



KEVIN M. LYNCH
Chief of Police

Bristol Police Department

395 METACOM AVENUE BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND 02809
TELEPHONE (401) 253-6900



September 6, 2024

Melissa Cordeiro / Town Clerk
Town of Bristol, Rhode Island
10 Court St Bristol, RI 02809

RE: Town Ordinance Modification – Section 21-41 Appointment – Qualifications of Applicants

Dear Madam Clerk,

The Bristol Police Department requests the below-listed modifications to the Town ordinance (21-41 Appointment – Qualifications of Applicants) to address 21st-century recruiting necessities. Notably, many Rhode Island police departments including our state police have a minimum age requirement of 18 for appointment to police service. We believe by lowering the age requirement from 21 to 18 we will expand our recruitment pool, have the opportunity to promote a more diverse workforce, provide enhanced inclusiveness, bolster our recruiting goals, and achieve desired personnel allocations.

The following recommendations are being presented to the Honorable Town Council.

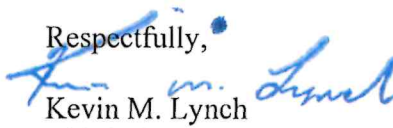
Sec. 21-41. Appointment—Qualifications of applicants

A candidate for appointment as a probationary patrol officer shall qualify as follows:

1. ~~He~~ The Candidate shall be a citizen of the United States.
2. ~~He~~ The Candidate shall have attained ~~his~~ their ~~21st~~ 18th birthday.
3. ~~He~~ The Candidate shall have satisfactorily completed four years of accredited high school or the equivalent thereof.
4. ~~He~~ The Candidate shall be able to meet the weight standard in effect at the time of the application.
5. ~~He~~ The Candidate shall be in good health, organically sound, and shall have no defective vision or hearing, and ~~he~~ shall pass such tests and physical examination as may be required by the state municipal police academy.
6. If ~~he~~ the Candidate has served in the armed forces of the United States or a foreign country, ~~he~~ they shall have received a discharge therefrom under honorable conditions.

7. ~~He~~ The Candidate shall be a person of good reputation in the community and be free from intemperate or immoral habits. ~~He~~ They shall not have been convicted of a felony, misdemeanor, or serious motor vehicle offense, or have habitually consorted with criminals or persons of ill repute or have been engaged in or connected with any illegal or illicit business.

Respectfully,


Kevin M. Lynch
Chief of Police