Town of Colrain

Select Board Meeting

55 Main Road/Town Office Building

6:00 P.M.

# MINUTES OF MARCH 30, 2020

**Present** Eileen Sauvageau, Mark Thibodeau, Joe Kurland

**Others Present** Betsy Shuipis, Administrative Asst., Kevin Fox, Town Coordinator

The meeting, held remotely through conference call-in, was called to order by Eileen Sauvageau, Chair, at 6 p.m.

**Appointments: Mike Freidlander, Chair, Board of Health - Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District**

Mike Freidlander was unable to attend the meeting. This item is tabled until Mike can come before the Select Board to discuss costs and other details of the agreement.

**New Business Postponement of Annual Town Meeting**

**MOVED:** Joe Kurland moved to postpone the Annual Town Meeting to Tuesday, 6/16/20 at 7 p.m. Mark Thibodeau seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

**Postponement of Annual Town Elections**

Town Clerk Eileen Sauvageau is considering using all mail-in ballots, but will consult with her contacts at the state election office about this.

**MOVED:** Joe Kuralnd moved to postpone the Annual Town Election to Monday, June 15 and for the Town Clerk to investigate whether it is possible for the Town of Colrain to use all mail-in ballots. Mark Thibodeau seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

**New Warrant Closing Date**

**MOVED:** Joe Kurland moved to change the closing date for warrants to May 19, 2020. Mark Thibodeau seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

**New due date for nomination petitions**

The Town Clerk will check the due date. She has nomination papers signed for all nominees.

**Protection and safety of election works**

The Town Clerk has given a lot of thought to this and will report her plans at the next meeting.

**Acceptance of Resignation - Fran Ryan - Broadband Advisory Committee**

**MOVED:** Mark Thibodeau moved to accept Fran Ryan’s resignation as a member of the Broadband Advisory Committee and directs the Town Coordinator to send a letter thanking him for his service. Joe Kurland seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

**Appointment to Broadband Advisory Committee - David Greenberg**

**MOVED:** Joe Kurland moved to appoint David Greenberg to the Broadband Advisory Committee. Mark Thibodeau seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

**Nomination of Inspector of Animals**

There hasn’t been any applicants for this position, despite the job posting on our website. The Town Coordinator will refer this to the Agricultural Committee for possible candidates.

**Contingency Plan for Residents Unable to Pay Taxpayers With Compassion**

Joe Kurland proposed discussion of a contingency plan for residents unable to pay taxes. It was noted that any help for residents must come from a legislative act, which is what the Commonwealth is working on. At this time, the Select Board has no authority to forgive taxes or waive late fees (the Town can waive up to $15).

**Nick Anzuoni, Fire Chief, received a resident’s complaint in writing regarding 1 Jacksonville Road and 121 Adamsville Road.**

The Select Board has the responsibility to act on unregistered vehicle violations only; not junk on a property. If complaints about property come before the Select Board that do not pertain to unregistered vehicles, they may refer them to the Board of Health to respond, if appropriate. If the Fire Chief has concerns about his firefighters’ safety, he can warn a property owner that he will refuse to respond to an emergency fire call due to safety reasons. But neither the Fire Chief nor the Select Board have power to get rid of junk on a property.

**MOVED:** Joe Kurland moved to direct the Town Coordinator to send a letter to the owners of 1 Jacksonville Road and 121 Adamsville Road regarding unregistered vehicles with an explanation of the fines included. Mark Thibodeau seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

**Old Business FY21 Budget Discussion**

The Finance Committee will meet tomorrow (3/31) at 6:30 p.m. if any of the Select Board members have questions for them.

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The Town Coordinator anticipates there will be state aid cuts to our town and to the school as well. Given that the Annual Town Meeting is moved to June, we may want to sit on decisions until we get closer to June. Kevin will send all of the requests for more hours and wage increases to Joe tomorrow with explanations included.

**Draft of Town Policy for Disposal of Surplus/waste Materials Resulting from Public Works Projects**

Discussion postponed until the next meeting.

**Town Coordinator Contract**

Discussion postponed until the next meeting.

**MOVED: Eileen moved to close the meeting at 6:43 p.m. Mark seconded. Voted unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted, Accepted by the Select Board

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Betsy Shuipis Eileen Sauvageau - Chairman

Administrative Assistant

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Mark Thibodeau

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Joe Kurland

Documents

Selectmen Meeting Notes

Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership

Baker-Polito Administration and U.S.D.A. Forest Service Sign Stewardship Agreement to Support Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership

Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District Subscription to Services

Nomination of Inspector of Animals from Michael Cahill, Director, Division of Animal Health

Joe Kurland’s email to Town Coordinator re: Contingency Plan for Taxpayers during Covid-19 pandemic