

**TOWN OF COLRAIN**  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

**Fiscal Year 2014**

**FRANKLIN SS:**

To either of the Constables of the Town of Colrain in the County of Franklin.

**GREETINGS:**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, qualified to vote on town affairs, **to meet at Colrain Central School, located at 22 Jacksonville Road at 7:00 PM in said town on Tuesday, the seventh day in May next, in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen, there and then to act on the following articles:**

**ARTICLE #1.** To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing years as follows:

<b>Selectman</b>	<b>3 years</b>
<b>Assessor</b>	<b>3 years</b>
<b>Library Trustees</b>	<b>3 years</b>
<b>Library Trustees</b>	<b>3 years</b>
<b>Mohawk Trail Regional School District Committee Representative</b>	<b>3 years</b>
<b>Constable</b>	<b>3 years</b>
<b>Town Clerk</b>	<b>3 years</b>

**ARTICLE #2.** To hear reports of various town officers and act thereon, or pass any vote or votes thereto.

**ARTICLE #3.** To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of **compensation of elected officers of the town**, as provided by MGL Chapter 41, section 108 as amended; the salaries or compensations for the period of July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 are as follows, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto:

	<b><u>Voted</u></b>	<b><u>Proposed</u></b>
	<b><u>FY 2013</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2014</u></b>
Selectman, Chairman	\$3,107.00	\$3,169.00
Selectman, Clerk	\$3,107.00	\$3,169.00
Selectman, Member	\$3,107.00	\$3,169.00
Moderator	\$79.00	\$81.00
Town Clerk	\$16,930.00	\$17,268.00
Board of Assessors, Chairman	\$2,959.00	\$3,018.00
Board of Assessors, Member	\$2,959.00	\$3,018.00
Board of Assessors, Member	\$2,959.00	\$3,018.00

**ARTICLE #4.** To see if the town will vote to make the following appropriations to fund the **town operating budget** and raise by taxation, or otherwise provide, the required amounts, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto:

<u>General Government</u>		<b>Voted FY 2013</b>	<b>Proposed FY 2014</b>
01-5-100-000	Attorney Expense	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
01-5-113-000	Moderator	\$79.00	\$81.00
01-5-114-001	Moderator's Expenses	\$60.00	\$60.00
01-5-122-000	Selectmen's Stipend	\$9,322.00	\$9,508.00
01-5-122-002	Office Clerk Wages	\$18,928.00	\$21,307.00
01-5-122-001	Selectmen's Expenses	\$700.00	\$700.00
01-5-122-005	Advertising	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
01-5-135-000	Town Accountant Salary	\$13,477.00	\$13,746.00
01-5-141-000	Assessors' Stipends	\$8,878.00	\$9,054.00
01-5-141-001	Assistant Assessor Salary	\$23,099.00	\$23,561.00
01-5-141-002	Assessors' Expenses	\$7,510.00	\$10,010.00
01-5-145-000	Treasurer's Salary	\$11,820.00	\$12,057.00
01-5-146-000	Tax Collector's Salary	\$15,760.00	\$16,075.00
01-5-145-001	Treasurer's Tax Title Costs	\$7,000.00	\$5,000.00
01-5-162-000	Election Worker's	\$2,068.00	\$2,328.00
01-5-161-000	Town Clerk Salary	\$16,930.00	\$17,268.00
01-5-175-000	Planning Board Expenses	\$500.00	\$1,525.00
01-5-176-000	Broadband Committee Expenses	\$0.00	\$776.00
01-5-122-003	Town Coordinator Salary	\$41,600.00	\$42,432.00
01-5-122-004	Town Coordinator Expenses	\$725.00	\$500.00
01-5-421-002	General Highway Maintenance	\$67,856.00	\$77,251.00
01-5-421-000	Highway Department Salaries	\$202,513.00	\$211,034.00
01-5-421-003	Machinery Maintenance	\$36,400.00	\$50,000.00
01-5-421-004	Bridges	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
01-5-421-005	Gasoline, Diesel & Oil	\$71,512.00	\$51,000.00
01-5-421-006	CDL Drug Testing	\$800.00	\$800.00
01-5-423-000	Winter Roads	\$86,400.00	\$86,400.00
01-5-424-000	Street Lights	\$4,300.00	\$4,300.00
01-5-611-000	Library Expenses	\$18,386.00	\$17,393.00
01-5-610-000	Library Salaries	\$28,351.00	\$29,633.00
01-5-541-000	Council on Aging Expenses	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
01-5-544-000	Veterans Benefits	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
01-5-692-000	Memorial Day	\$700.00	\$700.00
01-5-693-000	Cemeteries	\$475.00	\$475.00

<u>General Government</u>		<u>Voted</u> <u>FY 2013</u>	<u>Proposed</u> <u>FY 2014</u>
01-5-210-000	Police Protection Wages	\$48,099.00	\$49,051.00
01-5-210-001	Police Office Expense	\$1,310.00	\$1,710.00
01-5-210-003	Traffic Control	\$5,100.00	\$5,202.00
01-5-210-004	Police Training	\$4,080.00	\$7,000.00
01-5-210-005	Police Equipment	\$12,910.00	\$13,680.00
01-5-210-006	Police Cruiser Expense	\$13,736.00	\$13,736.00
01-5-210-008	Constables Stipends	\$481.00	\$531.00
01-5-220-000	Fire Protection Wages	\$31,425.00	\$34,004.00
01-5-220-001	Firehouse Maintenance	\$9,550.00	\$11,000.00
01-5-220-002	Fire Pumper Maintenance & Equipment	\$32,612.00	\$23,650.00
01-5-222-001	Emergency Management Expense	\$200.00	\$200.00
01-5-222-001	Emergency Manager Stipend	\$1,087.00	\$1,109.00
01-5-241-000	Building Inspector Salary	\$7,886.00	\$8,044.00
01-5-241-001	Building Inspector Expenses	\$200.00	\$200.00
01-5-241-002	Building Inspector Certification	\$870.00	\$870.00
01-5-292-000	Inspector Of Animals Stipend	\$361.00	\$368.00
01-5-294-000	Tree Warden Stipend	\$48.00	\$49.00
01-5-433-001	Transfer Station Expense	\$54,834.00	\$48,238.00
01-5-433-000	Transfer Station Salaries	\$13,136.00	\$13,603.00
01-5-513-000	Board of Health Expenses	\$5,850.00	\$5,850.00
01-5-192-001	Town Office Maintenance	\$10,595.00	\$12,200.00
01-5-192-002	Town Garage Maintenance	\$23,890.00	\$22,640.00
01-5-192-001	Town Building Custodian Wages	\$3,091.00	\$3,213.00
01-5-192-006	Property/Liability Insurance	\$32,366.00	\$36,943.00
01-5-192-005	Professional Development	\$1,870.00	\$2,290.00
01-5-192-003	Office Expense	\$24,320.00	\$24,320.00
01-5-192-004	Town Telephone	\$3,800.00	\$4,000.00
01-5-195-000	Town Reports & Ballots Printing	\$750.00	\$800.00
01-5-901-000	Group Ins/Medi/SUI - Town Share	\$128,748.00	\$126,000.00
01-5-170-000	Personnel Committee Expenses	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-5-131-000	Finance Committee Expenses	\$100.00	\$180.00
01-5-132-000	Reserve Fund	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
01-5-171-000	Conservation Commission Expenses	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-5-651-000	Open Space Committee Expenses	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-5-690-000	Historic Commission Expenses	\$100.00	\$100.00
<b>Town Operating Budget – Total</b>		<b>\$1,203,854.00</b>	<b>\$1,226,055.00</b>

**ARTICLE #5.** To see if the town will vote pursuant to the provisions of Section 53E1/2 of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to **authorize the establishment of revolving funds for certain town departments** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 with specific receipts credited to each fund, the purposes for which each fund may be spent and the maximum that may be spent from each fund for the fiscal year as follows:

<u>Revolving Fund Title</u>	<u>Authorized to Spend Fund</u>	<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Use of Fund</u>	<u>FY14 Spending Limit</u>	<u>Disposition of FY13 Fund Balance</u>
Plumbing Inspector	Plumbing Inspector	Plumbing Permit Fees and Applications	Reimburse Inspector for Inspection Services	\$3,500.00	Balance Available for Expenditure in 2014
Health Inspector	Health Inspectors	Board of Health Permit Fees and Applications	Reimburse Inspectors for Inspection Services	\$5,000.00	Balance Available for Expenditure in 2014
Electrical Inspector	Electrical Inspector	Electrical Permit Fees and Applications	Reimburse Inspector for Inspection Services	\$3,500.00	Balance Available for Expenditure in 2014
Fire Inspector	Fire Department Inspectors	Fire Permit Fees and Applications	Reimburse Inspectors for Inspection Services	\$3,500.00	Balance Available for Expenditure in 2014
Dog Fund	Town Clerk, Dog Officer, and Board of Selectmen	Dog License Fees and Other Charges as Provided by Chapter 40, S 147A.	Offset Expenses Related to Administration of licenses and other Animal Control Matters	\$15,000.00	Balance Available for Expenditure in 2014
Demolition Fund	Board of Health and Building Inspector	Receipts from demolition liens, municipal abatement liens and related insurance reimbursements including court orders.	For purposes associated with demolition, boarding and securing, and abating public health nuisances related to abandoned properties as determined by the Board of Health or Building Inspector.	\$20,000.00	NA – New Fund

**ARTICLE #6.** To see if the town will vote to **authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend any state or federal grants that may become available**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #7.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be used for **Interest on Indebtedness**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #8.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$235,527, and transfer from the Quintus Allen Fund the sum of \$1,693, for a total sum of \$237,220 to be used for the **Franklin County Technical School District's annual operating assessment**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #9.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$1,668,571 to be used for the **Mohawk Trail Regional School District's annual operating assessment**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #10.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$55,390 to be used for the **Mohawk Trail Regional School District's annual capital assessment**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #11.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$27,000 to cover the cost of **Tuition/Transportation-Smith Vocational**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #12.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$12,514 for its share of the **Statutory Charges and Core Service Assessment of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #13.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$2,798.00 for its share of the **Cooperative Purchasing Program Service Assessment of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #14.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$100 for its share of the **Emergency Planning Committee Service Assessment of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #15.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$69,911 for its share of the cost to maintain the **Franklin Regional Retirement System**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #16.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$4,062 to pay the town's allocated share of cost of the **Franklin County Solid Waste Management District**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #17.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,549 to pay the town's allocated share of the cost of membership in the **Central Franklin County District Department of Veterans' Services**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #18.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$700 to pay for its share of the **Operating and Capital Costs of the Franklin County Regional Dog Control and Adoption Center**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #19.** To see if the town will vote to transfer the sum of \$11,256.77 from the 1985 Community Development Block Grant Fund (B-85) and \$58,918.73 from the 1986 Community Development Block Grant Fund (B-86) (the total sum of \$70,175.50), to pay for the cost of the **Demolition of Town Owned Buildings**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #20.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$2,000 to be used for the **Police Administration account** (any amount expended will be 100% reimbursed), or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #21.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$2,000 toward the cost of **restoration and preservation of town records**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #22.** To see if the town will vote to transfer from the Dog Fund Revolving account, the sum of \$5,000 toward **reducing the tax rate**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #23.** To see if the town will vote to transfer from the Dog Fund Revolving account, the sum of \$1,500 toward the **salary of the Animal Control Officer**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #24.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$3,900 to cover the **on-going maintenance for the G. William Pitt House**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #25.** To see if the town will **authorize the Selectmen to accept and expend, as an available fund, any of the bond issue or operating budget monies** (also called "Chapter" monies) from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #26.** To see if the town will vote to establish a **Transfer Station Stabilization Fund** account for the future purchase of a replacement compactor, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

2/3 vote required

**ARTICLE #27.** To see if the town will vote to transfer from the free cash account, the sum of \$8,000 to the **Transfer Station Stabilization Account**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

2/3 vote required

**ARTICLE #28.** To see if the town will vote to transfer \$9,500 from the free cash account for the **purchase of a highway truck dump body**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #29** To see if the town will transfer \$19,000 from the Highway Stabilization Account for the **purchase of a highway truck dump body**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

2/3 vote required

**ARTICLE #30.** To see if the town will vote to transfer \$23,000 from the free cash account for the **purchase of a highway truck dump body**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #31.** To see if the town will vote to transfer from the free cash account, the sum of \$12,227 to cover the cost of **replacing windows at the Highway Garage**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #32.** To see if the town will vote to transfer from the free cash account, \$4,000 to the **Assessor's Stabilization Account**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

2/3 vote required

**ARTICLE #33.** To see if the town will vote to transfer from Assessor's Stabilization Account, \$3,500 to fund the costs of a **reevaluation of town properties**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

2/3 vote required

**ARTICLE #34.** To see if the town will vote to transfer from the free cash account, \$4,000 to the **Audit Stabilization Account**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

2/3 vote required

**ARTICLE #35.** To see if the town will vote to transfer from the free cash account, the sum of \$30,000 to cover the cost of **Networking the Town Office**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #36.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$1,207 to cover the cost of a **Workers Comp Assessment**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE #37.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, the sum of \$1,000 to pay a **bill of a prior year**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

9/10<sup>th</sup> vote required.

**ARTICLE #38.** To see if the town will vote to appropriate the amount of \$405,000, for the purchase of a **new Fire Pumper and related equipment**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

To meet the above appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, shall be authorized to borrow up to \$405,000 and issue bonds or notes therefore pursuant to Chapter 44 of the General Laws, and further, the Selectmen shall be authorized to apply for, accept and expend any federal, state or other aid available for the purchase or for the financing thereof, and the Selectmen shall be further authorized to expend all funds available for the purchase and take any other action necessary to carry out the purchase; provided, however, that the vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exclude from the limitation of total taxes assessed pursuant to Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws (Prop. 2 ½ so called) the debt amounts required to pay the principal and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote.

2/3 vote required

**ARTICLE #39.** To see if the town will vote to transfer from the Fire Department Stabilization Account, \$50,000 to fund the costs of a **new Fire Pumper and related equipment**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

2/3 vote required

**ARTICLE #40.** To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into **renewable energy purchase and /or net metering credit purchase agreements**, including solar energy and related net metering credits, for terms of more than three years, and take all actions necessary to implement and administer such agreements, or to take any other actions relative thereto.

**ARTICLE #41.** To see if the town will vote to amend the Town's General By-laws as follows: Section 1. "There shall be a Finance Committee of ~~seven (7)~~ **five (5)** members who shall reside in the Town and shall be registered voters therein..." and Section 3 "The Finance Committee shall elect its own Chairman and Secretary and there will be a minimum of ~~four~~ **three** to conduct business".

**ARTICLE #42. (By Petition)** We petition to have the following resolution placed on the warrant for the 2014 Annual Town Meeting in the Town of Colrain.

Whereas, Baystate Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield is the only hospital in Franklin County, the most rural county in Massachusetts;

Whereas, local access to a full-service community hospital is essential to the health and well being of the residents of Franklin County; and,

Whereas, some important services previously available at Franklin Medical Center are now only available at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield; and,

Whereas, the lack of public transportation and the long distance between parts of Franklin County and Springfield presents a challenge for many residents; and,

Whereas it is critical for the Health of Franklin County residents that they have access to the broadest range of quality health care services in Franklin County,

Therefore be it resolved that the Town of Colrain, call upon Baystate Health Systems to commit all necessary resources to ensure the provision of all needed services to commit to the long-term viability of a full-service community hospital at Baystate Franklin Medical Center which will meet the health care needs of the residents of Franklin County; and,

Be it further resolved that the Town Clerk be directed to send copies of this resolution to Mark Tolosky, President and Chief Executive Officer of Baystate Health System, and to Chuck Gijanto, President of Baystate Regional Markets.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at two usual places in said town, seven days at least, before the time of holding said meeting.

Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the town clerk, at the time and place of meeting, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this twenty-ninth day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand thirteen.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark A Thibodeau, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Duane L. Scranton

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eileen D. Sauvageau

**Colrain Board of Selectmen**

A TRUE COPY.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Constable