

Town of Colrain
Selectboard Meeting
55 Main Road/Town Office Building
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2012

Present: Eileen Sauvageau and Duane Scranton.

Absent Mark Thibodeau

Others Present: Robin Sherman and Jo-Anne Sherburne – FCRHRA, Chief Jason Haskins and Chris Lannon – Colrain Police Department, Justin Purinton, Scott Sullivan – Highway Superintendent, Paula Harrison – Office Clerk, Kevin Fox – Town Coordinator

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Minutes: Meeting Minutes November 5, 2012
MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to approve the minutes from November 5, 2012 as written, Duane Scranton seconded. It was voted unanimously.

Warrants: Vendor Warrants
The Selectboard approved the warrants.

Appointment: Robin Sherman – FCHRA Agreement
Robin brought the Selectboard up-to-date on the CBDG grant, She explained that there are currently 4 homeowners in Colrain who have applied for assistance and their need is estimated at \$110,000. In addition we have 6 homeowners on the waiting list. We do not have enough money on this year's grant for the current requests. Robin explained the Town of Colrain has outstanding loans of 1.3 million dollars. She explained what the Town can do with these funds when they are paid back. She encouraged the Selectmen to put the money back into the CBDG revolving funds so the residents of Colrain who are on the waiting list can be funded. She revisited the fee schedule and says that the Housing Authority is reviewing it looking at ways to cut costs. Discussion on the changes in the proposed contract since she last visited with the selectboard. Various changes were made on recommendations from Kopelman and Paige and Donna McNichols. Robin explained an example of loan forgiveness. Discussion on the purpose of the CDBG program.
MOVED: Duane Scranton moved to defer making any motions on this until Mark Thibodeau is present, Eileen Sauvageau seconded and it was voted unanimously.

New Business Approve and Sign contact with Cartographic Associates – Assessors Mapping
Eileen clarified that this is what was voted on at the annual town meeting. Kevin explained that the assessors have the contract that they would like the Board to approve. This is an annual contract.
MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to agree to sign the contract in the amount of \$1,450.00 with Cartographic Associates, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Town Accountant Request to Authorize Spending in Excess of Appropriation – Snow and Ice MGL Ch. 44 Sec. 3D
Kevin explained that Tracey the Town Accountant is requesting the board approve excess spending for snow and ice. The Finance Committee has had a meeting tonight and has approve this request.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved that we approve the request by the town accountant to authorize over expenditure of the snow and ice account under MGL Ch. 44, Sec 3D. Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Engineering Plans

Kevin explained the engineer has sent out some preliminary plans for the Bank Stabilization on Route 112 and would like the board to review and see if the board still supports the project. The Highway Superintendent reviewed and was okay with the plans. There was discussion on the location of the project.

MOVED: Duane Scranton support the stabilization project on route 112 north just north of Reil Road bridge, Eileen Sauvageau seconded and it was voted unanimously

Old Business

FCRHA Contract

Kevin left this on old business. No Action Taken

Appointment of Citizens Advisory Committee Member (CDBG)

Kevin explained he has asked Joan Rockwell, she was not interested and put out the request to her board. But there has not been a response. This appointment is back to the Selectboard. The Board will take it into consideration. No Action Taken.

Not Anticipated
At time of posting

Update on Mohawk Regional School – Roof Project

Mike Slowinski called to update on the Mohawk roof project. He recommending the building committee pursue liquidating damages because of the delay in the project. Mike want the selectmen to be aware of this action. The selectmen agree

2013 Selectboard Fees

Kevin explains it is time to review the current Selectmen's fees. Kevin reviewed the current licenses

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau move to keep the Selectmen's fees for 2013 the same as 2012 and review again next year, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Seasonal hours of the Highway Department

Kevin explained that we research the highway hours. Paula went back quite a ways but found this has been the norm. Discussion on the start times whether it is four days or five days a week. Duane requested a current job description of the Highway Superintendent. Kevin will get that for Duane.

Pitt House Lease Agreement

The Pitt House 3 year lease agreement which expired in 2006, Kevin informed the board that he is reviewing this with the Historic Society. Kevin will bring this back to the board when he has gathered information.

Phoebe Walker – FRCOG Cooperative Public Health

Kevin informed the board that Phoebe Walker will reschedule when there is a decision from the Board of Health. Reminder to schedule a meeting with Phoebe Walker next Wednesday at 7 pm

Appointment

Chief Jason Haskins – Police Department Discussion

Eileen explained one of the reasons they had them come in tonight was she has heard that sometimes it is hard to get a police officer in town. Chris and Roger are the only officers in town and sometimes it is hard to get police response.

The Chief explained that all the Colrain officers have other full time jobs, and because of these jobs it has been difficult scheduling officers for Colrain daytime hours. The Chief

informed the Board it is imperative to give the police department at least a weeks' notice in order to get an officer scheduled for jobs. Chief Haskins is actively looking for additional officers and has had multiple applicants. He would like to hire Justin Purinton as a Colrain Patrol Officer. Duane asked if there is room in the budget for an additional officer. The Chief explained that Justin will be replacing Clint therefore this is covered in the budget. There was discussion on the use of the police vehicles and where they are housed. The Chief explained the Tahoe is in Colrain because it is not in great condition and it is the vehicle that Officer Lannon prefers. The Selectboard asked how many other towns are accredited in the hill towns? The Chief responds none. He would like to be the first town in the hill town to become accredited. It will be a benefit for our insurance, it will open up a lot more grant opportunities and shows the public that Colrain is serious about the towns police department. Lastly, the Chief would like to promote Chris Lannon to the Sargent's position. He explains the reasons for this decision. This position was created a few years ago so it is open and available.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved that Chris Lannon be promoted to police sergeant position effective 11/22/2012 for a probation period until the next appointment period, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Chief Haskins introduced Justin Purinton to the Board. The Selectmen and Justin discussed why he would like to be a Colrain Officer. The Selectmen explained their expectation for the Town of Colrain. The Chief explained the Police Department expectations.

MOVED: Duane moved to hire Justin Purinton as a part-time police officer effective 11/22/2012 for the Town of Colrain with the customary probation period, Eileen Sauvageau seconded and it was voted unanimously.

MOVED: Duane Scranton moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 PM. Seconded by Eileen Sauvageau and it was voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Harrison
Office Clerk

Documents

- Meeting Minutes 11-5-2012
- Payroll and Vendor Warrants
- Correspondence from Phoebe Walker FRCOG – Cooperative Public Health Service
- Letter to Selectmen from Thomas F. Veto – Complaint regarding Police Personnel
- Letter to Selectmen from Colrain Board of Assessors regarding Cartographic Associates
- 2013 Tax Map Maintenance Proposal from Cartographic Associates, Inc.
- Memo from Accountant regarding Snow and Ice account
- FEMA – Hazardous Mitigation Grant – Riverbank Stabilization Project Route 112
- FCRHA – Contract to administer CBDG grants
- Letter from Colrain Police regarding Hiring Justin Purinton