

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

MINUTES OF MARCH 8, 2022

Present Joe Kurland, Mike Slowinski, Thom Griffin

Others Present Lynn DiTullio, Nancy Turkle, Howard Phelps, Kathy Phelps, Jade Mortimer, Ellen Weeks, Jane Johnson, Emily Thurber, Timothy Daniels, Ben Eastman, Jonathan Lagreze, Amy Looman, Principal, Chelsea Makely, Library Director; Betsy Shuipis, Administrative Assistant; Kevin Fox, Town Administrator.

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

Appointments **Lynn DiTullio – Interview for consideration of appointment to the Personnel Committee**
MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to approve Lynn DiTullio to the Personnel Committee for a term of 3 years. Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

New Business **Elizabeth Shuipis – Request to be appointed to the Cultural Council**
MOVED: Thom Griffin moved to appoint Elizabeth Shuipis and Nancy Turkle to the Cultural Council. Mike Slowinski seconded. Joe Kurland abstained. **Approved.**

Succession planning discussion

The Administrator Assistant will be retiring 12/31/22 so there is time to reevaluate the job structure and responsibilities.

Mask protocol in town facilities

New Advisory: *The Select Board advises that a fully vaccinated person should wear a mask or face covering when indoors if you have a weakened immune system, if you are at increased risk for severe disease because of your age or an underlying medical condition, or if someone in your household has a weakened immune system and is at increased risk for severe disease or is unvaccinated. If a person is not fully vaccinated, it is important that they continue to wear a mask to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 to other people.* This will be put on the website, posted on buildings, and town personnel, committees and boards will be contacted of the new protocol.
MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to rescind the mask mandate for all town-owned buildings and replace it with a mask advisory effective March 9, 2022. Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Search for a town common volunteer flagpole maintainer

The job of keeping the flag raised and lowered, as needed. This item will continue at the board's next meeting when the key has been delivered and the volunteers confirm their willingness to take the job.

Request to Select Board to amend the Town's Zoning By-laws to change the title "Board of Selectmen" to "Selectboard"

Attorney Katharine Klein's email with her recommendations is attached.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to amend the Town's Zoning By-laws to change the title of Selectmen to Selectboard. Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Old Business **Snow removal on town-owned sidewalk**

Snow removal in town is complicated by the hodgepodge of town- and privately-owned sidewalks along

town- and state-run roads. There are sidewalks on the state highway that get cleared by the state plows, which turn to ice and become dangerously impassable. There are privately owned sidewalks that never get cleared by their owners. Should those owners be penalized? If so, how will it be enforced?

Chelsea Jordan-Makely, Library Director, wants access to the library to be as easy as possible for all ages and mobilities and feels that keeping the sidewalks clear during the winter may be more work, but it is doable. Amy Looman, Principal, Colrain Central School, is concerned about the snow on the sidewalk over the bridge for the preschooler who walks to school.

Chair Kurland requested that a list of all the town-owned sidewalks be given to Scott Sullivan, Highway Superintendent, for his estimated cost of snow removal if done in-house or outside. Kevin Fox will ask Scott Sullivan to the next board meeting.

FCTSD Enrollment

No update.

Unanticipated Proposed annual town meeting schedule June 14

In the packet is an FY23 town meeting warrant schedule for consideration. The proposed warrant schedule is as follows: Warrant Close – 4/29/22; Select Board Approves Warrant – 5/17/22; Warrant Posted by – 6/7/22; ATM – 6/14/22.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to accept the proposed annual town meeting schedule as written. Thom Griffin seconded. **Voted unanimously.**

Mike Slowinski – There was a free bid walk-through for the parking lot and sidewalk improvements at the Colrain Central School today. Four prospective bidders showed up. The project is scheduled to start 7/3/22 and be done by 8/19/22. The may parking lot may be needed for staging for part of the summer. This means no summer camps and programs at the school this year.

Town Administrator

Updates None.

MOVED: Thom Griffin moved to dissolve the meeting at 6:04 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

Email from Lynn DiTullio dated February 19, 2022 to Kevin Fox re: appointed to the Personnel Committee

Email from Betsy Shuipis dated February 28, 2022 to Kevin Fox re: appointment request to the Colrain Cultural Council

Email from Betsy Shuipis dated February 28, 2022 to Kevin Fox re: retirement date of 12/21/22.

Email to Kevin Fox dated March 1, 2022 from Mike Slowinski requesting the agenda item "Finding a volunteer to be the master of the town flagpole on the town common.

Advisory Regarding Face Coverings dated March 1, 2022 from the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Department of Public Health

Email from Katharine L. Klein dated March 2, 2022 to Town Administrator re: ATM Warrant Article – Select Board

Letter to Mr. Robert Slowinski, Chair, Planning Board, dated March 8, 2022 from the Town Administrator re: amending the Town of Colrain Zoning By-laws