

Town of Colrain
Select Board/MLP Board Meeting
Highway Garage, 9 Jacksonville Road
4:30 p.m.

MINUTES OF JANUARY 25, 2022

Present Joe Kurland, Mike Slowinski, Thom Griffin

Others Present Betty Ringwood, Howard Phelps, Jane Johnson, Kathy Phelps, Mary Parsons, Gail Johnston, Ben Eastman, Ellen Weeks, Chris Lannon, Jamie Hall, Ronald Culver, Josh Slysz, Jennifer Smith, Kayleigh Brown, Kellie Smith, Donnie Brown, Jr., Donald Brown, Sr., Doug MacLeay, Josh Hall, Betsy Shuipis, Administrative Assistant; Michael Shuipis and Kevin Fox, MLP Co-Managers

The meeting was called to order by Joe Kurland, Chair, at 4:31 p.m.

Appointments

New Business **FY23 COLA (Cost of Living) Adjustment**

Finance Committee has not met yet to discuss this, but will at their next meeting.

State Police Dispatch Services MOU Renewal

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to approve the 5-year, no-cost, renewal of the State Police Regional Dispatch Services Memorandum of Understanding. Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

DLTA (District Local Technical Assistance) Project Requests

FRCOG sent out a survey asking to prioritize project requests to the top three. The Select Board ranked them as follows: 1) abandoned housing, 2) healthy aging, 3) marijuana issues (mitigation).

Old Business **Continuation of Public Hearing to Consider a Request by Jamie Hall for a Special Permit for the purpose of storing more than one unregistered vehicles on property located at 5 River Street**

HEARING OPENED AT 4:48 P.M.

Mike Slowinski read the following statement and left the room at 4:50 p.m.

After consulting with an attorney at the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission, I have been advised that I must abstain in further discussions on matters regarding the Hall property at 5 River Street. I will leave the room after my statement is read until the end of the hearing. If I were to participate, I would be in violation of Sections 1, 2, 3 and 5 of Advisory 05-02 Voting on Matters of Abutting or nearby property. There is no obligation that I must disclose the reason for my abstention, but I will. My brother Timothy Slowinski owns the property across the street and a sliver of land between the North River and River Street near the Hall's property, which makes it a nearby property. Any decision by the Select Board will affect his property.

Jaime Hall asked if his property is now in compliance with the by-law since he got rid of 7 vehicles and cleaned up the yard. Mr. Hall submitted a diagram of his property to the Select Board and explained that he needs to work on derby vehicles from spring through autumn. There was discussion of putting up fencing for the vehicles not being worked on to shield them from the road, and putting tarps over the cars in the driveway that are actively being worked on.

Select Board members Joe Kurland and Thom Griffin asked to visit the Hall’s property to better understand what conditions are needed for a special permit.

Jaime Hall will meet with Joe Kurland and Thom Griffin, separately, at his property.

This Public Hearing is continued to the next meeting on Feb. 8 at 4:30 p.m.

Amicus Brief on Tracer Lane II Realty LLC vs. City of Waltham & Another (SJC-13195) – Decision to Join

The amicus brief is not ready for sharing; therefore, a decision to join cannot be made.

Franklin County Technical School District (FCTSD) Enrollment

Discussion moved to the next meeting.

Unanticipated Letter to the state to request excess drop cost money is finalized - \$315,000, the maximum the town can get.

Thom Griffin moved to approve the letter requesting excess drop cost money. Mike Slowinski seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Special Town meeting on March 10, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Three items: funds to cover the cost of our FY21 audit, retail tax on marijuana, and to consider, pending the volume of free cash, to paying off the fire truck loan.

Kevin will invite the Superintendent to next week’s meeting to discuss sidewalk clearing.

Mr. Ronald Culver, 259 Ed Clark Rd., asked if he could get an extension of June 30, 2022 regarding the unregistered vehicle complaint letter he received. Mr. Kurland asked that Mr. Culver to write a letter to the Select Board explaining his plan for compliance.

Town Administrator Updates

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to dissolve the meeting at 6:43 p.m. Thom Griffin 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

State Police Dispatch Services Memorandum of Understanding Renewal Notice of an Agreement for Providing Public Safety Dispatch Services Between the Massachusetts State Police and the Town of Colrain, Franklin County, Massachusetts

Memo to Franklin County Town Officials from Linda Dunlavy, FRCOG Executive Director re: District Local Technical Assistance Project Requests

Email from Randy Crochier dated 1/11/2022 re: Fy23 DLTA

Email from Meg Sheehan re: Amicus draft