Town of Colrain
Select Board/MLP Board Meeting
Colrain Highway Garage
9 Jacksonville Road
4:30 PM
MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD
September 30, 2026

Present: Chair Catherine Korby (remote), Select Board Member Benjamin Eastman, Select Board Member Emily Thurber

Absent: None

Others Present: Diana Parsons (Town Administrator); Nicholas Sammarco, Jeffrey Blake (Town Counsel); John Yannis

Call to Order

Vice Chair Benjamin Eastman called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. and stated that the meeting was being recorded.

Executive Session

At 4:30 Vice Chair Eastman announced that the Board would enter Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The Board planned to return to open session immediately afterward.

> Vice Chair Eastman moved to enter Executive Session. Select Board Member Thurber seconded.
> **Roll call:** Benjamin Eastman—Aye; Emily Thurber—Aye; Catherine Korby—Aye. **Approved unanimously.**

Public and Board Member Comments (votes will not be taken)

No public comment was offered by the online attendee. Board members discussed the Town's use of state recycling-dividend funds, including eligible recycling and transfer-station expenses.

Consent Items

Approve Warrant AP2713 FY27 in the amount of $154,529.97

> Vice Chair Eastman moved to approve Warrant AP2713 FY27 in the amount of $154,529.97. Select Board Member Thurber seconded.
>
> **Roll call:** Benjamin Eastman—Aye; Emily Thurber—Aye; Catherine Korby—Aye. **Approved unanimously.**

Appointments and Resignations

Request Appointment to Hazardous Mitigation Planning Committee, Kevin French

The Board supported appointing Kevin French, citing his prior experience as the Town's Emergency Management Director. The appointment was to remain in effect until the planning project was completed.

> Select Board Member Thurber moved to appoint Kevin French to the Hazardous Mitigation Planning Committee, effective immediately and until the project was completed. Vice Chair Eastman seconded.
>
> **Roll call:** Benjamin Eastman—Aye; Emily Thurber—Aye; Catherine Korby—Aye. **Approved unanimously.**

New Business

None.

Old Business

Review and Finalize Warrant Articles for Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 2026

The Board reviewed proposed warrant articles, including funding for weatherization at the school, a space to support the Community Connections grant, and technology needs. Members recommended providing residents with clear explanations and supporting cost information; the Board agreed to hold a brief meeting Monday to sign the warrant after its submission deadline.

> Chair Korby moved to accept the warrant as presented. Vice Chair Eastman seconded.
>
> **Roll call:** Benjamin Eastman—Aye; Emily Thurber—Aye; Catherine Korby—Aye. **Approved unanimously.**

Administrator Updates

Town Administrator Diana Parsons reported on the comprehensive planning grant, planned DEP test pits behind 55 Main Road, cleanup efforts behind the fire station, regional EMS and public-safety-sharing discussions, and the upcoming Hazard Mitigation Planning kickoff. She also reported that the Town had not yet received interest in its tax-relief committee and noted a projected March 2027 design completion for Adamsville Rd project; Board members requested continued updates and further discussion of project timing of the project.

Requests for Future Agenda Items

The Board anticipated a presentation from the Library on its strategic plan and feasibility study. Members also requested continued information about road-project design progress and discussed reviewing zoning provisions, including possible rules concerning data centers and driveway permitting.

Correspondence and Select Board Informational Items (votes will not be taken)

Board members noted the successful 5K fundraiser, a school open house, and the Wood Bank bottle-and-can drive. They discussed the transfer station's rules for collecting bottles and cans, possible alternate locations for library outreach, and whether Town bylaws address data centers; the Town Administrator agreed to raise the latter topic with the relevant official.

Adjourn Meeting

Vice Chair moved to adjourn the meeting Select Board Member Thurber seconded.

Roll call: Benjamin Eastman—Aye; Emily Thurber—Aye; Catherine Korby—Aye. **Approved unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

These minutes were created using ClerkMinutes, an AI-powered platform that transcribes meetings, identifies speakers, and generates professional minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Smith
Executive Assistant

Accepted by the Select Board on 11/10/2026

Catherine Korby - Chair

Benjamin Eastman

Emily Thurber

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

Email dated 9/28/2026 from Kevin French to Diana Parsons, Town Administrator, re: Hazardous Mitigation Planning Committee Appointment

Draft 10/20/2026 Special Town Meeting Warrant

Northeast IT Quote for Refurbished Laptop for the COA dated 9/25/2026

Larocque + Architecture & Planning P.C. Professional Services Fee Proposal – Accessibility Grant Preparation dated 6/4/2026