

Town of Colrain

Annual Report 2021

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	ii
Colrain Transfer Station	1
Town Officers, Boards, Committees – Contact Infomation.....	2
Elected Town Officers	3
Select Board Appointments	4
Moderator Appointments.....	8
Town Office Reports	
Select Board.....	9
Board of Assessors	11
Town Clerk	13
Town Accountant	14
Tax Collector	24
Treasurer	26
Annual Reports	
Agricultural Commission	28
Building Inspector.....	29
Colrain Cultural Council	30
Colrain Historical Commission.....	31
Council on Aging.....	32
Finance Committee	33
Fire Department	34
Franklin County Regional Animal Control	36
Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG)	38
Franklin County Waste Management District.....	41

Griswold Memorial Library.....	42
Highway Department	47
The Mary Lyon Foundation, Inc.....	48
Municipal Light Plant Report Colrain Broadband.....	50
Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund	51
Police Department	52
Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District	53
Schools	
Colrain Central School	54
Mohawk Trail Regional School -- Principal Report	(a report was not submitted for FY21)
Special Education and Pupil Services Report	55
Superintendent of Schools	57
Franklin County Technical School District Committee	59

Colrain Transfer Station

Information/Hours

7 Charlemont Road

Saturday 8:00 am—4:00 pm

Summer hours 1st Tues in May—1st Tues in October

5:30 pm—7:30 pm

General Information

All trash bags must have stickers

13 gal. stickers—\$1.00/each 33 gal. stickers—\$2.00/each 34-55 gal. stickers--\$4.00/each

Stickers are available at the Transfer Station

Bulky Waste open 3rd week in April until it is full in October

General Recycling

Paper and Containers

Other Recyclables Collected

Scrap Metal	Free
Refrigerators, Freezers,	
Air Conditioners, contain CFC	\$15 each
Tires (up to 19")	\$5.00 each with no rims
Bulky Waste (non-construction)	\$5.00 to \$30.00
Monitors, TVs, electronics	\$5 - \$40 (pricing differs depending on equipment type)
Construction/Demolition	\$40/cubic yard - \$60 cu/yd. (\$20 minimum)
Textiles and books (clean)	Salvation Army Box

Hazardous Materials Collected

Motor oil	\$1.50/gal
Oil Filters	\$0.75/each
Auto Batteries	Yes
Anti-Freeze	\$1.00/gallon
Paint	\$5.00 per gallon, \$1.50 per qt. No Latex
Fluorescent	\$0.50/4 ft. or shorter or compacts, \$1 per 8 ft.
House Batteries	Yes
Ballasts	\$5.00 each
Thermometer	Free
Thermostats	Free
Switches	Free
20 lb. BBQ Tanks	\$5.00
1 lb. LP Tanks	\$1.00
Larger LP Tanks	\$10.00

Items not accepted: leaves/yard waste, Christmas Trees, Brush Textiles

Town Officers, Boards, & Committees – Contact Information

	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>E-mail Address</u>
Agricultural Commission Chair Haynes Turkle	624-0215	
Board of Assessors Director Alice Wozniak	624-3356	assessors@colrain-ma.gov
Building Inspector Shawn Kimberley	624-4728	buildinginspector@colrain-ma.gov
Colrain Broadband Michael Slowinski	624-3454	info@colrainbroadband.net
Conservation Commission Clerk Alice Wozniak	624-3356	assessors@colrain-ma.gov
Council on Aging Janice Barnes	624-8818	
Animal Control Officer Kyle Dragon	(413) 768-0983	kdragon@fcso-ma.us
Emergency Manager Director Jim Lyons	624-3940	
Finance Committee Chair, Doug MacLeay	624-3454	
Fire Chief Nick Anzuoni	624-5528	
Griswold Memorial Library, Director Chelsea Jordon-Mackley	624-3619	griswold@colrain-ma.gov
Highway Superintendent, Scott Sullivan	624-5500	highway@colrain-ma.gov
Historical Commission, Chair David Nims	624-3400	
Personnel Committee, Chair Ellen Weeks	624-5137	eweeks@umext.umass.edu
Planning Board, Chair Robert Slowinski		
Planning Board, Clerk	624-3356	assessor@colrain-ma.gov
Police Chief - Business Only Chris Lannon	624-3038	police@colrain-ma.gov
Tax Collector		taxcollector@colrain-ma.gov
Treasurer Paula Harrison	624-5549	treasurer@colrain-ma.gov
Town Accountant, David Fierro Jr.	Hill-Town Municipal Accounting & Computer Services	
Town Clerk Eileen Sauvageau	624-7100	townclerk@colrain-ma.gov
Select Board/Town Administrator Kevin Fox	624-6306	bos@colrain-ma.gov
Transfer Station	625-9012	
Zoning Board of Appeals Alice Wozniak, Clerk	624-3356	

Elected Town Officers

SELECT BOARD (Three-year term)

	<u>Term</u>
Thomas Griffin	2021 – 2024
Joe Kurland	2019 – 2022
Mike Slowinski	2020 – 2023

TOWN CLERK (Three-year term)

Eileen Sauvageau	2019 - 2022
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BOARD OF ASSESSORS (Three-year term)

Nicholas M. Anzuoni, Chair	2019 - 2022
James J. Slowinski	2021 - 2024
Dwight Harrison	2020 - 2023

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

(Three-year term)

Toby Bassett (resigned 10/21)	2020 - 2022
Kate Barrows	2020 - 2023
John Chivers	2021 - 2022

GRISWOLD MEMORIAL LIBRARY TRUSTEES (Three-year term)

Cheli Mennella	2020 - 2023
Jill Horton-Lyons	2020 - 2023
Michael Friedlander	2019 - 2022
Nancy Rich Turkle	2021 - 2024
Betsy Browning	2019 - 2022
Betty Johnson	2021 - 2024

CONSTABLES (Three-year term)

Michael Friedlander	2019 - 2022
Scott F. Sullivan	2020 - 2023
Melinda A. Herzig	2021 - 2024

MODERATOR (Three-year term)

Megan McDonough	2021 - 2024
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Select Board Appointments

Agricultural Commission		Term Expires
Joseph S. Hillman		2024
Haynes Turkle, Chair		2022
Jill Horton-Lyons		2024
Lorena Loubsky		2024
Scott Roberts		2024
Lori Shearer		2024
Brian Sullivan		2024
Valerie Finkel		2022
<i>Vacancy</i>		
Animal Control Officer		
Kyle Dragon		2022
Board of Health		
Michael Friedlander		2023
Timothy P. Slowinski		2023
Gary Ponce		2023
Nina Martin-Anzuoni, Chair		2022
Tim Hartnett		2022
<i>Vacancy</i>		
Board of Registrars		
Colleen Worden		2023
Eugenia M. Shearer		2023
Amy J. Herzig		2021
Paula Harrison		2023
Building Inspector (Three-year term)		
Shawn Kimberley		2022
Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Representative		
Michelle F. Hillman		2022
Cultural Council		
Inge Jockers, Chair		2024
Paula J. Harrison		2022
Nina Martin-Anzuoni		2025
Sharon Wickland-Shearer		2024
Donna Cusimano		2027
<i>Vacancy</i>		
Conservation Commission		
Clarence E. Wheeler, Chair		2023
Matthew G. Slowinski		2023
David W. Nims		2023

Carl A. Herzig	2023
William H. Dornbusch	2024
Marshall L. Denison, Jr.	2024
Benjamin Beas	2023

Council on Aging

Richard R. Herzig	2023
Amy J. Herzig	2024
Bing Waldsmith	2024
Carl Herzig	2022
Russell Barnes	2023
Janice Barnes, Chair	2023
Kathleen A. Phelps	2023
Larry Bezio	2023
Elaine Stanley	2024
Valeda Peters, Secretary	2023
Betty Johnson	2024
Emily Johnson	2024
<i>Vacancies (3)</i>	

Election Officers

Bobby Slowinski, Warden
Nina Martin-Anzuoni, Clerk

Emergency Management Director

Jim Lyons	2022
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Energy Committee

Peter Brooks, Chair	2022
Bing Waldsmith	2022
Brian Cady	2022
<i>Vacancies (5)</i>	

F.C. Solid Waste District Representative

Jonathan R. Lagreze	2022
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Fire Chief

Nicholas M. Anzuoni	2022
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Fire Station Building Committee

Douglas MacLeay	2022
Gary Ponce	2022
Kevin Worden II	2022
Nicholas M. Anzuoni	2022

Franklin County Technical School Committee

Nicole Slowinski	2024
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Franklin Regional Transit Authority Representative

Joseph Kurland	2022
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Franklin Regional Council of Governments Representative

Joe Kurland	2022
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Kevin Fox	2022
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Franklin Regional Planning Board Representative

Marybeth Chichester	2022
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Highway Superintendent

Scott F. Sullivan	2022
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Historic Commission

Robert P. Ramirez	2023
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Joan C. McQuade	2023
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David W. Nims, Chair	2023
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Beldin R. Merims	2022
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Harold (Guy) Wheeler	2023
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Sarah Davenport	2023
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Gypsy Moth Superintendent

Scott Sullivan	2022
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Administrative Assistant

Betsy Shuipis	2022
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Personnel Committee

Kathleen A. Phelps	2023
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Valeda R. Peters	2023
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Leslie Fraser	2023
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Ellen Weeks, Chair	2023
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Vacancy

Plumbing & Gas Inspector

Timothy J. Hartnett	2022
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Kyle Hartnett	2022
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Police Chief

Chris Lannon	2022
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Police Officers

James Hunkler	2021
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Derek Worden	2022
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Tarra Demsey	2022
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Heather Sonn	2022
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Regional Dog Program Representative

Mark Thibodeau	2022
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Solid Waste Management District Representative

Jonathan Lagreze	2022
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Alternate, Kevin Fox	2022
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Tree Warden

Vacant	
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Town Administrator

Kevin Fox	2023
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Town Accountant

David Fierro	2022
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Treasurer/Collector

Paula Harrison	2022
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Wiring Inspector

James Slowinski	2022
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Clinton Dodge	2022
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Zoning Board of Appeals

Marshall L. Denison	2023
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Howard R. Phelps	2023
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Rockwell J. Lively, Chair	2024
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Mark A. Thibodeau	2023
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John Peters	2023
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Moderator Appointments

Finance Committee

Douglas Macleay, Chair	2022
Rachel Glick	2024
Betty Ringwood	2024
Deborah Menard	2024
Howard Phelps	2024

Franklin County Technical School District Committee Member

Nicole Slowinski	2022
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Planning Board (a seven-member board)

Sara Wik	2023
Greg Olchowski	2022
Robert Slowinski, Chair	2024
Loren Feinstein	2022
Mary Beth Chichester	2024
Ben Eastman	2022

Vacancies (2)

Town Office Reports

Select Board Annual Report for 2021

Almost one year into the Covid-19 pandemic, 2021 began with Select Board and most other meetings taking place remotely, via conference call on the telephone. For the second year in a row, the Annual Town Meeting was held outdoors with masks required and people seated at least 6 feet away from those not in their family pods. By the middle of July, on the recommendation of the Board of Health, we were able to open town offices to the public and move most meetings indoors with strict mask requirements.

A host community agreement was approved with New England Craft Cultivators. This brings the number to four marijuana growers for which the town has approved host community agreements by the end of 2021. We hope that this will contribute to the economic growth and employment within the town.

The Personnel Committee began work on revising personnel policies with help from the Collins Center at UMass/Boston. Progress is continuing into 2022 on this effort.

The Select Board examined the proposed capital items for Colrain Central School (CCS) and found that a number of them required repairs rather than replacement. In particular, the fire alarm system is of the highest quality and had a perfect inspection. Spare parts are expected to be available well into the future. Going forward, the next capital item for CCS will be repaving the parking lot and fixing its drainage, set for FY2023.

Thanks to the sharp eyes of Mike Slowinski and the cooperation of the Franklin County Technical School District and the Town of Heath, an error has been corrected concerning students with Colrain zip codes but who are residents of Heath that were being billed to Colrain. We have recovered the difference for one year, expect to have more accurate billing in future years, and are examining whether it is possible to recover any overbilled amounts from past years.

Mark Thibodeau did not run for re-election to the Select Board and Thom Griffin was elected to replace him. We thank Mark for his years of service and thank Thom for his willingness to “walk” for office. Our town depends on citizens being willing to serve the community and appreciate those who have volunteered for our boards and committees. There are numerous vacant positions which you can find in the Boards and Committees section of our town website, <https://colrain-ma.gov>.

Funds donated for the restoration of the Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge were approved to erect two signs at the bridge site: one with historical information about the bridge and the other with a poem by the late Carol Purington designed by Robin Brooks.

The state announced that towns that wish to opt out of the mosquito spraying program must submit an alternative plan and/or join a mosquito control district. The Select Board, with input from the Board of Health, decided that since our region has a low risk of mosquito borne diseases that the cost of joining a mosquito control district would not be cost effective. The Select Board recommended that residents get rid of standing water to reduce the risk of breeding mosquitoes.

Some residents brought complaints to the Select Board regarding more than one unregistered vehicle stored on various properties in violation of the town’s bylaws. The board decided with advice of town counsel that when a formal written complaint is made a letter will be sent to the property owner who must clean up the property or be fined. The by-law provides, however, that the owner may apply for a permit, which the Select Board may

grant with conditions after holding a public hearing to which abutters are invited. It is the preference of the Select Board to have properties cleaned up rather than to levy fines whenever possible, and if owners present the Board with cleanup plans and show progress, the board will exercise forbearance. So far one permit has been issued for up to four unregistered vehicles while they are being actively prepared for demolition derby competitions. Other property owners have begun cleaning up their properties or working on their cleanup plans. Residents should know that salvage companies will pay to take junk vehicles away.

The Select Board approved the expenditure of funds from the Veteran's Memorial Park Donation Fund to create a Veteran's Memorial Park next to the town common as part of the redesign of the town center project. Also, a Haunting Halloween event was approved at the Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge to the delight of many townspeople who attended.

Broadband installation was substantially completed by the end of 2021 with at least 630 homes hooked up or better than 70%. We thank the broadband MLP Co-chairs Michael Shuipis and Kevin Fox for shepherding us through the installation process and welcome Select Board member Michael Slowinski for agreeing to take over the administration of the municipally-owned Colrain Broadband enterprise.

Joe Kurland

Chair, Colrain Select Board

Board of Assessors

The New Year started out with the Assessors conducting inspections of building permits, demolitions and properties on the town's cyclical inspection list. The Department of Revenue (DOR) requires the Assessors of Massachusetts to visit every property in each town once every ten years. About a decade ago, the Assessors started a rotation of visiting the properties themselves rather than hiring an outside contractor at a substantial fee to the town. Since many of the contractors are from outside the area, the board felt that keeping the work "in house" would give them a better handle on errors for the future.

In the spring election, Jim Slowinski won re-election to the Board of Assessors. This is Jim's fifth term as an Assessor. The Assessors' office is the only elected board that is required within two years of taking office to successfully complete a 30 hour course and pass an examination. Failure to do so jeopardizes the DOR approval of the town's tax rate.

In Fiscal Year 2021, the office granted 2 abatements in the amount of \$68,644 of value which translates into \$1,452.51 of tax dollars. There was one appeal filed at the Massachusetts Appellate Tax Board (ATB) for Fiscal Year 2021.

Most properties in town have been inspected over the last few years, which have greatly reduced our number of abatements. This does not mean that the property record cards are flawless-some can go undetected for years. We encourage all residents to check the information on their property record cards periodically, especially after any building permit or demolition work has been completed.

In October, we set our Fiscal Year 2022 tax rate at \$21.16/per \$1,000.00 of valuation. This was a \$.68 decrease from FY21 due to a significant increase in the town's overall property assessments.

The Colrain Fire District tax rate for Fiscal Year 2022 was \$4.61/per \$1,000.00 of valuation.

The Town of Colrain's parcel count, total assessed values for each major class of properties and their percentage of the Levy Limit is as follows:

Classification	Valuation	%
Residential [1,199 parcels]	\$161,879,760	84.2519
Commercial [195 parcels]	\$ 5,826,805	3.0326
Industrial [15 parcels]	\$ 3,628,500	1.8885
Personal Property [38 accounts]	\$ 20,802,700	10.8270
Total amount of 2022 Property Tax Levy	\$192,137,765	100.00%

Our maps and property record cards are available online on the town's website under Town Office, the Assessors page at www.colrain-ma.gov. Please check them out; this is another way to verify the accuracy of your assessments.

There are several property tax exemptions for the elderly varying in amounts from \$175 to \$500. Each exemption is based on income guidelines and as economic times become more difficult, we encourage the elderly to contact the office to see whether you may qualify. Any information that is provided to qualify for these exemptions is strictly confidential and is not available to the general public. Also available are exemptions for the blind and veterans.

We want the general public to know that assessing is a very complicated field and the DOR sets forth very strict guidelines with which our office must comply. With that said, our office is open to the public for any questions Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-4:00 PM and our board typically meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 8:00 AM in the Assessor's office. If you would like to set up an appointment to meet with the Board, please call the office at (413) 624-3356 since meeting times sometimes change due to scheduling conflicts.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Assessors

Nicholas Anzuoni, Chairman

James Slowinski

Dwight Harrison

Alice Wozniak, MAA & Director of Assessing

Town Clerk

Marriages	7
Deaths	10
Births	15

Dog Licenses

Female (not spayed)	27
Male (not neutered)	24
Neutered	156
Spayed	144
Total number of licensed dogs	348

Total number of dogs unlicensed with history on dog list is 65.

As this is my last year as town clerk, I would like to thank all those in the town office who assisted me. A special thanks to the conscientious election workers without whom we could not have experienced seamless elections during a pandemic. It takes a village.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen D. Sauvageau
Town Clerk

Town Accountant Report

Town of Colrain

Annual Report of Revenues 6/30/21

	Account Name	Allocated		Revenue	
Fund: 01 - General Fund					
	Personal Property 2021	-\$436,900.47		\$436,462.18	
	Real Estate Taxes 2021	-\$3,395,031.18		\$3,253,058.47	
	Last Mile Broadband Grant	\$0.00		\$0.00	
	Misc Non Recurring Rev	\$0.00		\$84,465.45	
	Select Board Liquor Licenses	\$0.00		\$1,950.00	
	Assessors Departmental Fees	\$0.00		\$75.00	
	FY20 Personal Property Revenue	\$0.00		\$334.22	
	Real Estate Taxes 2015	\$0.00		\$0.00	
	FY20 Real Estate Revenue	\$0.00		\$95,448.88	
	Tax Liens Redeemed	\$0.00		\$29,415.46	
	Tax Foreclosures	\$0.00		\$27,244.01	
	Motor Vehicle Excise Prior Years	\$0.00		\$10.94	
	Motor Vehicle Excise 2010	\$0.00		\$75.00	
	Motor Vehicle Excise 2011	\$0.00		\$43.75	
	Motor Vehicle Excise 2015	\$0.00		\$12.71	
	Motor Vehicle Excise 2016	\$0.00		\$194.17	
	Motor Vehicle Excise 2017	\$0.00		\$105.53	
	Motor Vehicle Excise 2018	\$0.00		\$985.47	
	Motor Vehicle Excise 2019	\$0.00		\$3,741.82	
	FY20 Motor Vehicle Excise	\$0.00		\$38,916.99	
	Motor Vehicle Excise 2021	-\$137,500.00		\$171,973.10	
	Penalties & Int on Taxes	-\$10,000.00		\$10,162.90	
	Penalties & Int on Excise	\$0.00		\$2,573.12	
	Penalties & Int on Tax Liens	\$0.00		\$3,354.84	
	Collector Departmental Fees	\$0.00		\$18,012.18	
	Collector MARK Registry Fines	\$0.00		\$2,460.00	
	CS State Owned Land	-\$43,347.00		\$43,347.00	
	CS Unrestricted Govt Aid	-\$306,467.00		\$306,467.00	
	CS Veterans Benefits	\$0.00		\$5,584.00	
	CS Exempt VBS and Elderly	-\$10,729.00		\$3,378.00	
	CS Assess MV Nonrenewal	\$1,720.00		-\$1,521.50	
	CS Assess Air Pollution District	\$467.00		-\$427.00	
	CS Assess Regional Transportation	\$341.00		-\$341.00	
	Oth. State Revenues	\$0.00		\$340.32	
	Local Occupancy Tax Revenue	\$0.00		\$12,127.66	
	RMV Fines	-\$6,000.00		\$4,245.88	
	Earnings on Investments	-\$1,000.00		\$541.08	
	Clerk Fees	\$0.00		\$981.80	
	Police Departmental Fees	\$0.00		\$2,580.00	
	Building Permits	-\$5,000.00		\$4,563.00	
	Highway Curb Cut Fees	\$0.00		\$125.00	
	Transfer Station Disposal Fees	-\$36,600.00		\$7,888.00	
	Transfer Station Bag Fees	\$0.00		\$41,131.00	
	Transfer Station FCSWMD Recycling	\$0.00		\$748.86	
	Other Financing Sources	\$0.00		\$68,653.93	
	Total Budget		-\$4,386,046.65	Total Fund Revenue	\$4,681,489.22

	Account Name	Allocated		Revenue	
Fund: 22 - 53E1/2 Revolving					
	Zoning 53E1/2			\$1,250.00	
	Fire Inspection Fees 53E1/2 Revolving			\$1,645.00	
	Plumbing Permit Fees 53E1/2 Revolving			\$2,500.00	
	Electrical Permits 53E1/2 Revolving			\$2,125.00	
	Dog License Fees 53E1/2 Revolving			\$2,021.00	
				Total Fund Revenue	\$9,541.00
Fund: 23 - Other Revolving					
	Tax Title Revolving 53E1/2			\$7,500.25	
				Total Fund Revenue	\$7,500.25
Fund: 24 - Gifts					
	Taxpayer in Need of Relief Fund			\$10,000.00	
	Police Donations			\$500.00	
	Fire Gifts and Donations			\$1,725.00	
	Veterans Memorial Park Donations			\$11,436.34	
	Library Donations			\$3,000.00	
				Total Fund Revenue	\$26,661.34
Fund: 25 - Other Special Revenue					
	SSRP Payments			\$7.29	
	SSRP Earnings on Investments			\$2.97	
	Center for Tech and Civic Life Grant			\$0.00	
	Conservation 53G Advertising Fees			\$1,220.45	
	Planning Board 53G Advertising Fees			\$1,527.96	
				Total Fund Revenue	\$2,758.67
Fund: 27 - Federal Grants					
	ARPA Funds 2021			\$86,927.23	
	Cares Act Revenue			\$81,312.23	
	\$7500.00 FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant			-\$7,488.18	
				Total Fund Revenue	\$160,751.28
Fund: 28 - State Grants					
	Last Mile Broadband Grant			\$4,376.24	
	FY18 Bridge Grant \$1000000 Awarded			\$159,884.00	
	Mass Works 2017			\$119,999.38	
	DOT Small Bridge Grant-Call Road			\$372,714.80	
	Clerk Extended Polling Hours			\$598.26	
	Ballot Box via Cares Act Revenue			\$882.00	
	Center for Tech and Civic Life Grant			\$5,000.00	
	FY20 EMPG Grant \$2700.00 awarded			\$2,700.00	
	Emergency Management Grant Contract Number PDMC1713COLRAIN00000			\$7,488.18	
	Small Bridge Grant FY18			\$93,876.33	
	MA Recycling Dividends Program			\$4,200.00	
	Council on Aging Formula Grant			\$4,652.25	
	State Aid to Public Libraries (LIG/MEG)			\$3,778.30	
	MMARS \$8000.00 Grant Massachusetts Library Commission LS-00-16-0022-18			\$5,000.00	
	Colrain Cultural Council			\$4,903.47	
	Cultural Council Earnings on Investments			\$60.07	
				Total Fund Revenue	\$790,113.28

	Account Name	Allocated		Revenue	
Fund: 30 - Chapter 90					
	Chapter 90 Revenue			\$322,655.11	
				Total Fund Revenue	\$322,655.11
Fund: 50 - Broadband Network Enterprise					
	Broadband Revenue			\$29,330.21	
				Total Fund Revenue	\$29,330.21
Fund: 80 - Trust					
	General Stabilization Earnings on Investments			\$475.08	
	OPEB Trust Earnings on Investments			\$67,537.44	
	Davenport Relief Earnings on Investments			\$12.27	
	Audit Stabilization Earnings on Investments			-\$34.51	
	Assessors Stabilization Earnings on Investments			\$477.27	
	Assessors Stabilization Interfund Transfers In			\$3,000.00	
	Technology Stabilization Earnings on Investments			\$417.90	
	Police Vehicle Stabilization Earnings on Investments			\$739.86	
	Police Stabilization Interfund Transfer In			\$15,000.00	
	Fire Vehicle Stabilization Earnings on Investments			\$4,009.34	
	Fire Stabilization Interfund Transfers In			\$20,000.00	
	Quintas Allen Fund Contributions			\$2,740.33	
	Highway Vehicle Stabilization Earnings on Investments			\$3,249.44	
	Highway Stabilization Interfund Transfer In			\$17,000.00	
	Transfer Station Stabilization Earnings on Investments			\$637.74	
	Meeting House Cem. Earnings on Investments			\$5.28	
	E. Colrain Cem. Earnings on Investments			\$30.59	
	Miller Dennison Cem. Earnings on Investments			\$5.28	
	A. Browning Lot Cem. Earnings on Investments			\$5.28	
	Grace A. Tenney Cem. Earnings on Investments			\$6.33	
	Martha Babbitt Cem. Earnings on Investments			\$0.19	
	Griswold Library Capital Stabilization Interest			\$1,449.44	
	Griswold Library Capital Stabilization Fund			\$15,000.00	
				Total Fund Revenue	\$151,764.55

Annual Report of Expenses 6/30/21

Account Name	Budget	Expended
Fund: 01 - General Fund		
Moderator Stipend	\$102.00	-\$102.00
Moderator Other Expenses	\$60.00	\$0.00
Personnel Committee Expenses	\$100.00	\$0.00
Select Board Salaries	\$7,466.64	-\$6,594.00
Select Board Advertising	\$1,000.00	-\$122.82
Select Board Other Expenses	\$1,000.00	-\$974.60
Town Coordinator	\$81,600.00	-\$81,600.00
Town Coordinator Other Expenses	\$500.00	-\$102.02
Finance Committee Expenses	\$330.00	\$0.00
Reserve Fund	\$76.00	\$0.00
Accounting Software	\$3,619.00	-\$3,619.00
Accounting Services	\$20,394.00	-\$20,394.00
Director of Assessing Salary	\$40,886.00	-\$40,886.00
Assessors Stipends	\$9,609.00	-\$9,609.00
Assessors Mapping	\$0.00	\$0.00
Assessors Expenses	\$17,305.00	-\$14,670.38
Treasurer/Collector Salary	\$51,492.00	-\$50,472.00
Tax Title Custodian	\$5,000.00	-\$333.77
Treasurers Prof Services & Payroll	\$3,500.00	-\$3,315.80
Treasurer Software	\$7,208.00	-\$6,879.22
Treasurer Postage	\$3,500.00	-\$3,465.81
Treasurer Professional Development	\$1,135.00	-\$197.00
Treasurers Supplies	\$3,600.00	-\$4,469.54
Treasurers Business Travel	\$850.00	-\$122.76
Treasurers Licenses/Dues	\$60.00	-\$50.00
Administrative Assistant Wages	\$28,113.00	-\$28,113.95
Boards & Committee Clerical	\$3,441.85	-\$3,441.85
Constable	\$870.00	-\$275.40
Town Office Electricity	\$3,400.00	-\$2,944.74
Heating	\$3,000.00	-\$1,497.45
Town Hall Repairs and Maintenance	\$2,500.00	-\$2,414.48
Town Hall Grounds	\$3,000.00	-\$1,975.00
Town Hall Security	\$400.00	-\$318.00
Town Hall Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00	-\$828.28
Town Hall Forms Supplies and Machinery	\$3,100.00	-\$3,073.02
Town Hall Internet	\$2,400.00	-\$1,999.50
Website Support	\$1,080.00	-\$1,080.00
IT Support/Licensing	\$16,165.00	-\$15,674.00
Copier Leases	\$3,278.00	-\$3,027.72
Office Postage	\$1,200.00	-\$471.00
Office Telephone	\$4,609.77	-\$4,609.77
Office Professional Development	\$500.00	\$0.00
Town Counsel	\$10,390.74	-\$10,390.74
Tax Title Taking	\$10,000.00	-\$10,000.00
Town Clerk Salary	\$21,923.00	-\$21,923.00
Clerk Election/Registrar Workers	\$4,500.00	-\$3,684.92
Clerk Other Expense	\$3,226.00	-\$2,162.90
Conservation Commission Expenses	\$100.00	-\$93.00
Planning Board Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Town Office Custodian	\$4,865.00	-\$4,865.00
Town Reports	\$800.00	-\$150.00
Police Chief Salary	\$30,498.00	-\$30,824.10
Police Salaries	\$71,077.00	-\$68,263.00
Police Administration	\$0.00	\$0.00

Account Name	Budget	Expended
Police Training	\$0.00	\$0.00
Police Vehicle Maintenance	\$4,000.00	-\$3,204.31
Police Training	\$6,000.00	-\$4,263.58
Police Office Expense	\$1,800.00	-\$1,433.49
Police Fuel	\$6,820.00	-\$4,418.30
Police Equipment	\$15,130.00	-\$11,303.69
Fire Chief Salary	\$6,120.00	-\$6,120.00
Fire Administrative Assistant	\$2,218.00	-\$2,175.18
Firefighter Salaries	\$32,433.00	-\$36,700.16
Fire Officer Stipends	\$2,634.00	-\$2,634.00
Fire Electricity	\$5,400.00	-\$5,440.35
Fire Building Heat	\$4,900.00	-\$3,271.46
Fire Building Maintenance	\$5,000.00	-\$2,901.12
Fire Vehicle Maintenance	\$14,000.00	-\$12,115.45
Fire Equipment Maintenance	\$29,150.00	-\$30,375.47
Fire Prof Services	\$4,000.00	-\$3,000.00
Fire Software Technology	\$1,400.00	-\$1,355.25
Fire Telephone/Internet	\$2,800.00	-\$1,926.34
Fire Radio Maintenance	\$2,982.00	-\$2,981.02
Fire Training	\$10,000.00	-\$4,742.00
Fire Supplies	\$750.00	-\$738.40
Fire Fuel	\$1,500.00	-\$1,507.82
Title IV Matching	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fire Licenses/Dues	\$750.00	-\$325.00
Building Inspector Salary	\$8,707.00	-\$8,707.00
Building Inspector Software	\$3,445.00	-\$3,445.00
Building Inspector Supplies	\$200.00	\$0.00
Building Inspector Dues/Certification	\$870.00	\$0.00
Emergency Management Stipend	\$1,784.00	-\$1,784.00
Emergency Management Expenses	\$2,700.00	-\$2,500.00
FRCOG REPC Assessment	\$150.00	-\$150.00
Animal Control Assessment	\$5,414.00	-\$5,414.00
Inspector of Animals Expense	\$200.00	\$0.00
Franklin Regional Dog Assessment	\$350.00	-\$350.00
Tree Warden Stipend	\$52.00	-\$52.00
School Committee Stipend	\$900.00	-\$600.00
Mohawk Trail Regional Assessment	\$2,070,515.00	-\$2,070,484.00
Mohawk Trail Regional Capital	\$57,852.00	-\$57,851.00
Franklin County Technical Assessment	\$338,602.00	-\$338,602.00
Franklin County Technical Capital	\$5,090.00	-\$5,089.60
Highway Salaries	\$282,682.00	-\$214,239.84
Highway Overtime	\$0.00	-\$21,065.40
Highway Electricity	\$0.00	\$0.00
Highway Building Maintenance	\$20,900.00	-\$20,422.02
Highway Machinery Maintenance	\$43,000.00	-\$42,161.80
Highway Bridge Expense	\$2,000.00	-\$1,240.78
Highway DOT Physicals/Drug & Alcohol Screening	\$2,000.00	-\$785.00
Highway Fuel	\$51,550.00	-\$24,058.98
Highway Roadway & Public Works Supplies	\$111,011.00	-\$111,000.89
Winter Equip Maintenance	\$7,300.00	-\$10,512.35
Winter Salt	\$39,500.50	-\$30,580.12
Winter Sand	\$39,600.50	-\$45,278.66
Street Lights	\$5,300.00	-\$4,842.17
Transfer Station Salaries	\$19,206.00	-\$15,851.76
Transfer Station Expenses	\$69,438.00	-\$54,260.84
Solid Waste District Assessment	\$6,200.00	-\$6,199.56
Cemetery Maintenance	\$750.00	-\$700.00
Animal Inspector	\$391.00	\$0.00
Board of Health Wages	\$500.00	\$0.00
Board of Health Expense	\$1,175.00	-\$325.00

Account Name	Budget	Expended
Council on Aging Food & Food Services	\$0.00	-\$2,341.53
Council on Aging Expenses	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
Veterans Services District Assessment	\$3,358.00	-\$3,358.33
Veterans District (Chapter 115)	\$7,500.00	-\$6,893.58
Librarian Director Wages	\$34,391.00	-\$34,390.72
Library Substitute	\$366.00	\$0.00
Assistant Library Director Wages	\$9,921.00	-\$9,738.75
Library Electricity	\$2,500.00	-\$1,601.53
Library Building Heat	\$3,300.00	-\$1,862.76
Library Other Utilities	\$136.00	-\$166.00
Library Building Maintenance	\$4,250.00	-\$9,605.36
Library Programming	\$0.00	-\$269.99
Library Technology/Online Services	\$4,926.00	-\$3,601.00
Library Professional Development	\$1,000.00	-\$418.50
Library Supplies	\$1,350.00	-\$1,818.97
Cleaning	\$2,600.00	-\$735.00
Library Books	\$16,375.00	-\$15,232.21
Library Business Travel	\$500.00	\$0.00
Historical Commission Expenses	\$100.00	\$0.00
Memorial Day Celebration	\$700.00	-\$626.40
LT Debt Principle Payments	\$24,667.00	-\$24,667.00
LT Debt Interest Payments	\$7,709.00	-\$7,708.28
Interest on Short Term Debt	\$63,100.00	-\$44,231.40
FRCOG Procurement Services Assessment	\$2,764.00	-\$2,725.50
FRCOG Core Assessment	\$11,383.00	-\$11,383.00
Franklin Regional Retirement Assessment	\$97,616.00	-\$95,828.00
Employer Contr. Group Health Insurance	\$123,587.00	-\$114,638.94
Property & Casualty Insurance	\$48,300.00	-\$44,159.00
VFIS	\$7,000.00	-\$7,449.00
Employee Surety & Bonds	\$1,700.00	-\$1,300.00
	Total Budget	Total Expended
	\$4,357,051.00	\$4,160,317.45
Fund: 02 - Special Articles & Appropriations		
STM 6/15 Art 2 & 3 3 Main Road Property Acquisition		-\$15,000.00
OPEB Actuarial and Consulting		-\$5,700.00
Security System		\$0.00
FY20 Financial Audit FY21 Art 29 Revised 9/24/20 from FY19 Audit		-\$14,000.00
Flooring & Related Costs FY21 Art 27		-\$2,739.00
Network Server FY21 Art 26		-\$9,365.43
I/T Upgrades FY20 Art 25		-\$4,243.75
Restore Books FY20 Art 22		-\$2,000.00
Restoration & Preservation of Town Records FY21 Art 23		-\$1,775.00
Records Management Project FY21 Art 28		-\$16,248.00
Town Office Repairs FY2016		-\$359.98
ATM 5/17 Art31 TH Carpet & Workstations		-\$14,430.75
Outside Detail Administrative Stipend		-\$1,870.00
Police Fire Carport FY21 Art 30		-\$6,250.00
FY21 12.17.20 STM Police Radio Upgrade Art 2		\$0.00
FY21 12.17.20 STM Art 1 Pay Previous Year Bill		-\$4,840.00
School Committee Stipends		\$0.00
Highway Plows FY21 Art 25		-\$16,300.00
Dodge 5500 FY21 Art 24		-\$102,374.46
Two Highway Plows FY21 Art 25		\$0.00
Coop for Public Health Program Assessment		-\$8,415.00
Coop For Health FY20 Art 15		-\$2,805.00
ATM 5/17 Art33 Library Oil Tank Removal		\$0.00
Carryover FY20 Short Term Interest		\$0.00
Transfer to Highway Stabilization		-\$17,000.00
Transfer to Police Stabilization		-\$15,000.00
Assessors Stabilization		-\$3,000.00

Account Name	Budget	Expended	
Fire Stabilization		-\$20,000.00	
Library Stabilization		-\$15,000.00	
		Total Expended	-\$298,716.37
Fund: 22 - 53E1/2 Revolving			
Zoning 53E1/2		-\$1,179.97	
Fire Insp. 53E1/2 Stipends		-\$1,470.00	
Plumbing Insp. 53E1/2 Stipends		-\$2,460.00	
Electrical Insp. 53E1/2 Stipends		-\$2,090.00	
Animal Control 53E1/2 Other. Expenses		-\$12.00	
Animal Control 53E1/2 Interfund Trans Out		-\$91.86	
		Total Expended	-\$7,303.83
Fund: 23 - Other Revolving			
Tax Title 53E1/2		-\$8,613.57	
		Total Expended	-\$8,613.57
Fund: 24 - Gifts			
Veterans Memorial Park Expenses		-\$3,533.00	
		Total Expended	-\$3,533.00
Fund: 25 - Other Special Revenue			
COVID-19 Cares Act Reimbursable Expenses		-\$7,596.45	
Miscellaneous Expenses		-\$4,705.27	
Conservation 53G Public Hearing Advertising		-\$642.28	
Planning Board 53G Public Hearing Advertising		-\$1,092.26	
		Total Expended	-\$14,036.26
Fund: 27 - Federal Grants			
ARPA Funds 2021		\$0.00	
Fema Hazard Mitigation Grant \$7500.00		\$7,488.18	
Cares Act Expenditures		-\$78,337.59	
CDBG Grant Management Services		-\$5.39	
		Total Expended	-\$70,854.80
Fund: 28 - State Grants			
Last Mile Broadband Grant		-\$1,769,667.01	
CSMP Federal Septic Loan Payments		-\$21,843.74	
OFU WPAT Closed		-\$500.00	
2017 Community Compact IT Database Software		-\$889.00	
Solarize Mass Program Supplies		-\$85.00	
2018 Community Compact Farmers Market		-\$3,274.33	
Green Communities Grant		-\$1,260.00	
Services Purchased MVP		-\$13.47	
2017 Mass Works		-\$255,502.53	
DOT Small Bridge Grant-Call Road		-\$173,974.87	
Ballot Box via Cares Act Expenses		-\$882.00	
Emergency Management Grant Contract Number PDMC1713COLRAIN00000		-\$7,488.18	
MA Recycling Dividends Program Capital		-\$1,301.27	
COA Formula Grant Expenses		-\$4,652.25	
Miscellaneous Purchases Massachusetts Library Commission		-\$9,200.00	
Colrain Local Cultural Council Programs		-\$1,616.19	
		Total Expended	-\$2,252,149.84
Fund: 30 - Chapter 90			
Mass Ch90 Fiscal 2016 Paving Projects		-\$1,797.93	
Chapter 90 Expenses		-\$127,862.83	
		Total Expended	-\$129,660.76
Fund: 50 - Broadband Network Enterprise			

	Account Name	Budget		Expended	
	Electric			-\$2,186.72	
	Middle Mile Access Fee			-\$2,300.00	
	ISP Charge - 1 Gbps Internet			-\$12,231.71	
	ISP Charges Phone Only			-\$1,895.81	
	Static IPs			-\$89.85	
	Stripe Fees			-\$768.27	
	Annual Pole Attachment Licensing Fee			-\$13,234.40	
	Pole Bonding Fee			-\$9,000.00	
	Utility Charges/Services Purchased			-\$3,320.06	
	Repairs and Maintenance			-\$187.43	
	Miscellaneous			-\$2,264.38	
				Total Expended	-\$47,478.63
Fund: 80 - Trust					
	Audit Stab Interfund Transfers Out			-\$5,000.00	
	Police Vehicle Stab Interfund Transfers Out			-\$32,195.00	
	Fire Vehicle Stab Interfund Transfers Out			-\$4,848.00	
				Total Expended	-\$42,043.00
				Total	-\$7,034,707.51

Colrain

**Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups
as of June 30, 2021
(Unaudited)**

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Groups	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Internal Services	Trust and Agency	Long-term Debt	
<u>ASSETS</u>								
Cash and cash equivalents	759,939.74	1,206,358.83	61,354.89	(18,148.42)		1,182,453.28		3,191,958.32
Investments								0.00
Receivables:								
Personal property taxes	38,920.88							38,920.88
Real estate taxes	128,494.72							128,494.72
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	(70,167.94)							(70,167.94)
Tax liens	59,719.10							59,719.10
Deferred taxes	10,629.05							10,629.05
Motor vehicle excise	28,056.06							28,056.06
Foreclosures/Possessions	111,756.08							111,756.08
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds							221,998.00	221,998.00
Amounts to be provided - vacation/sick leave								0.00
Total Assets	<u>1,067,347.69</u>	<u>1,206,358.83</u>	<u>61,354.89</u>	<u>(18,148.42)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,182,453.28</u>	<u>221,998.00</u>	<u>3,721,364.27</u>

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Groups	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Internal Services	Trust and Agency	Long-term Debt	
<u>LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</u>								
Liabilities:								
Warrants payable								0.00
Accounts payable	2,878.08							2,878.08
Accrued payroll	12,739.88							12,739.88
Withholdings	1,309.56							1,309.56
Deferred revenue:								
Real and personal property taxes	97,247.66							97,247.66
Tax liens								0.00
Deferred taxes	70,348.15							70,348.15
Foreclosures/Possessions	111,756.08							111,756.08
Motor vehicle excise	28,056.06							28,056.06
Tailings	731.26							731.26
IBNR								0.00
Agency Funds						19,029.24		19,029.24
Notes payable		2,400,000.00						2,400,000.00
Bonds payable							221,998.00	221,998.00
Vacation and sick leave liability								0.00
Total Liabilities	<u>325,066.73</u>	<u>2,400,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>19,029.24</u>	<u>221,998.00</u>	<u>2,966,093.97</u>
Fund Equity:								
Reserved for encumbrances								0.00
Reserved for continuing appropriations	46,087.34							46,087.34
Undesignated fund balance	696,193.62	(1,193,641.17)	61,354.89	(18,148.42)		1,163,424.04		709,182.96
Unreserved retained earnings								0.00
Investment in capital assets								0.00
Total Fund Equity	<u>742,280.96</u>	<u>(1,193,641.17)</u>	<u>61,354.89</u>	<u>(18,148.42)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,163,424.04</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>755,270.30</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	<u>1,067,347.69</u>	<u>1,206,358.83</u>	<u>61,354.89</u>	<u>(18,148.42)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,182,453.28</u>	<u>221,998.00</u>	<u>3,721,364.27</u>

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT FY2021

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

REAL ESTATE

2021	Real Estate	\$ 3,395,031.56
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (3,266,477.74)
	Abatements/Exemptions	\$ (16,662.01)
	Refunds	\$ 14,496.53
	Transfer to Tax Title	\$ (7,478.00)
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 118,910.34</u>
2020	Real Estate forwarded from June 30, 2020	\$ 106,107.43
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (96,851.54)
	Abatements/Exemptions	\$ (0.00)
	Refunds	\$ 919.30
	Transfer to Tax Title	\$ 0.00
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 10,175.19</u>

PERSONAL PROPERTY

2021	Personal Property	\$ 436,900.45
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (436,519.90)
	Abatements	\$ (0.00)
	Refunds	\$ 0.00
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 380.55</u>
2020	Personal Property forward from June 30, 2020	\$ 20,865.10
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (334.22)
	Abatements	\$ (0.00)
	Refunds	\$ 0.00
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 20,530.88</u>
2019	Personal Property forward from June 30, 2020	\$ 17,951.73
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (0.00)
	Abatements	\$ (0.00)
	Refunds	\$ 0.00
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 17,951.73</u>

MOTOR VEHICLE AND TRAILER EXCISE

2021	Motor Vehicle	\$ 206,943.55
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (172,621.78)
	Refunds	\$ 727.07

	Abatements	\$ (1,796.50)
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 33,252.34</u>
2020	Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$ 46,789.80
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (40,596.20)
	Refunds	\$ 1,064.03
	Abatements	<u>\$ (1,044.03)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 6,213.60</u>
2019	Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$ 7,062.95
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (3,788.07)
	Refunds	\$ 46.25
	Abatements	<u>\$ (46.25)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 3,274.88</u>
2018	Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$ 2,857.65
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (985.47)
	Refunds	\$ 0.00
	Adjustment	\$ (1.41)
	Abatements	<u>\$ (0.00)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 1,870.77</u>
2017	Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$ 1,332.61
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (105.53)
	Refunds	\$ 0.00
	Abatements	<u>\$ (0.00)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 1,227.08</u>
2016	Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$ 997.01
	Payments to Treasurer	\$ (194.17)
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 802.84</u>
2015	Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$ 907.85
	Payments to Treasurer	<u>\$ (12.71)</u>
	Balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 895.14</u>

TREASURER'S REPORT

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Location of Funds:

People's Bank	SSRP	\$	41,097.20
People's Bank	Covered Bridge	\$	22,452.81
People's Bank	Deputy Collector	\$	9.39
MMDT	General	\$	2,220.56
MMDT	Arts' Council	\$	5,387.94
Unibank	General	\$	994,760.02
Unibank	Payables	\$	Closed
Unibank	Payroll 2015	\$	5,516.55
Unibank	AP 2015	\$	(78,211.56)
Unibank	Dept. Online	\$	230.58
Unibank	Collector Online	\$	11.21
Unibank	Veterans Memorial Park	\$	7,878.34
Unibank	Small Bridges	\$	Closed
Unibank (non-interest bearing)	Library LSTA Grant	\$	4,200.00
Unibank (non-interest bearing)	Last Mile	\$	960,143.17
Greenfield Co-operative Bank	General	\$	70,277.73
Greenfield Co-operative Bank	Escrow Atlantic	\$	

Balance as of June 30, 2021 \$ 2,035,973.94

TRUST FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Location of Funds:

People's United Bank		
Martha Babbitt Fund	\$	763.64
MMDT		
Stabilization Fund	\$	412,680.40
Bartholomew		
Meetinghouse Cemetery Fund	\$	191.22
Annie Browning Trust Fund	\$	191.22
Miller-Denison Lots	\$	191.22
Grace A Teney Fund	\$	229.45
East Colrain Cemetery Fund	\$	1,109.05
Davenport Relief Fund	\$	6,553.08
Stabilization Assessors Fund	\$	17,082.74
Stabilization Audit Fund	\$	576.69
Stabilization Fire Fund	\$	145,663.96
Stabilization General	\$	0.00
Stabilization Griswold Library	\$	51,446.48
Stabilization Highway Fund	\$	116,560.79

Stabilization Police Vehicle/Equipment	\$ 37,486.52
Stabilization Technology	\$ 15,151.19
Stabilization Transfer Station	<u>\$ 23,122.35</u>

Total Trust Funds June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 829,000.00</u>
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BROADBAND ENTERPRISE FUND
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Unibank	
Colrain Broadband	\$857.85

OPEB FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Location of Funds:

Bartholomew	
OPEB Fund	\$ 339,316.00

TAX TITLE REVOLVING FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Tax Title Revolving Fund	
Beginning Balance as of 7-1-21	\$ 42,517.60
Revenue	\$ 7,500.25
Expenditures	<u>\$ (8,613.57)</u>
Ending Balance as of 6-30-21	<u>\$ 41,404.28</u>

Annual Reports

Agricultural Commission

Commission Membership

Haynes Turkle – Chair

Valerie Finkel

Joseph Hillman

Lorena Loubsky

Jill Horton-Lyons

Scott Roberts

Lori Shearer

Brian Sullivan

Commission Objective

The Colrain Agricultural Commission (Ag Com) is an appointed standing town committee whose members represent the farming community and are primarily responsible for encouraging the pursuit of agriculture; promoting agricultural-based economic opportunities; and preserving, revitalizing, and sustaining the communities' agricultural businesses and lands.

Since March 2020 the Ag Com has not met in person, due to COVID, and we put on hold some of our on-going work such as a farm census, including tracking farm loss, and development of the local farms page on the town website. While the commission is currently on hiatus, members are available on an as needed basis to address issues that may arise.

Summary of 2021 accomplishment and activities

In 2020 the Ag Com worked with FRCOG on behalf of the Colrain Select board to participate in a Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program. The scope of work agreed with FRCOG for this grant included creating a local marketing campaign to inform consumers, producers and food sellers in Colrain about the SNAP and HIP programs (i.e., federal assistance programs that help subsidize food budgets for needy families). In early 2021 the Ag Com wrapped up work on this program including final data collection and assisted in the production of a final report that was submitted to the Select Board.

Activities in progress and upcoming events

None currently

Financial

The Ag Com does not have a budget and did not raise funds or have income in 2021.

Building Inspector

A building permit is required by the State Building Code to construct, reconstruct, alter, repair, remove, or demolish a building or structure, or to change the use or occupancy of a building or structure. If you are not sure whether your project will require a building permit, please call before you begin construction. Applications may be accessed through the Town of Colrain website home page by clicking on the "online permitting" button.

2021 continued much the same way as 2020 with covid-19 concerns and skyrocketing material costs. These two issues substantially limited building construction, although photo-voltaic installations and insulating/weatherization projects remained robust. It had appeared that many folks were planning to hold off on any large construction project till the uncertainty of covid-19 had resolved itself, but now with material shortages, inflation and continued high material prices I am not sure that 2022 will result in the construction rebound that was anticipated.

I am happy to announce that as of this writing the Town Hall is open for visitors, so if you would like to discuss your building project in person or drop off building plans and construction documents on Wednesday nights that is an option. The online permitting software still has some glitches, mostly involving application entry issues. I should be able to walk you through the process if problems arise.

My office hours are every Wednesday night between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the Town office. My office telephone # is 413-624-4728, I can also be reached at home, weeknights before 9 p.m. at 413-624-9621.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Kimberley
Colrain Building Inspector

Colrain Cultural Council

The Colrain Cultural Council supports cultural activities in our community and surrounding areas for children and adults. Funded programs include art, lectures, music, dance, theater, workshops, performances in schools, and entertainment venues.

The Colrain Cultural Council is funded by the Local Cultural Council (LCC) program of the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Every year the Colrain Cultural Council meets to discuss and vote on submitted grant applications. In 2021 we met twice. The first meeting was on January 23rd, 2021 via phone conference due to Covid-19 restrictions. For 2021, the Colrain Cultural Council received \$4,700 from the Cultural Council Massachusetts to be distributed. We received 16 applications. Eleven were accepted and 5 were rejected. We accepted two extensions from 2021 to 2022.

From the eleven extension requests from 2020 to 2021, eight applicants completed their programs in 2021.

For the year 2022, the Massachusetts Cultural Council granted \$5,000 to be distributed. The Colrain Cultural Council received 32 new applications. On December 4th we met to discuss and vote on the new applications. We accepted and funded 22 applicants and rejected 10.

Members of Colrain Cultural Council in 2021:

Donna Cusimano, Secretary
Paula Harrison, Treasurer
Inge Jockers, Chair
Nina Martin-Anzuoni
Sharon Wickland-Shearer

Submitted January 2022

Colrain Historical Commission

The Commission met two times in 2021.

The Commission spent the year designing, getting permission for and permitting two signs to go near and on the Arthur A. Smith covered bridge: an informational sign on the eastern approach to the bridge, and a sign bearing Carol Purington's bridge poem inside the western end of the bridge. The Purington family gave permission for this sign to be placed.

The signs were created by the Hale Sign Co., with design work done by Robin Brooks. Hale was paid \$1,432 and Brooks was paid \$1,185. The Select Board approved payment to come from the separate bridge fund comprised of donations made in the 1990s for restoration of the bridge, held by the town for use by the Historical Commission for bridge projects.

Signed: David Nims, Chairman, Joan McQuade, Bob Ramirez, Sarah Davenport Clough, Guy Wheeler and Belden Merims.

Council on Aging

The Council on Aging (COA) programs are well established and flourishing with each passing year. Our monthly box lunch meals were picked up by Colrain seniors after pre-ordering, consisted of a sandwich, chips & donut or cookie ordered at Catamount Country Store or Pine Hill Orchard, starting in April and going until August. We also started a monthly "Senior Social Time" for June, July, and August, meeting in Pine Hills gazebo for coffee & donuts. Colrain seniors then began meeting at the Eagles in Buckland for the monthly meals for 4 months out of the year, starting in September and going until December. The annual Apple Day in mid-September held at Pine Hill is still successful having 35+ residents participate. The COA also paid for Colrain seniors' meals at two pancake breakfasts that were put on by the Colrain Fire Department.

A group of Colrain seniors meeting in Pine Hills gazebo during the summer to work on handicrafts, moved to the community room at the Baptist Church in the fall due to colder weather.

We sponsored foot clinics by Colrain resident Piper Sagan two days a month in a room at the highway department.

A monthly "Colrain Senior News Event Letter" was started and posted on our new Facebook page, town website, the town office bulletin board, and at the library. We also hand out copies at all events held by the COA.

Thank you to Pine Hill Orchards for allowing the COA to hold the Senior Social Time and Apple Day. Thank you to Catamount Country Store and Pine Hill for working with the COA with the box lunch orders. Thank you to the town office for posting events on the roadside town billboard. Also a big thank you to all our volunteers and COA members, and to Larry Bezio, who moved to Shelburne Falls, and who had been a board member for many years. He will be greatly missed.

We would like to thank the people of Colrain for their continued support for the Council on Aging, which makes everything possible.

Gratefully submitted by
Colrain COA members,

Janice Barnes, Valeda Peters, Richard Herzig, Amy Herzig, Russell Barnes, Kathy Phelps, Elaine Stanley, Michelle Hillman, Carl Herzig, Betty Johnson, Emily Johnson and Larry Bezio.

Finance Committee

February 2022

The Finance Committee is preparing to begin work on the formulation of a budget for the coming fiscal year to be presented to the annual town meeting. We are looking forward to being able to resume functioning in a more normal way with in-person meetings.

We approach this budgetary task with the town in a good financial position. We have been fortunate to not lose anyone on the town office team and now have a full roster on the finance committee.

The broadband project is now essentially complete and functioning well. Its finances are in the black with a good subscription rate in the town.

We anticipate the new cell tower on the Nim's property to go active soon providing coverage over a large part of town.

The portion of the budget going to schools continues to be the driving factor in the tax rate. The bright spot is that Heath students will begin attending Colrain Central School next school year.

The Town of Colrain continues to be a good place to live, and we look forward to completing our budget process in a timely manner working with the Select Board and Town Administrator.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas MacLeay – Chair
Rachel Glick
Betty Ringwood
Deborah Menard
Howard Phelps

Fire Department

The Colrain Fire Department experienced another very active year. Shelburne Control dispatched 248 calls for the Fire Department from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. These incidents are sorted as follows:

Structure fires	1	Vehicle accidents	14
Vehicle fires	2	Brush fires	1
Medical assistance	117	Hazmat spills	4
Non-permitted fires	3	Water problems	3
Mutual Aid given	48	Chimney Fires	2
Other/Fires	3	Mutual aid Lucas calls	2
Rescues	1	Fire/CO alarm	5
Investigations/Assist	4	Search	1
Service call/Lifeflight LZ	12	Station Staffed	2
Trees/Wires down	23		

2021 remained a challenging year as the nation continued to experience significant outbreaks of COVID-19. The department used personal protective measures and improvised decontamination equipment to minimize exposure. These measures allowed the department to continue responding to calls and meet our training obligations.

In May, Colrain sent members of the Franklin County Wildland Fire crew to a 2 day deployment at a 900 acre brush fire in the Berkshires. This team is modeled after national wildland hand crews; these firefighters receive specialized training and valuable experience which they will use on their local fire calls.

The Colrain Fire Department continues to be active in both responding to calls and meeting the state training requirements. We continue to recruit new members enabling the department to fulfill its mission to provide fire protection and emergency services to the residents of Colrain. There are over twenty-eight active members on our roster and many of them are Emergency Medical Technicians. Firefighters require mandatory first aid, CPR, and hazardous material training in addition to basic the Firefighter 1 class. The department continues to train aggressively and has had several opportunities to use live fire drills. These enable our firefighters to be proficient in fire suppression and lifesaving skills.

The Fire Department also has an active junior firefighter program for members 14-17 years of age. This program allows juniors to receive first aid and CPR training in addition to an opportunity to observe and train with the town firefighters.

Franklin County has experienced several tragic structure fires over the past few years and we encourage all residents to maintain smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. It is mandatory that all residential homes that heat with combustible fuels, such as wood, oil, coal or gas, to have carbon monoxide detectors on all inhabited floors. Real estate transactions require a carbon monoxide and smoke detector inspection prior to closing. This "silent killer" has resulted in numerous fatalities

and narrow escapes throughout Massachusetts, and Colrain is no exception. Detectors are inexpensive and easy to install. Please contact the fire department or the Massachusetts Fire Marshall's office for more information or assistance. We have expanded our inspection staff so please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Please note that it is important to have your house number visible to emergency responders. This is important to homes with long driveways that may be difficult to see, especially at night.

The online burning permit system will be available again at www.fcburnpermits.com. The open burning season usually runs from January 2022 to May 1, 2022. Burning trash or construction materials is not permitted under the Massachusetts open burning laws. You may also contact Shelburne Control at 625-8200 to obtain a permit. Please use caution when burning and keep the fire a minimum of 75' from any structure, maintain a clean fire break around the burn area and keep at least 5 gallons of water on the site.

In closing, we thank the Select Board, town office staff, finance committee, personnel committee, Colrain Ambulance Association, Colrain Firefighter's Association, police department and the highway department for their continued support throughout the year. Our gratitude also goes out to the residents of Colrain for your continued support of the Fire Department in so many ways. We wish you all a safe and hopeful 2022.

Respectfully,
Nicholas Anzuoni
Fire Chief

Franklin County Regional Animal Control

To the Select Board and Residents of Colrain:

During the year of 2019, the Towns of Buckland, Colrain, Gill, Heath, Monroe, Northfield, and Shelburne joined in partnership with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office to create the Franklin County Regional Animal Control program and hire a Regional Animal Control Officer to provide full-time services to these towns.

During the year of 2021, Franklin County Regional Animal Control logged 773 calls for service between January 1 and December 31, 2021. In 2020, Franklin County Regional Animal Control logged 563 calls for the year.

Calls for Service:*

- 🐾 11 call(s) for animal bites investigations.
- 🐾 42 call(s) for animal welfare checks.
- 🐾 152 call(s) for animal complaints.
- 🐾 58 call(s) regarding found animals.
- 🐾 17 call(s) for inspections.
- 🐾 21 call(s) for sick or injured animals.
- 🐾 33 Mutual Aid Requests.
- 🐾 59 Hearings, Meetings or Trainings.
- 🐾 20 Meetings or Trainings.
- 🐾 33 Surrenders.

Breakdown of calls by Town:

Buckland:	98
Charlemont:	29
Colrain:	76
Gill:	104
Heath:	61
Monroe:	10
Northfield:	90
Shelburne:	65
Other:**	240

*Note: the above does not represent all the calls that were received.

**Other refers to Assistance Requests (Shelter, MSPCA, Local Law Enforcement, etc).

In the spring of 2021, with the assistance of the Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter and local veterinarians, Amy Rubin and Amy Tuominen, we were able to host rabies clinics in Heath and Shelburne Falls.

In September 2021, the Town of Charlemont joined the Regional Animal Control Program. With the addition of Charlemont, the Regional Animal Control Program now covers eight towns in the county.

During 2021, we worked with local food pantries to keep them stocked with pet food for residents in need. If you are struggling to obtain food for your dog or cat, or know of a pantry in need of pet food, please reach out.

Anyone with Animal Control questions can contact me directly by email at kdragon@fcso-ma.us or by phone at **413-768-0983**. If you have an urgent or immediate situation, please contact the Shelburne Falls Regional Communications Center at **413-625-8200**.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kyle Dragon
Animal Control Officer
Franklin County Regional Animal Control



Franklin County Sheriff's Office Regional Dog Shelter

TO THE SELECT BOARD AND RESIDENTS OF COLRAIN:

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Regional Dog Shelter has been in operation since 2012. The shelter was started by Sheriff Christopher Donelan who saw the need in the community for a dog sheltering facility. As of this date, the dog shelter provides services to 22 of the 26 Franklin County towns.

During the course of 2021, the Regional Dog Shelter logged 157 canine intakes.

104 where brought in as strays, and 53 where Surrendered, Transferred or Returned adoptions to our facility.

What happened to the dogs?

- 🐾 80 were returned to their owners.
- 🐾 50 were adopted into new fur-ever homes.
- 🐾 9 were transferred to another facility to better meet their specific needs.
- 🐾 10 were sadly euthanized by an attending veterinarian. Euthanasia is not something we take lightly and we do our best to explore all available options before choosing this course of action. Of these 10, (4) where owner intended euthanasia; (2) where medically compromised; (4) where euthanized for severe aggression towards people and other animals.

While we are primarily a dog facility with the addition of the Sheriff's Office Regional Animal Control Position the shelter assisted in the holding and transfer of 33 cats. At this time, the shelter does not have the capability to process cat adoptions, therefore all cats are transferred to an appropriate agency.

Food Pantries: During the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Shelter has worked to supply pet food into local food pantries for residents who are in needed. If you are struggling to feed your pet, or know of a food pantry that could use dog/cat food please let us know!

Rabies Clinics: In 2021, the shelter partnered with (2) local veterinarians to sponsor rabies clinics in Turners Falls, Heath, and Shelburne Falls. Between these (3) clinics, a total of 86 pets where vaccinated against rabies.

Dog Licensing: Some Town Clerks have granted the ability for the shelter to issue a dog license for a dog that was brought in and not licensed. As Massachusetts General Law requires every dog be licensed and vaccinated for rabies before it can be released from the shelter. This ability has drastically reduced the time that an owned dog must stay at the shelter, if it was unlicensed upon intake.

Volunteers: Volunteers are essential to the smooth operation of the shelter, without them, we would not have the success that we have today, during 2021 our volunteers logged 4,777 volunteer hours! Our volunteers assist the operation of the shelter by helping with Daily Kennel Chores, Foster Homes, Event Staffing and providing Enrichment specific to each dog's needs. We are always in need of new volunteers, if you are interested in joining our volunteer team; please check out the volunteer application on our website.

Did you know? The overall average length of stay for a dog at our kennel is 30 days?

During this time, all their costs and care are covered by the Friends of the Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter.

Franklin Regional Council of Governments Services to Colrain in 2021

The FRCOG provides planning services, programming, and advocacy to all County municipalities. Our municipal service programs – Collective Purchasing, Cooperative Public Health, Cooperative Inspection, and Town Accounting – are available to any municipality. Partnership for Youth provides substance use and chronic disease prevention; The Planning Department assists with local planning and larger regional projects; and the Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security Programs prepare and train first responders and health officials.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to shape the ways we did business in 2021, and while the attention of some staff remained focused on pandemic response, our typical work did not stop, nor did our mission to serve the interests of citizens, municipalities, and the region as a whole. We've included some of that work here, and *FRCOG's 2021 Annual Report*, published this spring, will further summarize our regional efforts. The following pages list services specific to Colrain.

COVID Response and Recovery

FRCOG engaged in regional and municipal COVID response and recovery in numerous ways, including:

- Maintained up-to-date regional websites; developed and distributed community education messages; provided mask order and social-distancing signage for use at town facilities, non-profits, and businesses.
- With partners in the Franklin County Regional Vaccination Collaborative, coordinated 140 regional vaccination clinics administering nearly 32,000 doses of vaccine.
- Advocated for the needs of rural communities and local public health; facilitated information sharing on COVID case trends, new state guidance and initiatives, and sharing of best practices.

Economic Development

- Completed an inventory and map of the recreational assets in the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership area.
- Assisted with developing the Shelburne Falls/West County Initiative grant program for businesses, nonprofits, artists and farmers.

Finance and Municipal Services

- Colrain contracted with the FRCOG to receive collective bid pricing for highway products and services, including rental equipment; heating and vehicle fuel; school district fire extinguisher services; and dog tags and licenses.

Land Use and Natural Resources

- Assisted the Town Coordinator with completing the FY21 Green Communities Annual Report.
- Provided municipal officials with technical assistance on zoning related to short term residential rentals.
- Assisted Colrain, among other towns, with the formation of the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Board, responsible for future activities of the Partnership in accordance with the state legislation.

Public and Community Health

The Town is a comprehensive member of the CPHS, a health district based at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments.

- The CPHS Nursing staff served as clinical leads and vaccine administrators for the FRCOG clinics operated as part of the Regional COVID Vaccine Collaborative. 271 Colrain residents received COVID vaccines through these clinics.
- Gave 897 Flu and 77 COVID vaccinations at CPHS flu clinics, COVID pop ups, and home visits. Among these, 24 Colrain residents received flu vaccines and 9 COVID vaccines were delivered to Colrain residents at home or in local pop up clinics.
- Completed state-mandated infectious disease surveillance and reporting for communicable disease cases in district member towns, including 19 Colrain cases.
- Served on the Mohawk Trail Regional School District COVID-19 Task Force on behalf of the Board of Health.
- Offered tick prevention materials and help for residents accessing tick tests. Ten (10) Colrain residents received low-cost tick tests through a district program and Department of Public Health subsidy, a value of \$200. Of the ticks tested in Colrain, 50% tested positive for the Lyme Disease Pathogen, and 10% each for the Babesiosis and Anaplasmosis pathogens.
- Assisted businesses with the on-line permitting system, and provided technical support for applications of annual permits. Processed 21 annual permits for Colrain, including regional permits.
- Organized two low-cost food safety training for town residents or business employees.
- Kept permitted Colrain businesses abreast of COVID-related guidance via email and telephone. Investigated COVID-related complaints at Colrain businesses.
- Applied for and received both a Public Health Excellence Grant and an Epidemiology Contact Tracing grant on behalf of the district. The grants allowed for an increase in staffing to better serve all communities while accomplishing all required COVID-related work.
- Enforcement of the Title-5 (septic) code for the town included: Conducting 12 soil evaluations for septic systems; reviewing 13 septic system plans, visiting these sites, conducting final installation inspections and preparing Certificates of Compliance; witnessing 25 Title-5 inspections prior to property transfer; and issuing 2 local upgrade approvals and DSCP (septic) permits.
- Conducted 8 retail food inspections, permitted 3 wells, and assisted Colrain businesses and residents with sanitary code compliance.
- Attended all regularly scheduled Colrain Board of Health meetings.
- Inspected multiple housing units with varying degrees of complexity.
- Licensed and inspected 4 short-term rental units.
- Conducted a Teen Health Survey to assess attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Mohawk Trail Regional School District administrators on results from 117 Mohawk students, representing 79% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant writing and program planning.
- Provided training, technical assistance, and evaluation for the evidence-based LifeSkills substance use prevention curriculum in the school district.
- Provided resources to the school district for advancing racial justice in schools.
- Provided training, materials, and technical assistance for the new, evidence-based PreVenture substance use prevention and mental health promotion program in the Mohawk Trail Regional School District

Training and Education

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops and training sessions that Colrain public officials, staff, and residents attended, and the number in attendance.

COVID-19 Pandemic Support:

Bi-Weekly Coordinating Roundtables – 1-3
BIPOC Communities Vax Conversation - 1

Emergency Prep & Homeland Security:

The Great Flood Tabletop Exercise - 1

Municipal Officials' Continuing Education:

Funding Water & Sewer Infrastructure - 1

Receivership Training - 1

Select Board 101 - 1

Town Administrators Meeting - 1

American Rescue Plan Overview - 1

Planning, Conservation & Development:

Diversifying Rural Housing Opportunities - 2

Rental Zoning, Building & Sanitary Codes - 3

Additionally, FRCOG staff organized and facilitated educational information meetings for town energy committees, including presenting information on various topics and conducting follow-up communication.

Transportation

- Conducted traffic and bicycle counts on Greenfield Road and South Green River Road for the Regional Traffic Counting Program.
- Provided assistance with the MA Complete Streets Funding Program, working with the town to submit an application for funding to prepare a prioritization plan of potential projects.

Franklin County Solid Waste Management District 2021

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste – recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge, and trash. We continue to provide assistance to twenty-one member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

A review of recycling tonnage for 2021 shows a decrease of 100 tons of recycling compared to 2020. District residents recycled just over 2,700 tons of paper and containers. The recyclables were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility and sold for recycling primarily to domestic companies. For six months, the market revenue exceeded the processing fee so towns received revenue for their recycling tonnage.

The pandemic resulted in the cancellation of both 2021 Clean Sweep collection events.

We did hold our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2021. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. We adjusted our collection protocol to account for health and safety requirements during the pandemic. A total of 420 households participated in this event.

We applied for and received grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection worth \$94,000 for District towns. This grant funding is a result of a town's successful waste management infrastructure.

If you have questions about District programs, call us at 413-772-2438 (MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 TTY/TDD), visit our website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org or visit us at 117 Main St., 2nd Floor in Greenfield.

Jan Ameen - *Executive Director*

Jonathan Lagreze, Colrain – *Chair*

Chris Boutwell, Montague - *Vice-Chair*

MA Swedlund, Deerfield – *Treasurer*



Open the door . . .

Step inside your beautiful, historic library and find a welcoming hub!

GML is your portal to local history, lifelong learning, tech help, and community connections.

Griswold Memorial Library Annual Report

Respectfully submitted February 1, 2022

Chelsea Jordan-Makely, Director

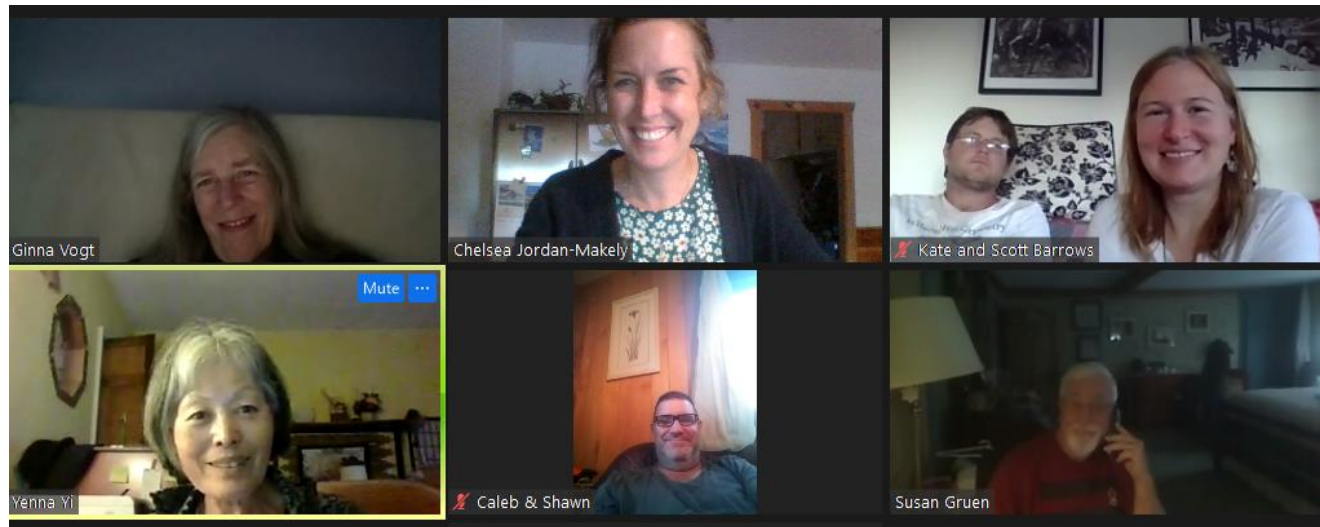
The Griswold Memorial Library met 2021 in the spirit of our values: community, safety, sustainability, inclusivity, history, information literacy, and fun. The ongoing pandemic led us to experiment with new service models and ways to connect, from curbside service at the library to outreach throughout the community. A grant from the American Library Association (ALA) meant to encourage civic engagement and dialogue helped make this possible, by covering the costs of a “pop-up” library at the Colrain Transfer Station. By “meeting people where they’re at,” the library was able to register new library users, bolster participation in the annual Summer Reading Club, and gauge community needs and interest in new services. The grant also covered the costs of books for the Kindness Reading Project, a group that meets every other month to discuss books about hot-button social issues and how these themes affect our local community. Everyone is welcome to join; please email griswold@colrain-ma.gov or call 413-624-3619 to register.

Besides outreach at the Colrain Transfer Station, another new 2021 initiative brought the library to Pine Hill Orchards, where families could visit a StoryWalk® from Labor Day until the end of the Pick-Your-Own Season. The StoryWalk® featured *Some Pets*, a book with beautiful illustrations, written by local author Angela DiTerlizzi, that also fit the 2021 Summer Reading Club theme, “Tails and Tales.” *Some Pets* is fun for all ages, making it easy for families to read, explore, and move together as they take in the book and interactive StoryWalk® prompts.



The StoryWalk® project was made possible with support from the Mohawk Trail Regional School System Coordinated Family and Community Engagement-CFCE Program, and the author’s enthusiastic consent, and with special thanks to Brady McElaney and Matt Shearer from Pine Hill Orchards, and to Nancy Turkle for her graphic design. The StoryWalk® kick-off event was funded in part by a grant from the Colrain Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the MA Cultural council.

The Carol Purington Poetry collective met by Zoom the first Friday of every month throughout 2021, to share in the love of poetry and to honor the legacy of the group's namesake, Carol Purington. Each participant brings a poem or two to share, or they may join in just to listen. Participants include Colrainers and friends from the surrounding hilltowns. Anyone is welcome to join; please email griswold@colrain-ma.gov or call 413-624-3619 to register.

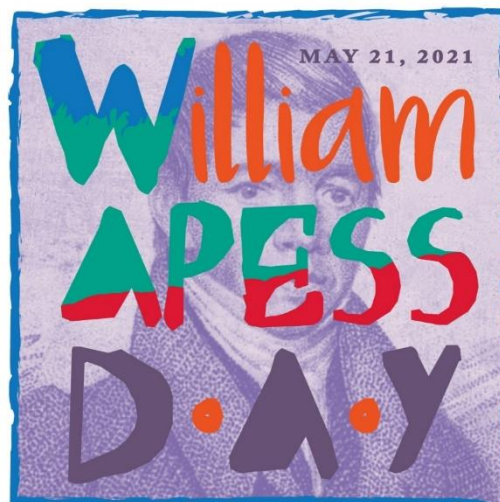


GML also hosted several in-person events in 2021, outdoors and socially distanced. These included a Summer Reading Kickoff event with Roger Tincknell, and a magic show with Scott Jameson, both of which were supported by funds from the Colrain Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the MA Cultural Council.



On May 21st, the Griswold Memorial Library hosted Colrain's first annual William Apess Day, in honor of the local hero who co-authored the Mashpee Declaration of Independence in 1833. From the *Greenfield Recorder*:

"Community members gathered on the front lawn of the Griswold Memorial Library . . . to celebrate the inaugural William Apess Day, and to share the little-known history of Apess, a Colrain native and activist from the Pequot Nation who spent most of his life fighting for Indigenous rights."

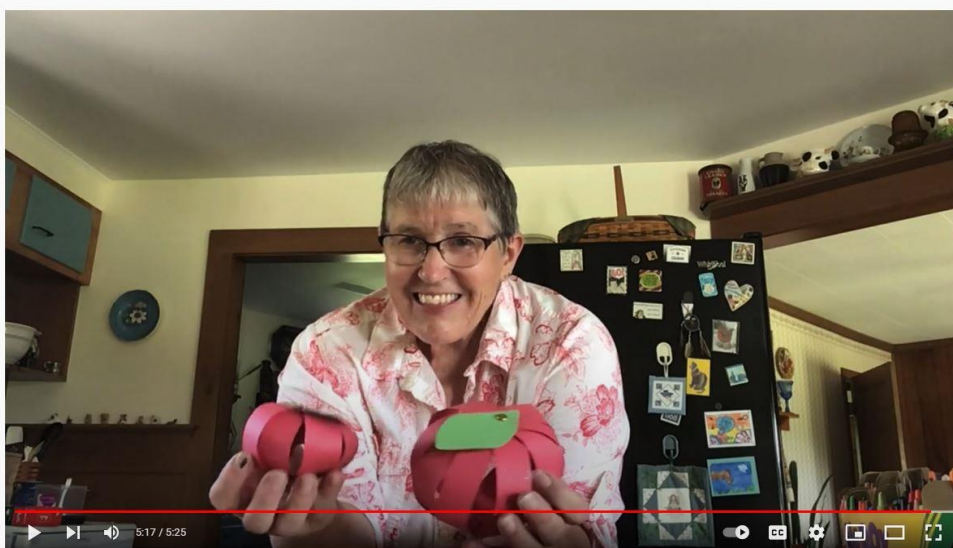


The event was attended by more than 80 people, including members of the Select Board, and representatives from the Mashpee Wampanoag Nation, with speeches and performances commemorating William Apess's accomplishments and legacy. Margaret Bruchac recited her poem, "On the raising of a marker to William Apess in the town of Colrain," and Colrainer Erica Wheeler performed the song "Quiet Hills," by Claudia Schmidt. Watch the event online on the Griswold Memorial Library YouTube channel, and mark your calendars for the next William Apess Day, May 21st, 2022.

Speaking of YouTube, the GML YouTube channel is another way we've continued to make connections throughout the pandemic. Each month, Ms. Betty (Betty Purington Johnson, the library's director from 1993-2019) has created a craft video, showing viewers how to assemble the contents of a "Take and Make" kit, available from the library. Ms. Betty also hosted craft nights as part of the Summer Reading Club, for both kids and grown-ups! These events were held at the school, where there was more space for participants to spread out and practice their social distancing. GML also hosted an event at 19 Jacobs Road, in Heath, with the Heath Free Public Library, where Kate Barrows used the kitchen facility to demonstrate how to make kimchi, a fermented food made from cabbage and carrots. The video from this event is also available via the GML YouTube channel.



Search



Ms. Betty's Take and Make Craft - September 2021

How do you feel about connecting online? Some patrons have said they now prefer to meet by Zoom over meeting in person, while others we spoke to said they don't want any technology in their lives whatsoever! No matter where you stand, the library is here to help, with thirty-minute, one-on-one technology appointments. We can help you to learn new skills, like email basics or how to download eBooks, or help you to troubleshoot a problem. Call 413-624-3619 or email griswold@colrain-ma.gov to register!

Besides all of our virtual programs, GML continues to offer services in person every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. We ask everyone to please keep their visits brief, and to wear a mask when they are in the building. You can also save time by phoning or emailing requests in advance, or by placing holds online at <https://colrain.cwmars.org/eg/opac/home>.

GML by the numbers:

- 17,225 total circulations (loans) in 2021, even though the library was closed to the public until we re-opened for express browsing in March!
- Circulations included 2,479 eBooks and downloadable audiobooks from OverDrive/Libby.
- GML holds 9,600+ books, DVDs, and other items available for loan, and processes about 95 patron holds per week. In 2021 we added 952 new books, DVDs, and other items to our physical collection.
- The videos we've created for our GML YouTube channel, including Ms. Betty's Take and Make Crafts, Stories and Songs, and the recording of William Apess Day have been viewed 670+ times altogether!
- GML is open 52 weeks per year, 32 hours per week.
- In 2021 we hired four new staff—all Colrainers!

GML in the news:

- "Colrain library earns national grant to 'meet people where they're at,'" by Mary Bryne, *Greenfield Recorder*, January 28, 2021
- "Colrain honors Pequot Nation activist William Apess," by Ella Adams, *Greenfield Recorder*, May 23, 2021
- "My Turn: Sharing William Apess' incredible story," by Drew Lopenzina, *Greenfield Recorder*, May 27, 2021
- "Colrain orchard's new 'StoryWalk' lets kids read between the lines of apple trees," by Julian Mendoza, September 6, 2021
- "My Turn: Library grant yields unexpected outcomes," by Chelsea Jordan-Makely, *Greenfield Recorder*, October 6, 2021
- "New England libraries ready to help expand Internet access to all in need," *New England Public Media*, November 10, 2021



One-on-one tech help!



Schedule a 30-minute appointment to improve or learn new skills.

Email griswold@colrain-ma.gov or call 413-624-3619 to register.

Thanks for your support!

GML's programs and services are made possible by your support, with special thanks to everyone who donates also to the Friends of the Library, and to Kathy Steinem's dance class! Our Library Trustees include Nancy Turkle, Cheli Mennela, Betsy Browning, Betty Purington Johnson, and Mike Friedlander. We are especially grateful to Mike for his many years of service, including dozens of lightbulbs changed and Friday Game Nights. Thanks, too, and congratulations to Kate Barrows, who moved into the role of library director at the Heath Free Public Library! Finally, we wish to remember our friend and patron Denise Gurley, with this poem from *A History of Colrain, Mass.* By Lois McClellan Patrie, which was brought to our attention by Shawn Kimberley:

Contentment

by Adelaide Tavener Kemp

Against the windowpane, the snow
Comes softly, whitely, and the glow
From my warm fire sends shadows gray
About the walls in queer array,
Upon the shelf the clock's soft chime
Denotes the passing hours of time,
In my big chair I sit and read
Of other days, of golden deed;
My cat sits in my lap and sings
Quite cheerily of happy things.
There comes a sudden blast that shakes
A loosened blind, and sends the flakes
Of snow in whirls with icy moan.
Happy that I am not alone,
I lift my sleepy eyes and look
At my companion and his book.
This sheltered place so warm, so bright
Is ours. We do not fear the night
In this dear haven, home, God-sent.
I settle back and am content.

Highway Department

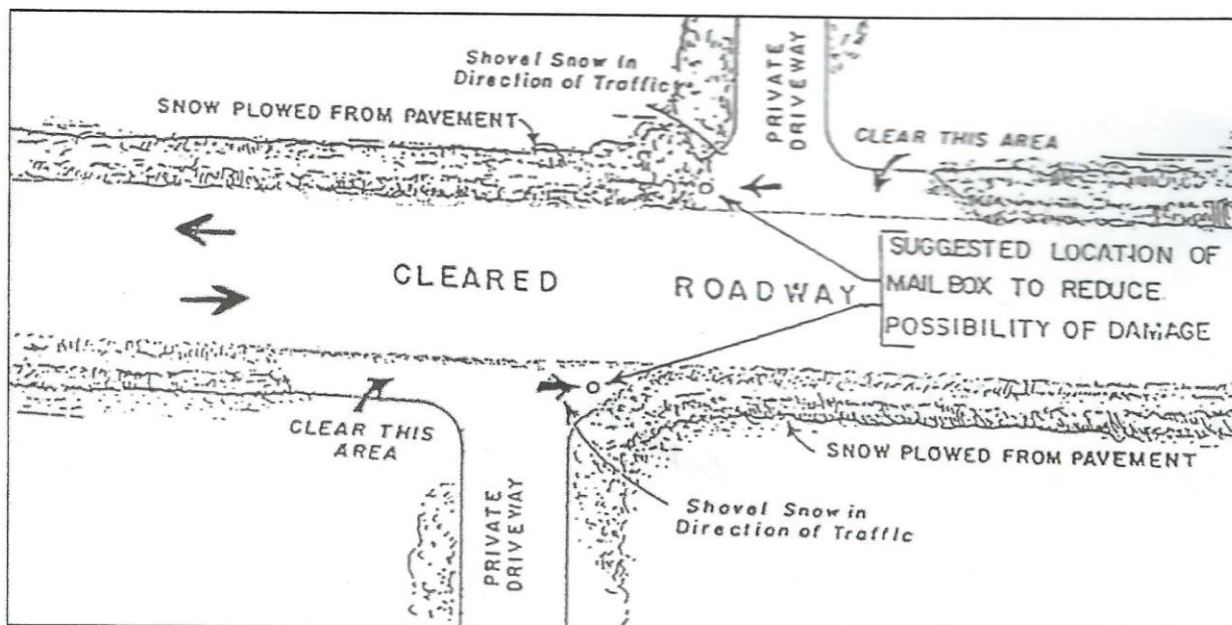
The Town of Colrain-Town Center Intersection Improvement project construction started this year, although it was initiated in 2013. I would like to thank everyone who helped this project come to fruition. This project is scheduled to be completed by May 1, 2022.

Using Chapter 90 funds this year, we crack sealed the entire length of Jacksonville Road. Jacksonville Road was reconstructed back in 2015, using funds from the Mass Works Grant.

We have also been doing a lot of tree work this year. The bucket truck the Town purchased in 2019 has been working out great. It is allowing us to do a better job trimming for the Town-owned broadband lines and other tree work.

We are still getting calls about mailboxes being hit by the snowplows. It isn't the snowplows hitting the mailbox, it is the weight of the snow hitting the mailbox.

There are steps you can do to minimize snow blockage at the end of your driveway and mailbox damage. Please refer to the following sketch to learn how to remove snow to minimize excess driveway plow windrow blockage and damage to your mailbox.



Please take a moment every fall to inspect your mailbox and post to make sure they are secure.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Sullivan

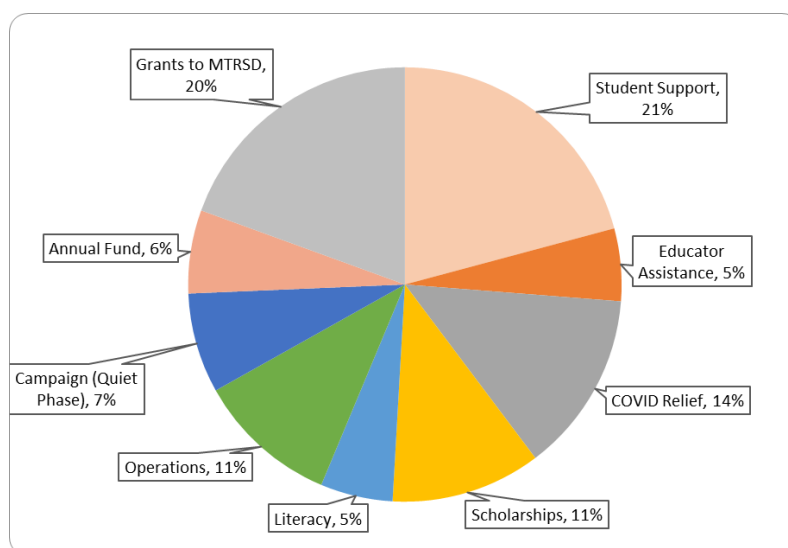
Mary Lyon Foundation Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Annual Report

FY 21 was a year of transition and expansion at the Mary Lyon Foundation. After thirty years, Sue Samoriski, Founding Executive Director, retired in December, and Kristen Tillona-Baker began her tenure as Executive Director in early January 2021.

While the Pandemic continued to impact the way we did our business in FY 21, the Foundation remained steadfast in its resolve to fulfill its vision that all students come to school ready to learn, succeed academically, socially, and emotionally, and thrive in the wider world.

The Foundation experienced 23% growth in FY 21, from October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021. The Foundation's total revenue for FY 21 was \$465,608, all of which supported our current programs, endowed funds, and expansion via newly created programs.

2021 Expenditures



New Programs:

A Grant Funding Agreement with the Mohawk Trail School District was created to develop and support funding for grants in the following areas:

- Before and after-school programming to help provide innovative learning and enrichment opportunities for students
- Summer programming to provide innovative learning and enrichment opportunities for students
- "Wrap-around" student services, i.e., a Health and Wellness Center, including but not limited to medical, psychological, optical, and dental services for students
- Superintendent's Discretionary Fund in support of student and educator programs and services

The Foundation also continued the implementation of its strategic priorities. One priority that is underway is the creation of partnerships with our community to enhance the delivery of services and programs for our families and educators.

The Foundation partnered with the Ashfield Food Pantry in the spring of 2021 and began delivering groceries to our families in July. In 2021, we provided 74 people with fresh groceries every other Tuesday with the help of a strong corps of Foundation volunteer drivers. This partnership will continue to expand in 2022 as more families sign up for the delivery of groceries, which will continue to benefit our families and the community greatly.

During the summer of 2021, the Foundation partnered with the School District, It Takes a Village, and the CFCE to launch our first Literacy Night and clothing pop-up.

The evening targeted Pre-K-2nd graders, and families had the opportunity to select gently used clothing, engage in literacy activities and games, and bring home a new book. Before Thanksgiving, all Pre-K children in the district received a new book from the Foundation.

The Foundation partnered with the district to provide all families with newborn babies a gift supporting literacy.

In December, the Foundation partnered with the Shelburne Falls Branch of Greenfield Savings Bank to launch the Adopt-a-Child Program. Thirty-four children in the district received gifts under their tree through the generosity of community members who support the Foundation.

The Foundation supported the Capstone Students at Mohawk by awarding grants, which provided them with the funding to purchase the supplies for their projects.

Ongoing Programs:

In February, the Foundation supported Supper for Six through its partnership with the United Way by delivering twenty bags of canned goods, which fed multiple families in the district. Through the Warm the Children Program, the Foundation secured funding to purchase winter coats, hats, and boots for 150 children in the district.

Our programming supported our youth, families, and educators through the Guardian Angel Fund, the Student Assistant Fund, the Educator Assistance Fund (mini-grants), the COVID Relief Fund, and our Scholarship Funds. In FY 22, the Foundation will continue to expand its programming and services for our youth, families, and educators through community engagement and fundraising via our Comprehensive Campaign, *"Calling Our Community to Action for Student Success,"* which will go public in FY 22.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristen Tillona-Baker, Executive Director

Municipal Light Plant Report

Colrain Broadband

January 2022

During 2021, we successfully met the goal to build our town-owned fiber optic network. The approximately \$3,700,000 capital project is being funded by a Commonwealth of Massachusetts grant and borrowing by the town that was authorized in a prior year. The network enables us to connect to over 99% of homes in Colrain, exceeding the requirement of the Massachusetts grant to be able to connect 96% of our homes. Over 70% of Colrain homes have subscribed for service.

The project has proceeded on or below budget with the financial help of two supplements to the grant from the state for excess drop and make ready costs. (The state additional funding was in response to the state's underestimating those costs in the original grant.)

The broadband network provides internet service at a potential speed of 2 Gigabit per second (which can be increased as required in the future) and VoIP telephone service over a fiber optic system. We entered into contracts with Westfield Gas & Electric (WG&E) in Westfield, Massachusetts and other subcontractors to help in the planning, design and building of the network. Also, through an intermunicipal agreement, we have chosen Whip City Fiber (WCF, a division of WG&E) as the Internet Service Provider (ISP) for Colrain. WCF will provide customer interface and services, plus operating and maintenance of the network.

Construction began with the placement of supporting strand, fiber cable and connections along many of the roadways in town. That construction was completed, and all homeowners who subscribed were connected. In addition to internet service, approximately half of the subscribers are also receiving VoIP phone service.

Design work is now progressing to enhance the network and Colrain's connections to surrounding town systems in order to best mitigate the loss of service due to broken or downed cables between our network and our regional internet connections. Completion of that work will take many months.

The website at which Colrain residents can sign up for service is 'whipcityfiber.com/colrain'.

Information regarding the services and updates on progress can be found on the Town of Colrain website in the Colrain Broadband pages.

Kevin Fox
Michael Shuipis
Co-Managers

Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund

The Fund was established under the provisions of the Will of Carl H. Nilman for the purpose of providing scholarships. Recipients shall reside in the School District and be graduates of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School who desire and are deemed worthy of post high school education or training and who are in need of financial assistance.

This year (2021) the Awards Subcommittee read 24 applications. Ten were from seniors and 14 were from graduates. We used 30% of our allotted monies for seniors and 70% for graduates. The Committee feels that seniors have multiple scholarship opportunities from other sources while graduates have fewer resources.

Ten scholarships totaling \$12,200.00 were awarded to seniors and 14 scholarships totaling \$28,150.00 were awarded to graduates.

From 1991 - 2021 a total of \$ 1,094,825.00 has been awarded in scholarships. Mohawk seniors have received \$335,475.00 and \$759,350.00 has been awarded to graduates.

Applications were available either online or they could be obtained at Mohawk School.

The Mohawk community owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Nilman for his foresight in supporting higher education for the students of Mohawk Trail Regional High School. The Committee members are honored to bring the wishes of his will to fruition.

Students of any age who are graduates of Mohawk (and living in the nine-town area at the time of graduation) are encouraged to apply for scholarships to help meet their continuing education needs. Please call Student Services at Mohawk, 413-625-9811, Ext. 1503 for information regarding requirements and deadlines.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion E Scott, Secretary

Police Department

Reflecting back on 2021, the Police Department has faced many challenges and accomplishments. Examples would be calls for service, Police Reform training, updated communications and specialized training.

For 2021, the Police Department handled approximately 1,200 calls for service--this includes calls received through the regional dispatch and officer-initiated. Due to the nature of the calls, the department conducted 43 arrests, 14 accidents, and 2 search warrants. Officers have worked closely with other area departments such as Shelburne, Buckland, Charlemont and State Police by assisting or receiving assistance.

The Peace Officer Standard and Training Committee (POST) oversees the training requirements of the Police Reform Bill. During the course of three years, part-time officers in the Commonwealth have to complete what is called a "Bridge Academy". Each year is assigned by the letter of the Officers last name and they have a year to complete all required training. For year 2021, Officer Tarrah Dempsey has completed the following required training: 40 hours of firearms, 40 hours of Defensive Tactics, 40 hours of Emergency Vehicle operations and 180 hours of online training, and complete four exams. This is a large challenge for members on the department as they continue to work their full time jobs, complete the required annual 40 hours of refresher training, and complete shifts for the department.

Officers have the opportunity to take specialized training throughout the commonwealth. In 2021, Officer Derek Worden received training as a certified School Resource Officer. At the time of this report, Officer Worden is 1 of 4 in the Mohawk District. This 40-hour class will aid in different subjects of handling school incidents. Congratulations to Officer Worden for this accomplishment.

As part of communication operability within the commonwealth, Colrain, along with other emergency services in Franklin County, have transitioned to a state of the art radio system with the ability to have clear and reliable service. The Police Department updated seven radios at the total cost of approximately \$35,000. This was a great undertaking and, due to a grant, the department only paid \$2,000. At this time, the department has seen a significant improvement with communications to aid in officer safety.

As the world of policing is changing, the members of the Colrain Police Department seek to enhance knowledge through training and the need of the community. In closing, I would like to thank Derek Worden, Heather Sonn, and Tarrah Dempsey for their compassion for the Colrain community as they all reside outside the town and are always available.

As a reminder, please do not request an officer through Facebook as this is not monitored 24/7. Any emergency shall be directed to 911 and requests to speak with any member of the department shall be made by calling 625-8200 or 624-3038.

Respectfully,
Chief Christopher Lannon

Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District

2021 was a trying year for many. Our office remained fully open and fully staffed during all of 2021. We felt we would see more veterans and their dependents due to other services being closed or restricted and this proved true. We filed more VA claims and more VA health care applications than any other year that we have been in existence. The following are some brief highlights for the district during the past year:

- District now brings in \$1,793,282.18 in Federal and State money **per month** from all sources (VA, State Reimbursements, State Annuities and sales). Compare this to \$58,000 in expenses per month.
- Our office requested and sponsored a COVID vaccine clinic courtesy of the VA and Kringle Candle in Bernardston
- We created the State's first dedicated VA Telehealth center for veterans to use for their Telehealth appointments if they do not wish to travel far or do not have the skill set or technology to do at home. This is being emphasized by the VA after lessons learned from COVID.
- VSA Laura Thorne has maintained her SHINE certification and is helping veterans and their dependents, taking some of the load off the Senior Centers. Deputy Chris Demars is now a Certified National Service Officer, allowing us to directly submit VA paperwork, helping to speed up these claims. Finally, Brian Brooks, Veteran Service Officer, is currently the Massachusetts Marine Corps League Commandant, representing Marine Veterans across Massachusetts.
- As District Town Halls and Senior Centers are slowly re-opening we are returning to our normal outreach locations (call for latest times and places)
- We project a level funded Fiscal Year 23 budget while continuing to expand services in 2023

Timothy Niejadlik, Director
Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District

Mission Statement: To advocate for veterans, their spouses, dependents, widows or widowers for Veterans' Benefits on the Local, State and Federal levels

Schools

Colrain Central School

As we continue to face the challenges of COVID 19 and its subsequent complications, we have stayed focused on the education of the children of our community. We again had 7 classrooms, plus preschool, and a network of professional and support staff to help meet the needs of all of our students. We were happy to welcome back almost all families who had chosen to homeschool during the pandemic and welcomed several new school choice students into our school community this year. During the 2021-2022 school year, we had 108 students in grades PK-6 enrolled at Colrain Central School.

We were very happy to be returning to full in-person learning this year. We continued to observe updated safety protocols in order to keep our students and staff safe and healthy. In addition to the distancing and masking procedures we had in place, we implemented pool testing this year for anyone who wished to participate. We also offer “test and stay” for those who have been identified as close contacts but are asymptomatic, which has allowed us to keep both staff and students in school while it’s in session.

Service Learning continues to be our approach to education. If that is an unfamiliar term to you, it is the idea that content information is taught through a hands-on, service-focused delivery model. Think of it as project-based learning with an emphasis on community service. We work with community partners to help students solve real world problems connected to the academic content areas and “learn by serving”. Our Service Learning Coordinator, Talia Miller, was recently awarded the Fellows in the Rural Schools Collaborative’s Celia B. Godsil Grants in Place program. This grant will allow us to be involved with two exciting projects: The William Apess Day at the Griswold Memorial Library and a school-wide project connected to the North River.

While the pandemic and remote learning forced a steep learning curve for us last year, we continue to reap the benefits of all that was learned. Our classrooms are now equipped with ClearTouch Screen Panels which allow for more interactive teaching and learning. All students are issued a Chromebook at the start of the school year and use them in a wide variety of ways throughout the year. Students have learned how to utilize the technology and incorporate it into their daily lessons in both small ways, such as very differentiated, individualized academic interventions (through the use of Dreambox and Lexia), to larger ways, such as the publication of an electronic newsletter to showcase learning.

Some of the facility maintenance and improvement projects that have happened in 2021 included: an oil line replacement, a paving design project (in progress), garage repairs (some still to be completed), phone software updated, range hood system inspected and cleaned, pull station cover replacement, and changed belts on the air handling units in attic. Additionally, the annual services such as boiler, fire alarm, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, univents, exhaust duct and vent cleaning, ansul system in kitchen, water testing, and general maintenance of toilets and sinks were all completed.

As always, I invite you to explore and see the wonderful things happening in our school. Our dedicated, hardworking staff strives to do all that is required to meet the needs of all students and prepare them to be active, involved citizens and strong, creative problem solvers. I continue to be honored to serve this town and its families and children as principal.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy K Looman

Special Education and Pupil Services Report

The Mohawk Trail Regional and Hawlemont Regional Special Education Department serves students in the Sanderson, Colrain, Hawlemont, Buckland-Shelburne, and Mohawk Trail Regional Middle and High Schools. The primary function is to ensure that students with an IEP (Individual Education Plan) or a 504 are being serviced at a level required to make effective progress with supports outlined in their IEP or 504. According to state data, during the 2020-21 school year, The Mohawk Trail and Hawlemont district have about 24.1% and 28% respectively of their student population receiving special education services. Those services are in several areas; speech and language, occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT), counseling and academics. Every school has at least one special education teacher. The OT and PT spend about one day in each school. All schools have a full time Speech Language Pathologist vs sharing a SLP and an assistant. This model has increased consistency and support for our students, while being cost effective. With an increased need for counseling services for all students, each school has begun to increase this level of support. BSE, Colrain, and Sanderson have a full-time school psychologist. Hawlemont has a full-time School Psychologist, the Middle and High School have a full time Adjustment Counselor and School Psychologist. The level of services in each building is based on population, need and level of services legally required by an IEP.

During the school year 2020-21, all students with an IEP were offered their direct services and received them based on their in person or remote status. Students with higher needs were prioritized to receive in person learning from September of 2020. As IEP meetings occurred through the year, we were required to hold conversations with the caregivers and the IEP team as to whether a student demonstrated substantial regression due to COVID and required compensatory services. We had a small number of students require compensatory services.

The district is legally obligated to support a SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Committee). A small core group of parents began the process in the spring of 2021 to reinvigorate the SEPAC. They have held monthly meetings with an average of 4 parents attending. We are grateful for their work and look forward to the continued progress.

The district continues to support several substantially separate programs for students

- Students requiring the support of a BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst): The program is located at BSE and currently serves seven students. When the program began, students spent more than 50% of their time within the program. Currently those students are in their mainstream classes more than 80% of the time.
- Mohawk Supported Classroom, located in the Middle and High School: The program supports students with social emotional needs. Students receive educational support both in the program and within the general education setting.

- Mohawk Vocational Program: Services students with Intellectual Disabilities who require a higher level of support. The program also supports those students who are eligible to remain in school until age 22, and focus on transition and vocational skills. Students participate in community job sites such as Berkshire East, Charlene Manor and Aubuchon. We are grateful to the local businesses for supporting our students.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leann Loomis
Director of Pupil Personnel Services

Superintendent of Schools

Town Report – 2021

It is a pleasure and honor to continue serving as your Superintendent of Schools. We have completed our strategic plan and are excited to move the work of both districts forward. Even though COVID 19 continues to dominate our landscape, shape our interactions, and sense of “normal”, we have worked together to make our schools and our community as safe as possible throughout the lingering pandemic. I am thankful for the empathy our community shares for each other as this has allowed us to traverse the many challenges of both districts while remaining focused on providing the most outstanding educational experience for our students.

We returned to part time in-person learning in the spring and full time in-person learning this fall. With additional protocols and safety measures, staff welcomed students and our collective enthusiasm was overwhelming! It was so amazing to have our students back in the buildings and hear their laughter and joy fill the hallways. The school districts have continued to focus on improving our technology infrastructure for in-person instruction. Our capital improvement projects have begun, including upgrades and repairs to ventilation and heating systems that have been long overdue. Thank you to the Capital Improvement Working Group for their time and thoughtful approach to ensuring our schools receive the needed attention and repairs, especially during COVID 19. We are extremely appreciative and thankful for this work and look forward to additional projects that will be completed this summer.

MTRSD planned and facilitated the Rural Schools Round Table this fall. Senator Adam Hinds and Representative Natalie Blais, both key legislators on the Student Opportunity Act Rural Commission presented and participated. Our neighboring districts attended and shared with the rest of the Rural Commission the long-standing concerns and issues inherent in educating students in rural communities. Significant rural aid has been added to the state budget, however, we continue to pursue legislative changes to create permanent funding for schools in rural communities. Thank you to the community members who attended, participated, and advocated passionately and effectively during the Rural Round Table event. Our work is essential in supporting the unique needs of students, families, schools, and our communities to ensure and sustain high quality, equitable education for small and rural districts.

In addition to continuing our implementation of the Bridges Math Program, literacy is a key focus for both districts. We are working with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to choose a scientifically, evidence-based literacy curriculum. Our District Literacy Leadership Team has been working hard to pilot curriculum, participate in professional development, and collaborate as a district to ensure literacy instruction is consistent throughout the district. We are very thankful for our partnership with the Mary Lyon Foundation in sharing our work with the community as well. Our partnership has included providing a literacy basket for any newborn in our towns as well as books for every preschool student in our district. These are exciting initiatives that bring our community together around the importance of literacy for everyone in our learning community.

A third key curriculum priority in all schools continues to be social-emotional learning. Our ESSER II and III funding has been allocated to additional support personnel and community engagement and enrichment programming. These are essential in developing and sustaining positive relationships with staff and peers as

students return to in-person learning. Much of what students know about school has changed over the past year so now more than ever, it is critical that students know they are cared for and belong to a welcoming community.

Our strategic plan outlines four key priority areas to move our districts forward. These priority areas include building community, innovating, investing in our shared future, and fostering an inclusive community of learners. As trailblazers, we are unique and our educational paths are filled with exploration, curiosity, individualized learning, community involvement and deep connections. This is evident in so many areas of our districts. I encourage you to witness or reflect upon the work of our seniors and their amazing capstone projects, our community service-learning work at Colrain Central School, our HAY program at Hawlemont, the amazing mindfulness and outdoor learning at Sanderson Academy and the inclusive work of our HUB staff and students at Buckland Shelburne Elementary. While the challenges of teaching and learning during COVID 19 have been ever-present, I continue to be extremely proud of our students, families, staff, and community as we have worked together to overcome them. I look forward to continuing this collaboration in the years to come.

Sheryl L. Stanton
Superintendent
Mohawk Trail and Hawlemont Regional School Districts

FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

82 Industrial Boulevard
Turners Falls, Massachusetts 01376
TEL: 413-863-4239 FAX: 413-863-2816
www.fcts.us

Richard J. Martin
Superintendent



FY23 Annual Report to Towns

We submit this annual report for 2020-21 school year on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students. As a reminder, the FY23 budget represents an October 1, 2021 count, which is always a year behind according to the state budget process. FCTS has an enrollment submission of 546 students with town breakouts as follows:

Bernardston	26	Erving	28	Montague	95	Sunderland	6
Buckland	18	Gill	17	New Salem	13	Warwick	7
Colrain	27	Greenfield	123	Northfield	28	Wendell	7
Conway	10	Heath	9	Orange	82	Whately	13
Deerfield	30	Leyden	0	Shelburne	11		

Franklin County Technical School awarded 109 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2021. Massachusetts students are required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma and once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. The state has adjusted their measures for evaluating district/school accountability and FCTS maintained the equivalent of a Level 2 accountability status out of a 5-point scale with 1 being the highest and 5 the lowest. Additionally, the district is meeting targets set by the Department of Education for passing rates of students of high risk with disabilities.

FCTS has the advantage of utilizing vocational students and licensed instructors from carpentry, electrical, plumbing and landscaping to provide maintenance and repairs to our school grounds and facility saving member towns tens of thousands of dollars annually. These shop programs also saved member towns an estimated \$100,000 with the bond authorization projects.

Franklin County Technical School students are learning the value of paid work opportunities through a newly revamped Cooperative Education Program (Coop). In 2019 FCTS had approximately 50% of our seniors involved in paid Coop jobs related to their vocational field of study. In 2020, due to COVID-19 issues there were approximately 20% of our seniors on paid Coop. 2021 students are once again going back to work and taking advantage of paid Coop opportunities. FCTS offers excellent academic offerings with Advanced Placement, Honors, Foreign Language, credit recovery, and special education courses to provide all students with the opportunity to be prepared for college and career readiness.

Franklin County Technical School continues to experience increased enrollment and popularity within Franklin County, which has translated to new vocational technical programs in the fields of Veterinary Animal Science and Medical Assisting. These new vibrant programs are the first new vocational programs at FCTS in more than 40 years and bring the total number of Chapter 74 vocational-technical programs to 14. Unlike other school districts which may offer a 45- minute course in a trade, FCTS students must follow strict Chapter 74 guidelines where students are

in their vocational shop program for 6.5 hours per day for a full week to meet industry standard competency guidelines.

Franklin County Technical School's technical programs continue to improve and evolve through the use of competitive Capital Skills Grants. FCTS has received more than 1.2 million dollars in grants over the last several years without using FCTS funds to enhance its Welding, Medical Assisting, Veterinary Science, and Machine Technology vocational programs. FCTS also partners with the Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board and Greenfield Community College to offer an evening program for underemployed and displaced workers to obtain a certification in Advanced Precision Machining using our 21st Century modernized CNC machines. In addition, FCTS will continue its partnerships with MassHire to explore new adult evening programs in the fall of 2022.

Franklin County Tech's Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, and Landscaping programs established a foundation in collaboration with the Greenfield Savings Bank to build a new home for the community on an annual basis. FCTS has finished its second new home in Erving and is beginning a new home building project in Greenfield. In New Salem, FCTS students built a new pavilion for the Swift River Elementary School, in Greenfield, Landscaping and Horticulture (LH) is working with the Franklin County Fair Grounds planting new trees and beautification projects. In Montague LH is working with the Montague Planning Department on the Millers trail modification. Plumbing and Electrical students are working at the new Conway DPW putting in new radiant floors and plumbing students are busy installing new bathroom and kitchen units, while electrical students continue to wire the entire facility. Welding worked on the recycling carts for the Franklin County Fair. Culinary Arts cooks meals for the Montague Housing Authority and regularly serves the local Community Senior Center and Chamber of Commerce.

Auto Collision Repair is working with the Turners Falls Police Department turning a marked police vehicle into an unmarked vehicle. Auto Technology continues to support community vehicles for all member towns. In addition, the Auto Technology program has saved member towns a substantial amount of money by maintaining the school's vehicle fleet. Many of our school vehicles are used for our various construction jobs within Franklin County and also provide for athletic transportation, which significantly reduces our overall transportation costs and allows FCTS to not require athletic user fees. FCTS Auto Technology and Collision Repair program are very appreciative of the donated vehicles which provide our students with real world experiences. The newly established Veterinary Science program has provided vaccinations for the Franklin County Sheriff's Animal Shelter by supporting their grooming needs.

Franklin County Tech is forward thinking as it continues to review labor demand and market analysis to add new programs and skills to support students to obtain competencies and training to make them competitive in the workplace, college, and career.

Our partnerships with our communities are important for our programs, and we thank those which allow our students the opportunity to practice their trades out in the field.

Respectfully,



Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz

School Committee Chairman



Mr. Richard J. Martin

Superintendent-Director