

TOWN OF COLRAIN
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Fiscal Year 2020

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 nineteen, there and then to act on the following articles:**

ARTICLE #1. To see if the Town will instruct the Town Clerk to report on the election of officers and ballot questions as follows:

Selectman	3 years
Assessor	3 years
Town Clerk	3 years
Library Trustees	3 years
Library Trustees	3 years
Constable	3 years
Mohawk Trail RSD School Committee Member	3 years

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, 2019 – June 30, 2020 are as follows, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto:

	Voted	Proposed
	FY 2019	FY 2020
Selectman, Chairman	\$3,232.00	\$3,232.00
Selectman, Clerk	\$3,232.00	\$3,232.00
Selectman, Member	\$3,232.00	\$3,232.00
Moderator	\$85.00	\$100.00
Town Clerk	\$20,969.00	\$21,493.00
Board of Assessors, Chairman	\$3,140.00	\$3,140.00
Board of Assessors, Member	\$3,140.00	\$3,140.00
Board of Assessors, Member	\$3,140.00	\$3,140.00

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:

	Voted FY 2019	Proposed FY 2020
Attorney Expense	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Moderator	\$85.00	\$100.00
Moderator's Expenses	\$60.00	\$60.00
Selectmen's Stipend	\$9,696.00	\$9,696.00
Office Clerk Wages	\$25,990.00	\$27,835.00
Selectmen's Expenses	\$900.00	\$1,000.00
Advertising	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Town Accountant	\$19,800.00	\$19,800.00
Town Accountant Expense	\$3,619.00	\$3,619.00
Assessors' Stipends	\$9,420.00	\$9,420.00
Director of Assessing	\$30,946.00	\$39,549.00
Assessors' Expenses	\$11,230.00	\$17,780.00
Treasurer/Collectors Salary	\$45,482.00	\$48,157.00
Treasurer/Collector Expenses	\$17,353.00	\$19,253.00
Tax Title Costs	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Tax Foreclosure Custodian	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Election Worker's	\$3,034.00	\$3,228.00
Town Clerk Salary	\$20,969.00	\$21,493.00
Town Clerk Expense	\$7,634.00	\$3,226.00
Planning Board Expenses	\$1,300.00	\$1,000.00
Town Coordinator Salary	\$67,565.00	\$71,750.00
Town Coordinator Expenses	\$500.00	\$500.00
General Highway Maintenance	\$108,731.00	\$108,731.00
Highway Department Salaries	\$275,841.00	\$285,278.00
Machinery Maintenance	\$43,000.00	\$43,000.00
Bridges	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Gasoline, Diesel & Oil	\$39,800.00	\$48,300.00
CDL Drug Testing	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Winter Roads	\$86,401.00	\$86,401.00
Sidewalk Snow Removal	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Street Lights	\$5,300.00	\$5,300.00
Library Expenses	\$31,920.00	\$32,495.00
Library Salaries	\$37,538.00	\$39,205.00
Council on Aging Expenses	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Veterans Benefits	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Memorial Day	\$700.00	\$700.00
Cemeteries	\$475.00	\$475.00
Police Protection Wages	\$88,088.00	\$93,444.00
Police Office Expense	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Police Training	\$7,818.00	\$7,818.00

	Voted	Proposed
	FY 2019	FY 2020
Police Equipment	\$14,657.00	\$14,612.00
Police Cruiser Expense	\$10,220.00	\$10,220.00
Constables Stipends	\$585.00	\$607.00
Fire Protection Wages	\$60,099.00	\$61,074.00
Firehouse Maintenance	\$18,200.00	\$18,200.00
Fire Pumper Maintenance & Equipment	\$44,150.00	\$44,150.00
Emergency Management Expense	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00
Emergency Manager Stipend	\$1,149.00	\$1,149.00
Building Inspector Salary	\$8,536.00	\$8,536.00
Building Inspector Expenses	\$200.00	\$200.00
Building Inspector Certification	\$870.00	\$870.00
Inspection Software	\$0.00	\$3,445.00
Inspector Of Animals Stipend	\$383.00	\$383.00
Inspector of Animals Expense	\$0.00	\$200.00
Tree Warden Stipend	\$51.00	\$51.00
Transfer Station Expense	\$55,378.00	\$55,878.00
Transfer Station Wages	\$15,311.00	\$15,692.00
Board of Health Expenses	\$3,710.00	\$475.00
Board of Health Wages	\$2,500.00	\$1,200.00
Town Office Maintenance	\$11,700.00	\$13,300.00
Town Garage Maintenance	\$19,510.00	\$21,320.00
Town Building Custodian Wages	\$3,905.00	\$4,003.00
Property/Liability Insurance	\$55,700.00	\$57,000.00
Professional Development	\$2,060.00	\$500.00
Office Expense	\$16,788.00	\$17,600.00
Town Telephone	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Board/Committee Clerical Wages	\$2,122.00	\$2,175.00
Town Reports & Ballots Printing	\$800.00	\$800.00
Group Ins/Medi/SUI - Town Share	\$159,236.00	\$159,236.00
Personnel Committee Expenses	\$100.00	\$100.00
Finance Committee Expenses	\$330.00	\$330.00
Reserve Fund	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Conservation Commission Expenses	\$100.00	\$100.00
Open Space Committee Expenses	\$100.00	\$0.00
Historic Commission Expenses	\$100.00	\$100.00
Pitt House Oil/Electricity	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Long Term Debt - Principal	\$24,667.00	\$24,667.00
Long Term Debt - Interest	\$9,250.00	\$8,480.00
Total	\$1,611,162.00	\$1,660,766.00

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, 2019 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>FY20 Spending Limit</u>	<u>Disposition of FY19 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 2020
Health Inspector	Health Inspectors	Board of Health Permit Fees and Applications	Reimburse Inspectors for Inspection Services	\$5,000.00	Balance Available for Expenditure in 2020
Electrical Inspector	Electrical Inspector	Electrical Permit Fees and Applications	Reimburse Inspector for Inspection Services	\$3,500.00	Balance Available for Expenditure in 2020
Fire Inspector	Fire Department Inspectors	Fire Permit Fees and Applications	Reimburse Inspectors for Inspection Services	\$3,500.00	Balance Available for Expenditure in 2020
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 2020
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	Balance Available for Expenditure in 2020

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 \$17,000 to be used for **Interest and Fees on Short-Term 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 \$319,135, and transfer from the Quintus Allen Fund the sum of \$2,103 for a total sum of \$321,238 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 \$5,994 to be used for the **Franklin County Technical School District's annual capital 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 \$1,918,979 to be used for the **Mohawk Trail Regional School District's annual operating 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 \$58,946 to be used for the **Mohawk Trail Regional School District's annual capital assessment**, 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 \$11,262 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 \$2,648 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 \$150 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 \$11,000 for its share of the cost of the **Franklin Regional Council of Government's Cooperative Public Health Service**, 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 \$5,414 for its share of the cost to pay for a **Regional Animal Control Officer**, 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 \$88,269 for its share of the cost to maintain the **Franklin Regional Retirement System**, 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 \$5,470 to pay the town's allocated share of the cost of the **Franklin County Solid Waste Management District**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE #19. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,073 to pay the town's allocated share of the cost of membership in the **Upper Pioneer Valley Veteran's Service District**, 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 \$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 #21. 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 #22. 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 #23. To see if the town will vote to transfer from free cash \$8,000 toward the cost of **Fire Station Building repairs**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE #24. To see if the town will vote to transfer from free cash \$47,000 to purchase a **new Fire Department Pick-up Truck**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE #25. To see if the town will vote to transfer from free cash \$16,000 to **purchase and install new I/T Network Hardware and Software**, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE #26

To see if the town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money for the stabilization funds as shown in the chart below:

2/3 vote required

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
General	General Stabilization	91,013	Free Cash
Assessor's	Assessor's Stabilization	3,000	Free Cash
Transfer Station	Transfer Station Stabilization	5,000	Free Cash
Highway	Highway Stabilization	40,000	Free Cash
Police Department	Police Stabilization	15,000	Free Cash
Technology	Technology Stabilization	5,000	Free Cash
Fire Department	Fire Department Stabilization	20,000	Free Cash
Library	Griswold Library Capital Stabilization	15,000	Free Cash
Total	Total	194,013	

ARTICLE #27. 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 #28. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the free cash account the sum of \$50,000 to the **Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund** established under Article 36 of the 2016 Annual Town Meeting, and authorized by M.G.L. Chapter 32B, Section 20, in order to offset the anticipated future cost of providing post-retirement health and life insurance benefits to current and future retired Town employees, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE #29. To see if the Town will accept the provisions of Chapter 44 section 53F ½ of Massachusetts General Laws establishing a Broadband Network as an enterprise fund effective July 1, 2019.

ARTICLE #30. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a ten (10) year contract with the option for a five (5) year extension, commencing on July 1, 2020 with the qualified vendor selected by MassDEP through a competitive bid process for recycling processing services for the Town, subject to the Selectboard's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town and subject to Town Meeting approval in the Spring of 2020 for funding for these services and/or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE #31. (by petition) To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be paid yearly as a stipend of \$500 each to the school committee members from the Town of Colrain in view of the many hours they are required to spend in meetings every month and in view of the miles of travel that they incur in service to the town or to do or act anything in relation thereto.

ARTICLE #32. (submitted by the MTRSD) To see if the Town will vote to allow the district to reallocate the underspent funds from previous capital improvement projects at the Colrain Central School and Colrain's portion of the Mohawk Trail Middle and High School, for a sum of money, not to exceed \$30,596.33, to be expended under the direction of the School Building Subcommittee. The proposed monies will be for capital projects at Colrain Central School only.

ARTICLE #33. (by petition) To see if the Town will vote to support the following resolution or to do or act anything in relation thereto:

Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag and Seal of MA

Whereas the history of the State of Massachusetts is replete with instances of conflict between the European Colonists and the Native Nations of the region, who first extended the hand of friendship to the Colonists on their shores in 1620, and helped them to survive starvation during the settlers' first winters on their land;

Whereas members of the Native Nation for whom the State of Massachusetts is named were ambushed and killed by Myles Standish, first commander of the Plymouth Colony, in April of 1623, barely two years after the Pilgrims arrived on their shores;

Whereas the naked Colonial broadsword brandished above the head of the Native man on the Massachusetts state Flag and Seal is copied from Myles Standish's own broadsword, borrowed from the Pilgrim Hall in Plymouth by the illustrator Edmund Garrett in 1884;

Whereas the belt binding the Native's cloak on the Flag and Seal is modeled after a belt worn by Metacomet, known to the English as King Philip, who was among the Wampanoag leaders who resorted to a mutually destructive war in 1675-76 in defense of Native lands against Euro-Colonial encroachment;

Whereas the proportions of the body of the Native man in the Flag and Seal were taken from a Native skeleton kept in Winthrop, the bow modeled after a bow taken from a Native man shot and killed by a colonist in Sudbury in 1665, and his features taken from a photograph of an Ojibwe chief from Great Falls, Montana, considered by the illustrator to be a "fine specimen of an Indian," though not from Massachusetts;

Whereas the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Euro-Colonists at Plymouth Plantation, which gave rise to the long chain of genocidal wars and deliberate policies of cultural destruction against Native Nations of this continent, is approaching in the year 2020, affording every citizen of the Commonwealth a chance to reflect upon this history and come to a new awareness of a better relationship between the descendants of the Euro-Colonial immigrants and the Native Nations of these shores;

And whereas the area now known as the Town of Colrain was long frequented by Native people such as the Mohican and the Abenaki, and was also the birthplace of William Apess, one of the first Native American authors to publish books in English, including a Eulogy to King Philip;

Now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Colrain hereby adopts this resolution in support of H.2776 / S.1877, a "Resolve Providing for the Creation of a Special Commission relative to the Seal and Motto of the

Commonwealth," and requests that Representative Paul Mark and Senator Jo Comerford continue their strong advocacy and support for the aforementioned Resolve (H.2776 / S.1877) in the General Court, and that the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, after holding a public hearing on the Resolve report it out favorably, and if the legislation shall pass, that the governor shall sign it and work with members of the General Court to ensure its enactment.

ARTICLE #34. (by petition)To see if the Town will vote to:

Whereas in respect for the many years of service to the town Judith Sullivan provided to the Town of Colrain, much of it in the location that now houses the Highway Department Garage, Therefore the meeting room in that building shall be known as the Judith Sullivan Meeting Room and a label or plaque shall be appropriately placed to denote that naming or to do or act anything in relation thereto.

ARTICLE #35. (by petition)To see if the Town will vote to:

To find out the sentiments of the voters of Colrain regarding the options for the use of the Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge. Whereas the Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge is a historical treasure in the Town of Colrain that was restored by the state in 2007 but was not opened to vehicular traffic at that time:

Whereas the Colrain Historical Society raised funds for towards the restoration of the bridge and holds restricted funds in the amount of \$25,000 to be used only for projects related to the bridge:

Whereas there is interest in reopening the bridge to vehicular traffic in some way, and recognizing that this may incur costs and liability to the town,

Therefore, we propose that a non-binding straw poll be taken at this town meeting to find out the interest and support for one or more of the following options that may be proposed and to study the costs involved:

1. To allow vehicular traffic on the bridge possibly one way and with weight, height speed and seasonal restrictions,
 2. To continue to use the bridge for pedestrian and bicycle traffic and in order to benefit from the restoration of the bridge to a larger number of people, to develop a park on one or both ends of the bridge
 3. To landscape the approaches to the bridge to make it more pleasing to visitors
 4. Rent out the bridge for a variety of purposes such as weddings and family gatherings, or to use the bridge for town activities such as dances, concerts, etc.
 5. To approach the landowners on both ends of the bridge for permission to use their land for town activities and/or for the creation a picnic area.
- or any other proposal that may be suggested at Town Meeting.

Or to do or act anything in relation thereto.

ARTICLE #36. (by petition) To see if the Town will vote to support the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION

Calling for The US to Join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

- WHEREAS, nuclear weapons cannot be used without catastrophic humanitarian consequences that violate every principle of international law and human morality; and
- WHEREAS, the continued existence of these weapons poses an intolerable risk to human survival, since they can be detonated by accident as well as by design; and
- WHEREAS, the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China, signed and ratified a legally binding commitment more than 50 years ago to negotiate "in good faith" and "at an early date" the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and
- WHEREAS, the International Court of Justice ruled, in their 1996 Advisory Opinion on the Legality of Nuclear Weapons, that the legally binding commitment to negotiate means "bringing those negotiations to a successful conclusion;" and
- WHEREAS, in the year 2000 the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China gave an "unequivocal undertaking" to 187 other nations that they would fulfill their commitment to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and
- WHEREAS, in July 2017, 122 nations adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, making it illegal under international law to develop, test, produce, possess, stockpile, transfer, use, or threaten to use nuclear weapons¹; and
- WHEREAS, once this Treaty enters in force, it will be illegal in all countries who are party to this Treaty to assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited by the Treaty; and
- WHEREAS, more and more countries will continue to sign and ratify this Treaty, including sooner or later many key allies of the United States; and
- WHEREAS, this means that the United States will find it increasingly difficult to develop, manufacture, deploy or justify its continued dependence on nuclear weapons,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the residents of the town of COLRAIN call on the SELECTMEN [Selectboard/Executive Authority] to take all necessary steps to align the town of COLRIAN with the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the town of COLRAIN calls upon our federal leaders to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and to invite the other nuclear armed nations to do likewise, leading to an agreed multilateral pathway for the elimination of all nuclear weapons worldwide.

¹ <http://www.icanw.org/treaty-on-the-prohibition-of-nuclear-weapons/>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the town of _____ COLRAIN _____ calls upon the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to align with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by setting up, as a first step, a Citizens Commission to look into the implications of doing so, as per bills HD.3477 and SD.1688, currently before the State Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the town of _____ COLRAIN _____ calls upon our federal leaders and our nation to take immediate steps in the meantime to reduce the threat posed by the continued existence of these weapons and to prevent the possibility of nuclear war taking place by accident, miscalculation or design, by:

- renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- ending the president's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack;
- taking US nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
- cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and
- leading a global effort to reduce tensions, particularly with Russia, through dialogue, diplomacy and other confidence-building measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the town clerk shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to State

Representative _____ PAUL W MARK _____,

State Senator _____ JOANNE M COMERFORD _____,

U.S. Congressperson _____ RICHARD NEAL _____,

U.S. Senator _____ ELIZABETH WARREN _____,

U.S. Senator _____ EDWARD MARKEY _____,

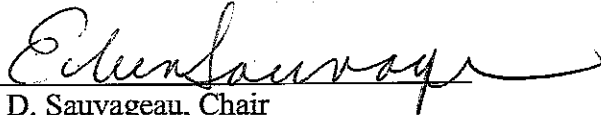
and President Donald J. Trump.

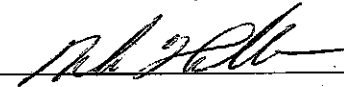
ARTICLE #37. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. c. 64G, section 3A, and impose a local excise tax upon the transfer of occupancy of any room or rooms in a bed and breakfast establishment, hotel, lodging house, short term rental, or motel located within the Town at a rate of 6% (choice of percent up to 6%), said excise tax to take effect on the first day of the calendar quarter commencing at least thirty days after such vote of the Town Meeting, or take any action relative thereto.

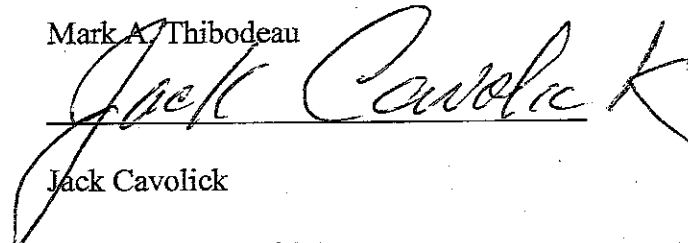
And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at two usual places in said town, seven days at least, before the time of holding said meeting.

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 sixteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand nineteen.


Eileen D. Sauvageau, Chair


Mark A. Thibodeau


Jack Cavolick
Colrain Board of Selectmen

A TRUE COPY.
Attest: 
Constable

4-16-19