Town of Colrain Select Board/MLP Board Meeting Colrain Town Office 55 Main Road 4:00 PM

MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD October 7, 2025

Present

Emily Thurber, Chair; Benjamin Eastman; Katie Korby

Others Present: Chris Lannon – Police Chief; Marjorie Smith – Administrative Assistant; Diana Parsons – Town Administrator

Chair Emily Thurber called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

Police Department Operations & Updates, Chris Lannon, Colrain Police Chief <u>Hours of Work & Schedule for Chief and Officers</u>

Chris Lannon explained the hours he has been working over the last couple weeks and presented proposals to the Board regarding scenarios for staffing the department and salaries. Chris recommended the full-time chief, part-time officers and an administrative assistant scenario. Discussion on logistics around the part-time officers. Chris also presented a plan to implement in three phases.

Discussion on the administrative position and possible task responsibilities. Discussion on hiring part-time officers now to fill vacancies.

MOVED: Emily Thurber moved to post an ad in the newspaper for a part-time police officer at a rate of \$25.94 for up to 16 hours per week.

Katie Korby seconded. Approved unanimously.

MOVED: Katie Korby moved to adjust the current part time police officers to bring the hourly rate to \$25.94 an hour. (42:30)

Ben Eastman seconded. Approved unanimously.

Discussion on who will draft the ad, which Diana will take on.

CSO Hours & Update

The CSO Program takes up about two shifts per month. Chris is currently training for his certification.

Admin Work: Detail Billing & Firearms Permits

Firearms permits are ongoing with about a 60-day turnaround. Maggie is still doing the detail billing.

Work Details & Snow Removal

Discussion on snow plowing should Chris be hired as a full-time chief.

Meeting with Town of Heath

Diana contacted Heath's Town Coordinator, who said the Select Board was interested in regionalizing with Colrain. Chris has also spoken with the Heath Police Chief. The Board agreed to schedule a joint meeting with the Heath Select Board. Diana recommended including the fire department as well. Discussion on scheduling future meetings with Heath and Chris.

New Business:

Take Under Review Draft of Special Town Meeting Warrant for 11/4/2025

Diana presented a draft special town meeting warrant and briefly explained each of the 10 articles. Discussion on the fire department, the age limit for being on an active-duty roster and the draft article for special legislation allowing the fire chief, Nick Anzuoni, to continue until the age of 70.

MOVED: Ben Eastman moved to approve the special town meeting warrant as drafted thus far.

Katie Korby seconded. Approved unanimously.

Consent Items:

Warrant AP 2614 in the amount of \$15,109.18 Warrant PR 2605 in the amount of \$27,095.90

MOVED: Emily Thurber moved to approve warrant AP2614 and PR2605 as presented.

Ben Eastman seconded. Approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Discuss Follow Up from COA Meetings of 9/29 and 10/6; Address Action Needed

Emily summarized the discussion at the last Council on Aging meeting.

Appointments and Resignations:

None

Administrator Updates:

None

Public and Board Member Comments:

None

Requests for Future Agenda Items:

Review of Special Town Meeting Articles/Warrant; Sign Warrant, 10/14/25

No discussion.

Joint Meeting with Planning Board; Long Range Planning as discussed in FY25

No discussion.

Correspondence and Select Board Informational Items:

Review Town of Colrain FY25 OPEB RSI Report per GASB 75

No discussion.

<u>2D8T Update September 2025 – Next Meeting of Steering Committee is 11/6/25 at 5 pm at MTRS;</u> Recent reports can be found at 2districts8towns.org

No discussion.

<u>Letter Sent to MassDOT re: Request for Snow Removal Support on Route 112; Follow up to Meeting with District 1 Director and staff</u>

No discussion.

Executive Session:

None

Dissolve Meeting:

MOVED: Emily Thurber moved to dissolve the meeting at 5:18pm.

Katie Korby seconded. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Smith

Administrative Assistant

Accepted by the Select Board on 6/28/2025

Emily Thurber - Chair

Benjamin Eastman

Katie Korby

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

Memo to the Select Board from Police Chief Lannon dated 9/21/2025 re: Department Staffing with six attachments: Chief and Officer Salary per Town, Current Colrain FY26 Wages, Proposed Staffing and Wages Scenarios, FRCOG Wage and Salary Survey for FY25

FY26 Police Wages & Salaries Budget Spreadsheet with Proposed Staffing

Planning Phases for the Police Department

Draft FY2026 Special Town Meeting Warrant

Email dated 9/25/2025 from Parker Elmore, Odyssey Advisors, to Paula Harrison, Treasurer/Collector, re: Town of Colrain FY25 OPEB RSI Report per GASB 75

GASB 74/75 Summary of Results dated 9/25/2025

Town of Colrain Other Postemployment Benefits Plan dated 6/30/2025

2Districts8Towns September Update on Mohawk Trail/Hawlemont Regional School District Sustainability Study

Letter to MassDOT Highway – District One Highway Director dated 9/30/2025 re: Route 112/Jacksonville Rd Winter Snow Removal

Council on Aging By-laws from Towns of Ashfield, Blandford, Buckland, Chester, Erving, Hatfield, Holland, Huntington, Monterey, Pelham, Phillipston, Shutesbury, Wales