

Town of Colrain
Select Board/MLP Board Meeting
Highway Garage
9 Jacksonville Road
4:30 PM

**MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD
November 23, 2021**

Present: Joe Kurland, Chair; Mike Slowinski; W. Thomas Griffin

Others Present: Jane Johnson; Jon Stetson; Donnie Brown; Joshua Hall; Kellie Smith; Kayleigh Brown; Gail Johnson; Jonathan Legreze; Timothy Daniels; Michael Shuipis, MLP Co-Manager; Paula Harrison, Treasurer/Collector; Betsy Shuipis, Administrative Assistant; Kevin Fox, Town Administrator

Chair, Joe Kurland called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm.

Appointments: Tim Daniels – Highway Department Employment Candidate Interview

Kevin Fox informed the Board that he and Scott Sullivan met with each of the candidates and recommended Tim Daniels and Casey Peters. Mr. Daniels described his work experience, reasons for wanting to work for the Town of Colrain and answered questions from the Select Board. Mr. Daniels asked if he could begin work at the 5-year vacation mark (120 hours/year) and that his salary be at the top range of \$25/hour. Mr. Daniels will give this request in writing to Kevin Fox.

The Select Board will meet to make their final decision Monday, 11/29/2021, 10:00 am at the Town Office Select Board room.

New Business: Letter to William Ennen (Last Mile Liaison at EOHCD) Requesting Additional Funding from the Last Mile Contingency Fund

Kevin informed the Board that the letter regarding the excess make-ready relief is ready to go and the other letter, Mike found a few discrepancies.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to accept the letter as written for the last mile contingency fund to get reimbursement for our broadband make-ready.

Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Letter to William Ennen (Last Mile Liaison at EOHCD) RE: Drop-Cost Assistance Request

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to approve this letter for the additional drop cost reimbursement subject to verifying the final number of drops that are reimbursable and authorize the chair to sign after those numbers are verified.

Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Initial Discussion Regarding Adoption of Mass G.L. Ch. 59 Sec 57C, Quarterly Tax Billing

Colrain is the only town that is semi-annual, and Paula recommends moving to quarterly to increase cash flow throughout the year. Nick Anzuoni, Chair of the Assessors, says the Board of Assessors is in favor. The Select Board is in favor of moving to quarterly taxes and having it on the Annual Town Meeting warrant.

Chair Joe Kurland read common conduct guidelines for those present at the Select Board meeting.

Old Business: FCTSD Colrain Enrollment Count

The Select Board asked for more time to review the data received and still they need more time. Kevin Fox will let Heath know that the matter is under review.

Un-Registered Motor Vehicle By-Law

The Board received a letter from Emily Thurber, Ben Eastman and Jonathan Lagreze regarding creating an ad-hoc committee to review and change the by-law and bring to Town Meeting. Jonathan Lagreze stated that the three are withdrawing their request for an ad-hoc committee. Jonathan asked that a written description of how to apply for a special permit regarding the by-law would be helpful.

Joshua Hall, 5 River Street, needs more instruction on how to apply for a special permit. Chair Kurland suggested to send a letter or email to Kevin Fox for a special permit explaining what the exception will be. To make a determination, a public hearing must be posted, abutters notified and general criteria for evaluation. Kevin reached out to Town Counsel regarding the public hearing, and he has not heard back yet.

The Planning Board will talk about the bylaw at 12/1/2021, Wednesday at 6:00 pm.

Unanticipated: Paula Harrison - Veterans' Memorial Park

The last design for the Park was a circular memorial and wonders if the committee would consider another space for the memorial where there is more room and parking. The current design doesn't allow for parking or a great space for ceremonies. Mike Slowinski explained what the committee is proposing for a design.

Town Administrator Updates: Christmas Tree Lighting

Kevin informed the Board that the tree at the Town Common is lit. Clint Dodge donated a lot of time and materials to the project. Johnny Chase purchased the lights and hired Lanoue Tree Service to string them.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to dissolve the meeting at 5:54 pm.

Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Shuipis
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by the Select Board

Joe Kurland - Chair

Mike Slowinski

Thom Griffin

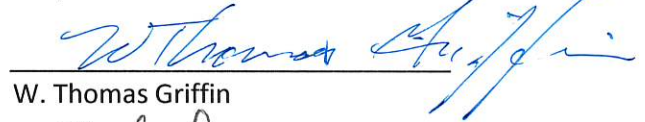
Minutes originally taken by Betsy Shuipis and typed by Marjorie Smith for approval by the current Select Board members. The current Board members accept the minutes as written on 12/12/2023, for the purpose of putting the minutes on record, as they were not accepted around the time of the original meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Smith
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by the Select Board


Benjamin Eastman - Chair


W. Thomas Griffin


Emily Thurber

Documents:

Select Board Meeting Notes

Application for Employment – Timothy Daniels

Letter from Kevin Worden I dated 10/2/2021 re: Application for Highway Dept. Equipment Operator/Laborer Position

Letter to William Ennen, Last Mile Liaison, dated 11/24/2021 from Joe Kurland, Select Board Chair re: request of funds from funds Last Mile Contingency Fund

LMCF Application for Supplemental Funding Make-Ready Worksheet

Drop Cost Assistance Request Letter Template

DLS Informational Guideline Release for implementing a semi-annual preliminary tax payment system in FY2021

MA General Law – Part I, Title IX, Chapter 59, Section 57C

Letter to Select Board dated 11/9/2021 from Emily Thurber and Ben Eastman re: request to form a Study Group to discuss unregistered motor vehicle by-law