

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

MINUTES OF AUGUST 10, 2021

Present Joe Kurland, Mike Slowinski, Thom Griffin

Others Present Kate Barrows, MTRSD Representative; Kathryn Bosyk, Greg Olchowski, Michael Shuipis, MLP Co-manager; Betsy Shuipis, Administrative Assistant; Kevin Fox, Town Administrator.

The meeting was called to order by Joe Kurland, Chair, at 4:32 p.m.

Appointments Kate Barrows, MTRSD Representative

Kate Barrows had questions concerning the details of the debt exclusion and the upcoming Special Town Election (9-7-21). It was noted that despite having no authorization to do so, our school district has expended money before the Town of Colrain voted on debt exclusion. The district business office should know that capital projects need a unanimous vote of district towns as is stated in the regional agreement.

Questions for Kate about the upcoming school year:

- Is there a mask mandate? Not as yet; the Covid Task Force will resume meeting this Thursday.
- What percent of employees have been vaccinated? What is the student enrollment at Colrain Central? Kate didn't have these numbers.
- What projects got done in Mohawk Trail? The CTC project is being done.
- Why are we hiring people w/o proper credentials? It is unfortunate that there is no transparency with the school committee.

Executive Session

MOVED: At 5:32 p.m. Mike Slowinski moved to go into Executive Session convened under MGL Chapter 30A Section 21: to discuss the reputation, character, physical conditions or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.

Roll Call: Thom Griffin, aye; Mike Slowinski, aye; Joe Kurland, aye. **All ayes.**

Open Session **MOVED:** Thom Griffin made a motion to end the Executive Session and call the open session back at 6:10 p.m. Mike Slowinski seconded. **Roll call:** Thom Griffin, aye; Mike Slowinski, aye; Joe Kurland, aye. **Unanimous vote.**

New Business **Appoint Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA) Advisory Board Member**

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to appoint Joe Kurland as the Advisory Board Member of the Franklin Regional Transit Authority. Thom Griffin seconded. **Roll call:** Thom Griffin, yes; Mike Slowinski, yes; Joe Kurland, recusal.

Insurance Proposal, Cabot Risk, Colrain Municipal Light Plant

Kevin Fox received a quote of \$2,525.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to expend the sum of \$2,525 to Hanover Insurance Company for fiber optic cable from pole to pole and Multiport Service Terminals, excluding connections to customers' buildings, used to provide high-speed internet service to town residents and subscribers in the Town of Colrain, MA. Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Old Business Policy Development/Revision Re: Broadband Drop Cost Allowance Policy

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved that the Municipal Light Plant regulations drop/installation policy be amended to read as follows:

Drop/Installation costs to be repaid: If a subscriber cancels service within the first year they will be required to reimburse the Town of Colrain for the full actual cost of the drop/installation to their home. The only exceptions are if the cancellation is a temporary disconnect (for seasonal residents or tenant moves), or if the home is sold.

Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Common Good Fridge at the library

Kathryn Boysk has myriad complaints about the Griswold Memorial library, including concerns about the fridge placed at the library. Other possible sites in town are 1) the elementary school, but the superintendent noted there's a lot of vandalism so it was decided that the school wasn't a good site 2) the fire station, but Chief Anzuoni said no 3) the Town Offices, but Kevin Fox doesn't feel the site is well suited for the fridge.

Unanticipated Greg Olchowski - Dust on E. Colrain Road

The Board of Health and Randy Crochier, Health Agent, are looking into a DEP grant to analyze air particulates and can apply for 5-10 sensors. Mr. Olchowski is concerned that the grant will be too long of a process to be of help.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to end the meeting at 6:39 p.m. Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Shuipis
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by the Select Board

Joe Kurland - Chair

Mike Slowinski

Thom Griffin

Documents

Select Board Meeting Notes

Franklin Regional Transit Authority letter dated July 20, 2021 requesting a letter from the Town of Colrain stating the person who will serve as FRTA Advisory Board member

By-laws of the Advisory Board to the Franklin Regional Transit Authority

By-laws of the Finance and Audit Committee for the Franklin Regional Transit Authority

Appendix Finance and Audit Committee By-laws List of Duties and Powers

Franklin Regional Transit Authority Local Assessment and Weighted Voting Share FY 6/30/20

MIAA Town of Colrain & Colrain Municipal Light Plant Insurance Proposal

Cabot Risk Strategies LLC Premium Notification dated July 26, 2021 for the Town of Colrain and Colrain Municipal Light Plant for the sum of \$2,525.