

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

**MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD
March 12, 2024**

Present: W. Thomas Griffin; Emily Thurber

Absent: Benjamin Eastman, Chair

Others Present: Peter Brooks, Energy Committee; Jackson McCleod, Atlantic Farms, LLC; Marjorie Smith, Administrative Assistant; Kevin Fox, Town Administrator

Vice Chair, Thomas Griffin called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Appointments:

Colrain Energy Committee Update

Peter Brooks updated the Board on the completed, in-process and future projects using the Green Communities Grant; insulation at the Highway Garage (completed), lighting and mini-splits at the Town Office (completed), interior storm glazing at the Library (completed), insulation at the Fire Station (in-process), lighting replaced at the elementary school (completed) and air sealing and roof sealing at the school (future). The Committee has increased by two members this year, both with knowledge of solar. They are working on a public presentation on the results of the Solar Action Plan for April. David Greenberg will send information to the Board for review.

New Business:

Review and Possible Approval of Host Community Agreement with Atlantic Farms LLC

Kevin Fox explained that the Host Community Agreement (HCA) with Atlantic Farms has expired and needs to renew. Town Counsel drafted a new agreement and Atlantic submitted revisions today, which have also been sent to Town Counsel. Jackson McCleod commented that Atlantic's revisions pertain to wording regarding the company being indoor cultivation, however, they are licensed to be a Tier 7 Outdoor Cultivator. The Board agreed to revisit the HCA once Town Counsel reviews the suggested revisions from Atlantic Farms.

Nominate Animal Inspector

Kevin Fox explained that the nomination is a hybrid meaning that the Board nominates the Animal Inspector to MDAR (Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources), who then appoints the inspector. Ken Shearer is the current Animal Inspector and has agreed to continue should the Board nominate him.

MOVED: Emily Thurber moved to nominate Ken Shearer as the Animal Inspector for the coming year. Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Old Business:

Continued Discussion RE: FY 25 Budget

Thom Griffin confirmed that the sidewalk snow removal equipment is included in the budget.

Discussion on the police department budget. Kevin Fox stated that the advertisement for the full-time officer would be in the Recorder on Saturday 3/16/2024.

Discussion on Alice Wozniak's, Director of Assessing, contract negotiations and the Board agreed to leave the contract as is and she can renegotiate when the contract ends next year.

Continued Discussion RE: Discontinuance of Cross Rd

Discussion was tabled until all three members of the Board were present.

Unanticipated:

None

Town Administrator Updates:

None


MOVED: Emily Thurber moved to dissolve the meeting at 4:55pm.


Thom Griffin seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

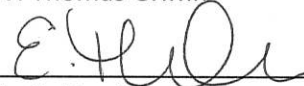
Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Smith
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by the Select Board


Benjamin Eastman - Chair


W. Thomas Griffin


Emily Thurber

Documents Distributed to the Select Board Before the Meeting in a Packet or at the Meeting:

Select Board Meeting Notes

Email from Peter Brooks, Energy Committee, to Kevin Fox, Town Administrator, dated 2/16/2024 re: Select Board Appointment

Energy Committee Presentation to Select Board

Table 4: Town of Colrain Energy Conservation Measures Data as of 10/15/2018

Colrain Community Action Solar Plan Draft

Clean Energy Site Assessment Report for Colrain Central School dated 6/3/2019

Proposed Host Community Agreement Between the Town of Colrain and Atlantic Farms, LLC with Town Counsel Notes

Letter from MDAR to the Select Board dated 3/4/2024 re: Animal Inspector Nomination

List of Public Roads in Colrain dated 2/25/1944

Discontinuing Town and County Roads Manual, Updated 2003 by The Trustees of Reservations' Highland Communities Initiative