

Town of Colrain
Select Board Meeting
55 Main Road/Town Office Building
7:00 P.M.
MINUTES OF February 22, 2016

Present: Eileen Sauvageau, Mark Thibodeau, Jack Cavolick, Kate Barrows, Bill Dornbusch, Peggy Sloan – FRCOG, Scott Sylvester,(Town Rep.) Mohawk trail Woodlands Partnership, Bob O Connor, and Wendy Ferris.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Eileen Sauvageau at 7:00 PM

Public Hearing: To consider an application by Catamount Country Store to store flammable liquids, flammable liquid gases and solids (gasoline and diesel)
No resident attended the meeting. The Board had no concerns or questions.

MOVED: Mark Thibodeau moved to approve the application for the Catamount Country to store Flammable Liquids, Flammable Gases and Solids (gasoline and diesel). Jack Cavolick seconded. Voted unanimous.

Meeting Minutes: The minutes for 1-2-2016, 2-8-2016, 1-20-2015, and 1-5-2015 are ready for the Boards approval. Eileen Sauvageau has asked for more time for review. Meeting minutes table until the next meeting.

Request by the Colrain Historical Society

The Colrain Historical Society is seeking to rent from the Town of Greenfield their Trolley bus for an event next fall. The Town of Greenfield requires a certificate of insurance and to be named as an additional insured for the event.

Appointments

Peggy Sloan (FRCOG), Scott Sylvester (Town Rep.) – Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Draft business Plan.

Peggy gave a presentation on the draft business plan and the Board an update on the program. Scott Sylvester spoke about the uniqueness of the forests in our area. He also spoke about the different ways this program could benefit and improve the forests in this region. Peggy asked the Board to contact her with any questions.

Town Representative for the Strategic Plan Steering Plan:

Kate Barrows from 35 Wilson Hill road attended the meeting and has asked the Board to be appointed to the Mohawk Trail School District Strategic Plan Steering Committee.

Kate explained that she is a former teacher from the Greenfield School District and she expressed her concerns over the Mohawk school budget. She feels that the budget may be too tight. Mark Thibodeau and Eileen Sauvageau explained that they feel the Town cannot continue going in this direction and that something has to be done about the school budgets continual increase every year. Kate asked the Board if they have given any thought about possibly consolidating the Highway Department, Fire Department and the Police Department as a way to

save the Town some money. Kevin explained that this was discussed a few years earlier and it was decided then that, that was not feasible. Eileen stated that she would be attending a few of the Strategic Plan steering committee meetings but also stated that if she felt that things were not going anywhere she would stop attending.

MOVED: Jack Cavolick moved to appoint Kate Barrows to the Mohawk Trail Strategic Steering Committee. Mark Thibodeau seconded. Voted unanimous.

Letter to Mohawk Trail RSD RE. School Assessments:

After discussion it was decided that this would be tabled and brought up again at the next meeting.

Proposed Regional Agreement:

Kevin suggested that the Board have the agreement reviewed by the Town attorney, the Board agreed. Kevin will send the agreement to Kopelman and Paige tomorrow for review.

FY-17 Budget:

There was a discussion on how the Town could cut the budget and the pros and cons of possibly closing schools. Marybeth Chichester stated that 43 percent of the towns operating budget is going to the schools. Kevin suggested that the Board consider a proposition 2 1/2 override. It was decided that there should be some kind of community conversation about the implications of the budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted by the Board of Selectmen

Colleen Worden
Office Clerk

Eileen Sauvageau - Chairman

Mark Thibodeau

Jack Cavolick

Documents

- R-16.027 A Resolution
- 2016 solarize Massachusetts Installer Review Scoresheet
- 2016 Solarize Massachusetts Shelburne Colrain Conway Program- Request for proposal
- Letter to Chairman, Mohawk Trail RSD school Committee
- Warrant Article – Mohawk Trail Regional Agreement
- Mohawk Trail regional School District Agreement
- Mohawk trail Woodlands Partnership Draft Plan
- Flammable and Combustible Liquids, Flammable gases and Solids for Catamount country Store
- Use of Trolley Policy