

**TOWN OF COLRAIN**  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Annual Town Meeting Warrant**  
**Fiscal Year 2026**

**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 the Colrain Central School, located at 22 Jacksonville Road at 6:00 PM in said town on Tuesday the sixth day in May 2025, there and then to act on the following articles:

**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote **to hear and act upon the report of the Select Board and other offices, departments, committees, or other agencies of said Town**, or take any other action related thereto.

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide the sum of **\$5.29** for the **payment of invoice incurred in a prior fiscal year** to Aztec for **copier expenses**, or take any action relative thereto. .

*4/5 Vote Required.*

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to **adopt and enact the amendments to the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) Charter**, said amendment(s) having been proposed by a two-thirds majority of the weighted vote of the full membership of the FRCOG Council and a majority vote of the FRCOG Executive Committee, with said amendment(s) taking full effect immediately upon adoption by two-thirds of the member towns unless a later effective date is otherwise specified; or take any action relative thereto.

*2/3 vote required.*

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to **set the compensation of elected officials** as provided by MGL Chapter 41, Section 108, to be made effective from July 1, 2025 as presented below, or take any action relative thereto.

	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>
Select Board, Chair	\$3,708	\$3,600
Select Board, Clerk	\$3,708	\$3,600
Select Board, Member	\$3,708	\$3,600
Moderator	\$118	\$120

Town Clerk	\$25,869	\$26,516
Board of Assessors, Chair	\$3,692	\$3,600
Board of Assessors, Member	\$3,692	\$3,600
Board of Assessors, Member	\$3,692	\$3,600

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to **accept Mass General Laws Chapter 41, Section 108P, Additional Compensation for Town Treasurer, and vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the Town Treasurer’s stipend**, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to **raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds sums of money for the FY2026 Omnibus Budget items**, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$349,894 and transfer from the Quintus Allen Fund the sum of \$2,459 for a total sum of \$352,353 to be used for the **Franklin County Technical School District’s annual operating assessment**, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,848 to be used for the **Franklin County Technical School District’s annual capital assessment**, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,510,775 to be used for the **Mohawk Trail Regional School District’s annual operating assessment**, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 10.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$71,389 to be used for the **Mohawk Trail Regional School District’s annual capital assessment**, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 11.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,234 for the replacement of the **hot water heater at Mohawk Trail Regional School**, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 12.** 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 take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for the **Griswold Memorial Library to pay for supplies and services related to crisis management**, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 14.** To see if the Town will vote to **transfer from free cash to OPEB Trust Fund** the sum of \$40,000 to meet the Town’s cost of other post-employment benefits (OPEB), or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will vote to **transfer from free cash to the General Stabilization account** the sum of \$20,000, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 16.** To see if the Town will vote to **amend the General Bylaws** by adding a new section to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain town departments, boards,

committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½, or take any action relative thereto.

## DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

### 1. Purpose.

This bylaw establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½.

### 2. Expenditure Limitations.

A department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this bylaw without appropriation subject to the following limitations:

- A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund.
- B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.
- C. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by town meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the selectboard and finance committee.

### 3. Interest.

Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this bylaw shall be credited to the general fund.

### 4. Procedures and Reports.

Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½ and this bylaw, the laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of town monies and the expenditure and payment of town funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this bylaw. The town accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to each fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to the fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the town accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.

### 5. Authorized Revolving Funds.

The following table establishes:

- A. Each revolving fund authorized for use by a town department, board, committee, agency or officer, for Fiscal year 2026 and all the subsequent years;
- B. The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund;
- C. The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the town accountant;
- D. The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used;
- E. Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund; and

F. Any reporting or other requirements that apply to each fund.

<u>A.</u> <u>Revolving</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>B.</u> <u>Department,</u> <u>Board,</u> <u>Committee,</u> <u>Agency or</u> <u>Officer</u> <u>Authorized to</u> <u>Spend from</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>C.</u> <u>Fees, Charges</u> <u>or Other</u> <u>Receipts</u> <u>Credited to</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>D.</u> <u>Program or</u> <u>Activity</u> <u>Expenses</u> <u>Payable</u> <u>from Fund</u>	<u>E.</u> <u>Restrictions</u> <u>or</u> <u>Conditions</u> <u>on</u> <u>Expenses</u> <u>Payable</u> <u>from Fund</u>	<u>F.</u> <u>Other</u> <u>Requirements/</u> <u>Reports</u>	<u>G.</u> <u>Fiscal</u> <u>Years</u>
Plumbing Inspections	Plumbing Inspector	Plumbing permits and other inspection fees	Plumbing Inspection Services		Annual Report	2026 and Subsequent Years
Electrical Inspections	Electrical Inspector	Electrical permits and other inspection fees	Electrical Inspection Services		Annual Report	2026 and Subsequent Years
Fire Inspections	Fire Department Inspectors	Fire Department permits and other inspection fees	Fire Inspection Services		Annual Report	2026 and Subsequent Years
Building Department	Building Commissioner	Building permit and inspection fees, other fines and charges	Building Department Services		Annual Report	2026 and Subsequent Years
Dog Fund	Town Clerk, Animal Control Officer, and Select Board	Dog License Fees and Other Program Charges as Provided by Chapter 40, S 147A	Dog Licensing and Animal Control		Annual Report	2026 and Subsequent Years

**ARTICLE 17.** To see if the Town will vote Town to **approve annual spending limits for FY26 for Revolving Funds** established in the Town Bylaws, in accordance with M.G.L. c.44, §53E1/2, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, or take any action relative thereto.

<b>Authorized Revolving Funds</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit</b>
Plumbing Inspections	\$3,500
Electrical Inspections	\$3,500
Fire Inspections	\$3,500
Building Department	\$15,000
Dog Fund	\$15,000

**ARTICLE 18.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds to operate the **Broadband Enterprise**: Direct costs of \$734,076 to come from Broadband revenue and indirect costs of \$16,250 to come from Broadband revenue, or take any other action related thereto.

**ARTICLE 19.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide, a sum of money for the **purchase of a fire apparatus and related items**, or take any action relative thereto.

*2/3 vote required.*

**ARTICLE 20.** To see if the town will vote to **authorize the Select Board to apply for, accept, and expend any state or federal grants that may become available**, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 21.** To see if the Town will vote to **authorize the Select Board to enter into contracts with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for construction and/or maintenance of highways** or other permissible expenditures from the Transportation Bond monies (Chapter 90) and authorize the Select Board to accept any monies from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for highway construction and/or maintenance related work, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 22.** To see if the Town will vote to **authorize the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of Chapter 90 State reimbursement funds** for road repair projects, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 23.** To see if the Town will vote to **authorize the Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements** during Fiscal Year 2026 as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 24.** To see if the Town will vote to **authorize the Select Board to enter into a lease agreement for up to five years** for the purpose of leasing a copy machine for the town office use, or take any action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 25.** To see if the Town will vote to **accept G.L. c. 64L, § 2(a) to impose a local meals excise**, or take any action relative thereto.

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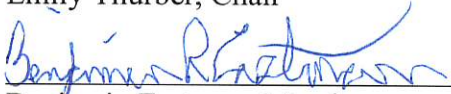
And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at two usual places in said town, seven days at least, before the time of holding said meeting.

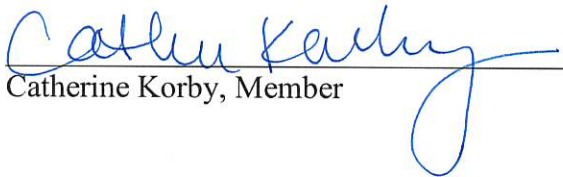
Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April two thousand twenty-five.

**Colrain Select Board**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Emily Thurber, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Benjamin Eastman, Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Catherine Korby, Member

A TRUE COPY.

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