

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

**MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD  
February 8, 2022**

**Present:** Joe Kurland, Chair; Mike Slowinski; Thom Griffin

**Others Present:** Scott Sullivan, Highway Superintendent; Tim Daniels; Dawn Brown; Jamie Hall; Betsy Shuipis, Administrative Assistant; Kevin Fox, Town Administrator

Chair, Joe Kurland called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

**Appointments:** None

**New Business:** Snow Removal on Town-Owned Sidewalks

Scott Sullivan said it would take special, expensive equipment. There was discussion about the town's responsibility to pedestrians. The town has no snow removal by-laws. It is still a construction site in the downtown until finished in the spring and not owned by the town.

Highway Dept. Resignation — Next Step

Scott Sullivan said we could post the job again or wait until spring and that have enough personnel currently. Tim Daniels would like to tell the Select Board individually what he went through. The Board commented that an Executive Session is possible, but until there is a formal complaint lodged it cannot happen. The Board agreed there will be no posting at this time and they will discuss budgeting for the position in the future.

Select Board Meeting Format; In-person, Remote, Etc.

The highway dept. conference room is small to accommodate people, however the Colrain Central School is possible. The Board will explore hybrid possibilities. Meetings will stay on Tuesdays.

Request from Colrain Firefighter's Association to Hold a Boot Drive

The Colrain Firefighter's Association have requested to hold a Boot Drive on February 20, 2022 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on Rte. 112 in front of the elementary school.

**MOVED:** Mike Slowinski moved to strike the sentence "the Board of Selectmen will limit a boot drive to one per organization, per year" from the Select Board Policies.

Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

**MOVED:** Thom Griffin moved to grant permission to hold a boot drive on February 20, 2022.

Mike Slowinski seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Letter to MTRSD Expressing Agreement in Principle Between the Towns of Heath and Colrain Regarding Potential MTRSD Regional Agreement Revision to Allocate Capital Costs Specific to the Colrain Central School Between the Two Towns

Hilma Sumner of Heath prepared a letter to the MTRSD School Committee.

**MOVED:** Thom Griffin moved to approve the letter to the MTRSD school committee as laid out in the letter.

Mike Slowinski seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

**Old Business:** Continuation of Public Hearing to Consider a Request by Jamie Hall for a Special Permit for One Purpose of Storing More than One Unregistered Vehicle on Property Located at 5 River St.  
Mike Slowinski recused himself and exited the building at 4:36 pm.

The Public Hearing opened at 4:37 pm.

Thom Griffin visited to the Hall's property, 5 River St, and the Board discussed fencing and how it could help deflect extra cars/car pieces from view. Chair Kurland visited the property at another time and read a list of his suggestions.

Dawn Brown questions if the special permit is granted, does that mean this is what happens for everyone who applies? Chair Kurland explained that each permit request will be considered individually.

Who will enforce the provisions in the special permit? Will there be anything in the permit to say what happens when the Halls do not comply with conditions? The remedy would be to comply quickly or be fined.

**MOVED:** Thom Griffin moved to grant a special permit to Mr. and Mrs. Hall to keep more than one unregistered motor vehicle at 5 River St, with the conditions as written in the special permit. Joe Kurland seconded. **Approved.**

Thom Griffin moved to close the hearing at 5:09 pm.

Mike Slowinski reentered the meeting at 5:10 pm.

#### FCTSD Enrollment

No updates.

#### **Unanticipated:** Transfer Station Fee Schedule

**MOVED:** Thom Griffin moved set the fee for 34 gal. - 55 gal. at \$4.00.

Mike Slowinski seconded. **Voted unanimously.**

#### Approve Select Board Minutes – 1/12/2022

**MOVED:** Mike Slowinski moved to approve the minutes of 1/12/2022 as written.

Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

#### Follow up of Question “How to Get More Residents to Attend Annual Town Meeting”

Suggestions that get more signage up around town. This can be discussed closer to the June date.

#### **Town Administrator Updates:**

##### Special Town Meeting Draft Warrant

Kevin Fox drafted the three articles for the Special Town Meeting warrant that were discussed. This will be signed at the next meeting.

**MOVED:** Mike Slowinski moved to dissolve the meeting at 6:27 pm.

Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Shuipis  
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by the Select Board

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Joe Kurland - Chair

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Mike Slowinski

\_\_\_\_\_  
Thom Griffin

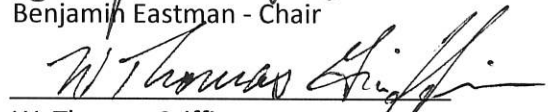
Minutes originally taken by Betsy Shuipis and typed by Marjorie Smith for approval by the current Select Board members. The current Board members accept the minutes as written on 12/26/2023, for the purpose of putting the minutes on record, as they were not accepted around the time of the original meeting.


Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Smith  
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by the Select Board

  
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Benjamin Eastman - Chair

  
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W. Thomas Griffin

  
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Emily Thurber

**Documents:**

Select Board Meeting Notes

Email from Joe Kurland dated 2/3/2022 re: Select Board Meeting format

Letter from Colrain Firefighter's Association dated 12/19/2021 re: Request for Boot Drive

Select Board Solicitation Policy

Special Town Meeting Date/Time/Location Proposal

MTRSD Building Rental Application re: Use of the Colrain Central School for Special Town Meeting

DRAFT Special Town Meeting Warrant

Letter from Scanlon & Associates dated 11/22/2021 re: Auditing the Town of Colrain's financial statements

Email from Nicole Costanzo of KP Law dated 12/15/2021 re: imposing an excise tax on the retail sale of marijuana

Email from Joseph Delbove, USDA, dated 1/24/2022 re: payoff of the USDA loan

Pages 1 & 2 of the Town of Colrain Annual Town Meeting as voted Fiscal Year 2014

Amortization Schedule by Year for the USDA Loan for the 2015 Fire Truck

Fiscal Year 2022 Free Cash Certification