Town of Colrain

Select Board Meeting

55 Main Road/Town Office Building

6:00 P.M.

# MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2020

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

**Others Present** Megan McDonough, Town Moderator; Nina Anzoni, Board of Health; Paul, Scott Sullivan, Highway Superintendent; Mike Slowinski, Robin Pease, MTRSD Facilities Director; Toby Basset, School Committee Member; 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: Megan McDonough, Town Moderator, ATM logistics discussion**

Megan McDonough and Nina Anzuoni led a discussion about the options for holding the Annual Town Meeting. It was proposed that the Emergency Planning Committee meet to talk about the details of holding the ATM, including when, where, whether inside vs. outside, the use of microphones and a sound system, social distancing and mask wearing, cleaning/disinfecting area, and overall safety of participants.

Once the warrant is determined, Megan would like to schedule a public informational session via Zoom or conference call where department heads could answer questions from the public before the ATM with the effect of shortening the ATM.

Eileen will ask the PPE Committee and Megan McDonough to meet this week to come up with a solid proposal on how to run the ATM to be brought before the Select Board at the 5/18/20 meeting at 6 p.m.

Kevin will send the PPE group information on the possible 1/12 budget and how it would affect the Town adversely.

There is an article on the proposed warrant that affects the easements for the TIP project that can’t wait, so if the ATM is postponed, we’d need a Special Town Meeting to address this one article.

**Scott Sullivan, Highway Superintendent, Chapter 90 Proposal**

The Chapter 90 proposal is for a section of Heath Rd. from Maxam Rd. intersection and Dwight Cross Rd. to the Heath town line for approximately $190,000. Scott would like to submit this before the new FY21. The Select Board agrees with using CH 90 funds for road repair.

Kevin Fox will prepare a project request for the Select Board’s vote for either the 5/18 or 5/26 meeting**.**

**Robin Pease, MTRSD Facilities Director, Proposed Capital Projects at CCS**

Robin Pease, Toby Basset and Mike Slowinski, members of the School Building Subcommittee Mohawk Regional School District discussed the proposed capital projects.

MTRSD received a $50,000 grant for security upgrades for the district; Colrain Central School was allocated $25,000 of it. One of the projects is a pass-through window at the front office where visitors would be able to drop off items, etc. without entering the building. The window glass must meet a 2-hour fire rated corridor code. Mike Slowinski asks that demolition be delayed until our fire department inspection confirms that the glass meets code. This is a special order so If it doesn’t pass inspection, it can delay the project 3-4 months. The grant has two phases - 7/15 and 9/30, which means the glass must be installed by 9/30/20.

The Select Board is willing to waive the permit fee.

The Town of Colrain must send the School district a letter consenting to this project. The Select Board will approve the whole project provided the successful building, fire and electrical permits are obtained.

Kevin Fox can have a letter ready tomorrow to the MTRSD that we are consenting on May 11 provided that a building permit is applied for and approved. The Select Board agrees with the other projects—window-tinting, Go-kits, and card-access door readers—included in the grant.

**Attorney Donna MacNicol, Cal Combs Road Closure**

The inspection of the site that the Select Board had requested is the last component to be done.

Donna will confirm that the owner is willing to pay. Kevin Fox recommends an on-site inspection with the highway superintendent, the fire chief, Donna MadNicol, and Ms. Chase. Mark would like to attend the inspection, also. Kevin will set up a date with all concerned. Donna will email Kevin Johnny Chase’s phone # tomorrow.

**New Business Approve Election Warrant**

Not ready yet.

**Old Business FY21 Budget Discussion**

A big budgeting unknown for the Town is what are the funding sources going to look like for FY21? After much research and talking with colleagues, Kevin thinks there will likely be a reduction of 15% in cherry sheet revenues, which is approximately a $55,000 loss.Kevin recommends not funding the replacement of a recently retired employee (payroll and insurance is approximately $52,000). Kevin Fox talked with Scott Sullivan. Scott can speak to the Select Board about his concerns at a future meeting.

**Report from Agricultural Commission Re: Right-To-Farm Grievance Resolution**

Haynes Turkle, Chair of the Agricultural Commission, emailed Kevin Fox to say the commission is making progress on the complaint, but they need more time. Haynes offered to report to the Select Board at a subsequent meeting with their assessment.

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

Discussion was postponed.

**Unanticipated Kevin French has submitted his resignation as the Emergency Management Director (EMD)**

Jamie Hunkler, Assistant EMD, will provide coverage until the position is filled. Kevin will post job listings for the EMD and Animal Inspector on the website.

Mark moved to accept Kevin French’s resignation as the EMD. Joe seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

**Select Board Meeting Minutes**

Joe Kurland noted a minor correction to be made.

**Moved:** Joe Kurland moved to accept the minutes of April 13, 2020, as corrected. Mark seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

**MOVED: Joe moved to close the meeting at 7:40 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