twelve years of service, it has been a pleasure to work with you sir. Councilman Strickland? Ten years, thank you for your service. I wanted to thank publicly, the Highway Superintendent, for the great work at the Transfer Station. I went there anonymously, and was greeted by your lowest level person, gave me a tour, and as a result of that tour I've requested that you be given money in the budget to do whatever you need to do in the building and I gave a solution for furniture and bookcases for your library; it is a great facility, thank you, Jim. I also asked for money to be given to you, whatever it takes, to get snow fences on what is left of our golf course. With the hydrants, do we have anything we can share?

Supr. Marshall noted that everything the Town had has been handed over to the Homeowner's Association. It verifies without a doubt that fire protection was expected and should be included. The Public Service Commission should know this situation exists and that something needs to be done before any rate increase is ever considered. Has the Public Service Commission announced a date for the Public Hearing yet?

Mr. Kohler answered, no sir, I have an update for you sir, I was in Buffalo 2 days last week speaking to them, I am on my way to Albany with a petition. I must thank you Mr. Supervisor for your letter, which was very helpful, for a letter from another long-term resident of

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Bristol Harbor Village and the Cheshire Fire Chief. I thank you for your encouragement. I am requesting that the date, because they said something like some time after the new year, that June, July or August, when the residents of the village of Bristol Harbor are back. You suggested with the DEC to no avail so I will be hopefully seeing the DEC Commissioner on my trip to Albany. I also saw the operator of the Bristol Waterworks Corp. I requested again the results of the 3 tests they did in my condo and I was told it was on our website. Nothing is on the website for Condo 1, Unit 10. I am requesting your help sir, letters have gone to the 3 town attorney's, about a month ago and there has been no response. The letters were with regards to fireworks.

Councilwoman Fuller said we talked about this, we went over to your home and the decision was the fireworks display that was in question was not a professional grade fireworks and so, therefore, was not.

Mr. Kohler said that was a matter of opinion Councilwoman, these were major ones that require batteries to shoot them up in the air. I would like to hear back from the Town Attorney's.

Supr. Marshall said we had no idea you sent letters to the Town Attorney's.

Mr. Kohler said he didn't send the letters, CEO Martin did.

Mr. Kohler continued, I've requested at the last Town Board meeting and at the Budget meeting, that monies be set aside for overtime for the Clerk to conduct 4 Town meetings. July, August, September and October, for anyone running for elected office and anyone that wants to show up and talk to the elected officials, Town Hall meetings. They are held all over the nation, in little tiny towns, there's never been one in the history of the Town of South Bristol. I asked that that be put in the budget and I asked that this room be available. I am also requesting there be a public debate for anyone running for any office next year. I am offering the Community Center at Bristol Harbor. Lastly, Mr. Supervisor, I wish to thank you for 24 years of service, on the Zoning Board of Appeals, as Town Board member and as our Supervisor. A vote of thanks and gratitude, sir.

Councilman Strickland said he had a couple of things to say, it has been a pleasure serving on this Board with all of you. Dan, this Town owes you a debt of gratitude, you've been steady at the helm, kept us on an even keel, you've done the hard work that needed to be done and it is much appreciated.

X. ADJOURN: 7:55pm

Respectfully submitted:

Judy Voss
South Bristol Town Clerk