

Town of Colrain
Select Board Meeting
Highway Garage
9 Jacksonville Road
4:30 P.M.

MINUTES OF JULY 13, 2021

Present Joe Kurland, Mike Slowinski, Thom Griffin

Others Present David Nims, Belden Merims, Historical Commission; Peter Brooks, Energy Committee; Matt Shearer, Pine Hill Orchards; Nicole Slowinski, FCTS representative; Scott Sullivan, Highway Superintendent; Betsy Shuipis, Administrative Assistant; Kevin Fox, Town Administrator.

The meeting was called to order by Joe Kurland, Chair, at 4:30 p.m.

Appointments **Belden Merims, Smith Bridge signage issues and permission to expend funds from the Smith Bridge Donation Account**

There are two signs for the bridge: Robin Brooks' sign and design work (estimate \$750), and the Hale off-premise sign (estimate \$350, plus installation), which needs ZBA approval. Robin Brooks' estimated bill can be authorized by the Board and then go on a warrant when the invoice is received. Kevin advised Belden to call him when she receives the invoice and he can help her complete the form.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to authorize \$1,200 from the Arthur A. Smith Bridge Donation Fund to pay for the design and installation of the sign that will hang inside the bridge and a sum not to exceed \$300 for advertising and mailing for the ZBA meeting pertaining to the historical sign to be placed outside the Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge. Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Scott Sullivan – FY22 Highway Department staffing needs

Scott would like to fill the position that Donny Brown held until he retired this year. There are funds appropriated for the position itself, but not enough for health insurance. The Board recommended holding off a while so funds can accumulate, and if a qualified candidate is found, we would be in a position to go to special town meeting and transfer funds for the health insurance.

Projects that aren't getting done because of the vacancy are re-gravelling of roads, sub-drainage projects, and a second driver for mowing. Should Scot hire a temp in the meantime? There are too many license requirements to consider hiring a temporary person to mow and/or work the transfer station. The Board encouraged Scott to look for a qualified candidate, and if a good candidate comes along, hire him/her.

Donny Brown indicated he is available to plow again this winter.

Peter Brooks, Energy Committee – Request to submit a Project Narrative to DER to request the use of Green Communities Grant funding for the Energy Conservation Measures at CCS

Peter reported that progress on the back wall of the garage has slowed down and the

town office's new lighting and mini-splits project is held up temporarily, so the committee would like to pursue air sealing at Colrain Central School. It's a low budget project to stop the air from leaking from the building by spraying foam to seal cracks. They would like your approval to go ahead with this program. The Board was concerned about the payback because for every dollar of energy savings in a school building, there's only 18 cents for the Town of Colrain. They agree that the air sealing is a worthy project, but would like the committee to pursue energy savings in town buildings first before tackling the school building. For instance, the library – window inserts and an energy management system/building maintenance system where the town will get 100% of savings instead of 18%.

Peter would like to go ahead with the air sealing project; he could write the scope of work, as the facilities director doesn't have time. Who will be the municipal contact? The Board believes it should be handled by the school district's facilities manager, who manages, oversees, bids and supervise all that goes on in the Colrain Central School building.

Kevin suggested the Energy Committee pursue the library window inserts and town office siding (insulated) projects.

New Business Appoint representative to the Franklin County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC)

MOVED: Thom Griffin moved that we appoint Nick Anzuoni to be our representative on the Regional Emergency Planning Committee of FRCOG.
Mike Slowinski seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

MGL Ch. 44 Section 33B (end-of-year) transfers

Kevin Fox met with the Finance Committee 7/12/21 and they approved four transfers.

MOVED: Thom Griffin moved to approve the end-of-year transfers.
Mike Slowinski seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Response to email from MTRSD Chair re: Bonding for capital projects

Joe would be willing to go to a meeting. When more information is available, Kevin will bring it to the Select Board.

Discussion re: past payments to FCTSD for tuition of Heath students – how to proceed

Kevin should make a request of FCTSD for a list of students in the 10 past years that Colrain paid for that weren't Colrain residents.

One-day Liquor License – Four Phantoms Brewing to be held at Pine Hill Orchards

Police Chief Lannon approved the license.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to approve the One-day Liquor License application with Four Phantoms Brewing to be held at Pine Hill Orchards on 7/17/21.
Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Old Business Approve/sign letter of application to join AARP Age-Friendly Communities Network

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved that we approve the letter and join AARP as written.
Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Unanticipated Johnathan Remus appointed to the Personnel Committee

MOVED: Thom Griffin moved to appoint Jonathan Remus to the Personnel Committee. Mike Slowinski seconded. **Voted unanimously.**

Approve Select Board minutes of 6/15/21

Mike Slowinski moved to approve the minutes of June 15, 2021 as written. Thom Griffin seconded. **Voted unanimously.**

Town Administrator

Updates

A representative of Colrain was invited to a grant ceremony for a culvert replacement on Heath Rd over Taylor Brook. Mike Slowinski will attend the ceremony.

MOVED: Thom Griffin moved to dissolve the meeting at 6:24 p.m. Mike Slowinski seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted by the Select Board

Betsy Shuipis
Administrative Assistant

Joe Kurland - Chair

Mike Slowinski

Thom Griffin

Documents

Select Board Meeting Notes

Email from the Town Administrator to Belden Merims dated June 28, 2021 re: Smith Bridge Donation account.

Public Works salaries and wages FY22 with noted approval at Annual Town Meeting of wages.

Colrain FY22 Health Ins/Life Ins/Medicare/SUI table of estimates for single and family rates

FRCOG FY22 appointment for Colrain's Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC) representative

Colrain Finance Committee request to the Select Board for line item transfer of funds with accompanying General Law-Part I, Title VII, Ch. 44, Sec. 33B

Email from Martha Thurber to MTRSD District Select Board and Finance Committee Chairs & Town Administrators dated July 1, 2021 re: Bonding for Capital Projects – Next Steps

MTRSD FY22 Capital Debt Schedule

Town of Colrain 1-Day Liquor License Application for Four Phantoms Brewing at Pine Hill Orchards signed by Matthew Shearer of Pine Hill Orchards

Letter from Town of Colrain to Michael Festa re: Age- and Dementia-Friendly Project in Franklin County

Email from Jonathan Rehmus to the Select Board dated July 8, 2021 re: desire to fill vacancy on the Personnel Committee