

Town of Colrain
Selectboard Meeting
55 Main Road/Town Office Building
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES OF March 18, 2013

Present: Mark Thibodeau, Eileen Sauvageau and Duane Scranton

Others Present: Larry Shearer, Nick Anzuoni – Fire Chief, Claire from Verizon, The Finance Committee – Doug Macleay, Marybeth Chichester, Charles Lappen, Lori Regienus and Phil Sherburne, Scott Sullivan – Highway Superintendant, Police Chief - Jason Haskins, Officer – Roger Williams, Paula Harrison – Office Clerk, Town Coordinator – Kevin Fox

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Thibodeau at 7:00 PM.

Minutes: Meeting Minutes March 11, 2013

Selectmen approve and sign the minutes.

MOVED: Mark Thibodeau moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 11, 2013, Duane Scranton seconded. It was voted unanimously.

Approve and sign Warrants

MOVED; Eileen Savaugeau moved to approve and sign the warrants, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Not Anticipated
At time of Posting

Mohawk School District letter request for member to Long Range Planning

Kevin informed the board that the school has asked that each town in the district vote a board member of the Select board to the Long-Range Planning committee. Discussion on what this committee is for and the declining population of the school district.

MOVED Mark Thibodeau moved to appoint Eileen Savaugeau to the Mohawk District Long Range Planning Committee, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Pole Hearing

Verizon Pole Hearing – Cal Coombs Road

MOVED: Mark Thibodeau moved to open the pole hearing in accordance with MGL Ch 166 sec 22 at 7:05pm, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Claire Borellis representing Verizon explained the location of the new pole. This new pole will take the sag and tension out of the current line. Kevin informed the board that there was one abutter and they have not expressed any concerns to the office. The board would like to make sure the pole is setback from the road out of the right of way.

MOVED: Mark Thibodeau moved to close the pole hearing at 7:10 pm, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to accept the petition plan from verizon #6ABSWI on Calvin Coombs Road, Duane Scranton seconded it was voted unanimously.

New Business

FRCOG Traffic Count Request

Kevin explained that he has talked to Scott Sullivan – Highway Superintendant regarding places to set traffic counts. Scott recommends Greenfield Road at the Greenfield town line and Adamsville Road and Kevin would like to recommend River Street which could be included in a upcoming block grant. The Select board agreed. Kevin will submit the three roads.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to set FRCOG traffic count at Greenfield Road, Adamsville Road and River Street, Duane Scranton seconded. It was voted unanimously.

Nomination of Animal Inspector

Kevin informed the board that the state has asked the Select board to nominate an animal inspector.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to nominate Jack Cavolick as Animal Inspector for the period 5/1/13 to 4/31/14, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Franklin County Emergency Communication System MOU

Kevin informed the board that the FRCOG has submitted a request to renew their existing MOU for use of its Emergency Communication System. There are no changes to this MOU and it is a three year agreement starting July 1, 2013.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to approve the agreement with the FRCOG for the Franklin County Emergency Communication System, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Commonwealth of Mass. Standard Contract – EMP Grant

Kevin informed the board that Jack Cavolick has submitted a Commonwealth of Massachusetts standard contract form for the late round of EMPG funding. This grant is in the amount of \$2,500 and will provide for various equipment and supplies as detailed in their packet. The selectmen review the grant.

MOVED: Eileen Savaugeau moved that we approve the use of the EMP grant, Mark seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Set Date to Close ATM Warrant

Kevin informed the board that he has spoken to the Town Clerk regarding the Annual Town Meeting warrant and the following dates have been suggested

MOVED: Eileen moved to approve to close the Annual Town Meeting warrant on March 29, 2013, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Set Selectmen's FY14 Meeting Schedule

Kevin recommends to the board to set a selectmen's FY14 meeting schedule. Discussion followed and the board will review at their next meeting. No Action Taken

Pitt House Lease Agreement

Kevin informed the board that the Pitt House lease is complete. He explained that the insurance requirements did not make sense and he had counsel review this section and make necessary changes. Discussion on how much the insurance costs would be at 2 million versus 3 million dollar in coverage. Kevin informed the board of the current repairs at the Pitt House. Discussion on how the rent is used. Kevin informed the board that 60 to 70% goes to the oil bill.

MOVED: Eileen Savaugau moved to approve the lease agreement with Historical Society for the Pitt House, Duane Scranton seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Complaint against police officer

Mark asked Office Roger Williams is he would like to discuss this in open meeting or continue in Executive Session. Office Williams would like to continue in Executive Session.

Executive Session was called at 7:30 pm.

Executive Session was closed at 8:04 pm.

Debt Exclusion Vote – New Fire Truck

Kevin explained that the board needs to make a decision tonight or next meeting on a possible Debt Exclusion vote. If it is debt excluded the Town Clerk will need time to put it on the town warrant. Doug Macleay informed the board that they have encourage the Fire Department to sell one of the trucks. Nick informed the Select board and Finance Committee that if the department gets audited the insurance rates for the homeowners insurance will increase due to the fact that there is not adequate fire protection in town. And the Fire Department does not have a truck that can carry enough fire fighters to a fire. They are driving their own vehicles. The Finance Committee have asked that Nick writes this down so it can be explained at town meeting. The Finance Committee explained that they are in favor of the purchase of a new fire truck. Doug Macleay stated that the town has not been replacing equipment and vehicles due to the economy. Nick stated that after this purchase we may not need another truck for 10 to 20 years. The new truck will be able to seat 6 firefighters. There was discussion on how many firefighters are riding in the current truck. Nick explained that in the winter they are having trouble getting to some places in town. He explained that the length of the trucks has an impact on getting up some residents driveways. The department is not looking to add to the fleet they are wanting to replace a 1970's truck. The new truck is estimated at around \$450,000. Nick expects when it goes out to bid, the bid will come in lower. Discussion on how the truck will be equipped. Nick described the worst places for fire truck access is East Catamount Road, Franklin Hill Road and North County Road. Duane asked if he will be able to cross the wooden bridge on New County Road. Nick will check the rating. Nick explained what is looked at when the department gets audited. Discussion

on the water department fire hydrants. Discussion on the purchase of the previous trucks and their costs. Nick explained that we could buy a conventional truck but there is no way the truck would be able to carry the necessary water requirements. Nick has been looking for a demo truck for three years and has not found a demo that has meet their needs. Kevin would like to know if the Selectmen would like to move this as a debt exclusion or under the levy limit. And this is all contingent on a loan from the U.S.D.A. Kevin explained the difference between a debt exclusion and prop 2 ½. Discussion on how many vendors may bid on this truck. Nick thinks about 3 to 6 vendors.

Old Business

FY 2014 Budget Discussion

Discussion on the Mohawk District School budget. Doug Macleay informed the board that we are running schools that are partially full with a full staff. This is hurting the district and the towns. Doug recommended that the towns need to get a committee together to look at a solution to this options to fix this issue of declining student population and increasing elderly population. Kevin explained the long range task force that has been organized. Kevin informed the board of the issues that this task force will be looking at in the future. Doug would like to go to the next meeting and see if there can be some finance committee involvement. Discussion on how the procedure for changes would proceed. Larry informed the board that the first thing that needs to be done is to get a group of people together that will work together on this issue. He would like to see minimal contact with the school committee until an independent community has something put together to proposed to the school committee.

HCOG – Solar Program

Kevin informed the board that the HCOG does need an answer soon. Discussion on the previous contract with HCOG. No Action Taken

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM. Seconded by Duane Scranton and it was voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted by the Board of Selectmen

Paula Harrison
Office Clerk

Mark Thibodeau - Chairman

Eileen Sauvageau

Duane Scranton

Documents

- Selectmen's minutes for March 11, 2013
- Warrants
- Pole Hearing – Petition for Verizon job #9ABSW1
- RCOG – Traffic count
- Department of Agricultural Resources – Letter regarding Nomination of Inspector of Animals
- FRCOG MOU – Emergency Communication System
- MEMA – EMP Grant
- Proposed ATM schedule
- Pitt House Lease Agreement
- HCOG – Solar Program