

Town of Colrain
Select Board/MLP Board Meeting
55 Main Road
Town Offices, 4:30 PM
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 28, 2021

Present Joe Kurland, Mike Slowinski, Thom Griffin

Others Present Jane Johnson; Gail Johnston; Jamie Hall; Mary Parsons; Donald Voner; Kellie Smith; Donnie Brown, Jr.; Donald Brown, Sr.; Betsy Shuipis, Administrative Assistant; Michael Shuipis and Kevin Fox, MLP Co-Managers

The meeting was called to order by Joe Kurland, Chair, at 4:31 p.m.

New Business Public Hearing, Petition for Verizon Job 1A4A6QK (Pole Hearing)

Verizon needs to remove a guy wire that is now attached to a tree and put up a subpole in its place. This is a brace pole with no electricity going across it.

MOVED: Thom Griffin made a motion that we approve the Petition for Verizon Job No. 1A4A6QK. Mike Slowinski seconded. **Unanimously approved.**

MOVED: Thom Griffin moved to rescind the previous vote and replace it with approval of Permit No. 1A5A8HG. Mike Slowinski seconded. **Unanimously approved.**

A Public Hearing was opened at 5:02 p.m.

Public Hearing to consider a request by Jamie Hall for a special permit for the purpose of storing more than two unregistered vehicles on property located at 5 River Street.

Jaime Hall described the stages of derby vehicle work during a year beginning in the spring and ending with the fall yard clean-up. Mr. Hall would like a permit that allowed 4 vehicles and their parts to be on his driveway. As to his neighbors, Mr. Hall is considerate making sure any concerns they might have are heard. (Letters of support from abutting neighbors are included in the meeting's packet.)

Questions for Mr. Hall:

- How are toxic liquids taken care of? They have storage drums and places to dispose of antifreeze and oil.
- Are there any floor drains in your garage? None that are useable since they have a concrete cap over them. They were filled with stone. Mr. Slowinski is concerned with drains filled with stone
- Will there be an environmental check of the property for contamination? No.
- Mr. Slowinski asked Mr. Hall how many unregistered vehicles is he requesting and the length of time those extra vehicles would be seen before the cleanup. A maximum of 4 vehicles.
- Will the Halls work on vehicles behind the fence they intend to build? No, the 4 vehicles will be worked on in the driveway.

Ms. Jane Johnson stated that if 4 vehicles in various states of repair with extra parts are laid out on the driveway nothing will have changed. Additionally, Ms. Johnson said the majority of traffic is along Jacksonville Rd. which is about 10-15 ft. higher than the Hall's River St. property. So a 6 foot high fence on the Hall property may not hide much.

Concerns:

- The floor drains filled with stone need to be properly sealed according to DEP procedure. This may be a condition of the permit.
- A fence that would be high enough to block vehicles and parts. Higher than 7 feet requires engineering.

The Select Board would like the Halls to present a plan showing the dimensions of a fence, the type of fence, where it will go and where it is in relationship to everything else on the property. Also, Mike Slowinski will ask the building inspector if a carport is considered a building, if it needs a permit, but the Halls must give him the dimensions of the carport.

With regard to Mr. Hall's complaint that his son, Joshua, had been disrespected at a Select Board meeting, Mr. Slowinski stated categorically that Mr. Hall's son has never been disrespected in any of these meetings or hearings.

MOVED: Thom Griffin moved to continue this public hearing at 5 p.m. on January 11, 2022 at 5 p.m. Mike Slowinski seconded. **Unanimously approved.**

Notice of resignation from Michael Shuipis as MLP Co-manager.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to accept Michael Shuipis's resignation as MLP Co-Manager with great appreciation. Thom Griffin seconded. **Unanimously approved.**

Set Date for Annual Town Meeting

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to have the Annual Town Meeting on June 14, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. out of doors. Thom Griffin seconded. **Unanimously approved.**

Old Business FCTSD Enrollment

Moved for discussion to the next Select Board meeting.

Unanticipated Business

1- Day Liquor License Application from Pine Hill Orchards with Four Phantoms Brewing Company on January 15, 2022.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to approve the 1-Day Liquor License application from Pine Hill Orchards with Four Phantoms Brewing Co. on January 15, 2022. Thom Griffin seconded. **Unanimously approved.**

Town Administrator Updates

- The Select Board requested that Kevin Fox add the contract proposals for the treasurer/collector and the assessor to next meeting's agenda.
- Kevin Fox received a request from a nonresident, Janet Sinclair, to attend our next meeting to discuss an important case being heard by the state Supreme Court regarding solar by-laws.
- The town has 2 items thus far for a Special Town Meeting: to pay for a FY21 audit and two new host agreements, one of which involves retail and retail sales tax. Also, the town will be asked if it wants to prepay the fire truck debt early depending on the amount of free cash.

MOVED: Mike Slowinski moved to dissolve the meeting at 6:18 p.m. Thom Griffin

seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Shuipis
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by the Select Board

Joe Kurland - Chair

Mike Slowinski

Thom Griffin

Documents

Select Board Meeting Notes

Letter from Albert E. Bessett, Jr. dated 11/29/21 re: Petition for Verizon Job #1A5A8HG dated 7/27/21

Petition for Joint or Identical Pole Location No. 1A5A8HG dated 7/27/21

Town of Colrain Unregistered Motor Vehicle Bylaw

Letter from Jaime Hall dated 11/30/21 requesting a Special Permit for their property on 5 River Road.

Copy of letter notifying abutters of 5 River Road, Colrain, MA. of public hearing on 12/28/21, 9 Jacksonville Road, Colrain at 5 p.m.

Abutters List – 5 River Road, Colrain, MA

Copy of letter sent to Steve Oberski, Garrett R. Savoie, Barbara M. Chase, Dorothy A. Conway, Rhonda J. Sanders, Martha Hansen, William R. Cole, Gary and Donna James, Peter Hillman

Letter of Resignation from Michael Shuipis dated 12/28/21 as MLP Co-Manager effective 12/31/21

Email from Megan McDonough, Town Moderator, dated 12/26/21, to Town Administrator re Annual Town Meeting 2022