

Official Town Minutes
March 12th, 2019
Colebrook, New Hampshire

Ron Patterson, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:05pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. He advised those attending (approximately 380), to pick up a voting card from the Supervisors of the Checklist table if they hadn't already done so. He reminded the attendees to be kind and respectful to one another, wait for the microphone before speaking, to be sure to state their name and to address their questions or comments to the front of the meeting and not someone in the audience.

Article 1: To bring in your ballots for the selection of Town Officers to be elected by ballot for the Town of Colebrook for the ensuing year.

Selectwoman:	Suzanne "Sue" Collins
Trustee of the Trust Funds:	Kelly M. LaPerle
Planning Board:	Sandra Riendeau
Library Trustee:	Kathi Woodard
Cemetery Trustee:	Jodi L. Smith
Cemetery Trustee:	TBD

Article 2: Sue Collins made the motion to discuss the article before voting by "secret ballot" as stated in RSA 261:153v VI (c) (1).

To bring in your ballots, pursuant to RSA 261:153, VI, to authorize the collection of an additional fee for motor vehicle registrations in the amount of Five Dollars (**\$5.00**) per registration to be deposited into a newly created **Municipal Transportation Capital Reserve Fund** to be used for the purpose of municipal transportation improvements, to fund, wholly or in part, improvements in the local or regional transportation system, including roads, bridges, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, parking and intermodal facilities, electric vehicle charging stations and public transportation; and further to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund. Registrations for antique motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles (as defined in RSA 215-A: 1, I-b) and antique motor vehicles (as defined in RSA 259:4) are exempt from this fee. This fee shall be collected starting with applicable motor vehicle registration permits *on or after May 1, 2019*.

Ray Gorman seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Irene Bean questioned the amount of money it was thought this fee would bring in. Sue Collins stated approximately 3000 vehicles are registered per year and which you mean be around \$15,000. The fund would be used on bridges and roads. Irene Bean stated she read in the newspaper that the fee could be increased to \$10 per vehicle. Sue Collins stated she is aware that there is currently a bill trying to be passed in Concord to raise the fee, but she believes any increase would have to be voted on by the Town. Irene Bean stated \$5

may not seem like a lot to some but to others it is. Ron Patterson called for more discussion. With no further questions or comments, voting took place with the following results.

Results: Yes-66 No-132
Article Fails.

Article 3: Shall the powers and duties of the office of collector of taxes be transferred from that of town manager to said tax office? This article was voted on by official ballot.

Results: Yes-211 No-73
Article Passes.

Article 4: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Two million four hundred fifteen thousand five hundred ninety dollars **(\$2,415,590) for General Government.** This article does not include special or individual articles addressed. Greg Placy seconded the motion. Sue Collins stated the Selectmen are recommending a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment in employee wages. Health Insurance premiums increased 2% and Dental Insurance went up a very nominal amount. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Executive	\$136,350
Election, Registration, Town Meeting & Vital Statistics	\$103,430
Financial Administration	\$223,410
Revaluation of Property	\$22,900
Legal Expense	\$15,000
Planning & Zoning	\$24,870
General Government Buildings	\$58,550
Advertising and Regional Association	\$2,660
Police	\$590,140
Ambulance	\$177,600
Fire	\$9,100
Emergency Management	\$4,600
Highways	\$549,400
Street Lighting	\$25,000
Solid Waste Disposal	\$150,400
Outside Agencies	\$31,550
Animal Boarding	\$250
Welfare Administration	\$6,750
Parks & Recreation	\$123,615

Patriotic Purposes	\$4,200
Economic Development	\$11,300
Conservation Commission	\$300
Bond Payment and Tax Anticipation Note Interest	\$144,215
Total Article 4.	\$2,415,590

Article 5: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Two hundred two-thousand five hundred dollars (**\$202,500**) for the following **Capital Reserve Funds**: This appropriation shall be funded by taxation except for the water and sewer short-lived assets, which will be funded by user fees. Greg Placy seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Capital Reserve Funds	
Highway Equipment	\$80,000
Police Cruiser	\$10,000
250th Anniversary 2020	\$2,500
Property Revaluation 2024	\$10,000
Government Buildings	\$10,000
Highway Paving	\$50,000
Water - Short Lived Assets	\$20,000
Sewer - Short Lived Assets	\$20,000
Total Article 5.	\$202,500

Article 6: Greg Placy made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Two hundred twenty-seven thousand dollars (**\$227,000**) for the purpose of purchasing a **new replacement highway plow truck with accessories and warranty** and to authorize the withdrawal of Two hundred twenty-seven thousand dollars (\$227,000) from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established for that purpose. Ray Gorman seconded the motion. Greg Placy made the motion to amend the article to reduce the appropriated sum by \$27,000 as the Town was able to obtain a lesser price on the new plow truck. Ray Gorman seconded the amendment. Voters approved the amendment as stated. After light discussion, the amended article passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 7: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-six thousand dollars (**\$26,000**) for purchasing a **replacement police cruiser** for the cruiser totaled in an automobile accident in 2018 with Twenty thousand two hundred fifty-six dollars (\$20,256) to come from Unassigned Fund Balance (the sum of the 2018 insurance claim) and Five thousand seven hundred forty-four dollars (\$5,744) to come

from taxation. Greg Placy seconded the motion. After light discussion the article passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 8: Greg Placy made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of One hundred seven thousand eight hundred fifty dollars (**\$107,850**) for Landfill Closure Expenses and to authorize the withdrawal of Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) from the Sanitary **Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund** as offsetting revenue against these expenses. Sue Collins seconded the motion. After light discussion the article passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 9: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-five thousand dollars (**\$45,000**) for siding and related repairs to **Town Hall** and to authorize the withdrawal of Forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) from the Town Buildings capital reserve previously established for that purpose. Ray Gorman seconded the motion. Sue Collins advised the attendees the Department of Revenue Administration suggested that this warrant article be included this year to reauthorize the siding and improvements to the exterior from the Building Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$45,000. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 10: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Five hundred forty-four thousand one hundred fifty dollars (**\$544,150**) for the **Colebrook Water Department and the Colebrook Sewer Facilities**. Said funds are to be offset by user fees. Greg Placy seconded the motion. Sue Collins stated the Water Budget has been decreased by \$32,850. She continued that the Sewer Department is down \$39,130. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Water	\$294,350
Sewer	\$249,800

Article 11: Ray Gorman made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of One hundred ninety-six thousand six hundred seventy-five dollars (**\$196,675**) for support of the **Colebrook Public Library**. One hundred seventy-seven thousand twenty-five dollars (\$177,025) to be raised through taxation and Nineteen thousand six hundred fifty (\$19,650) is to come from other library balance on hand January 1, 2019, book sales, donations, trust funds, non-resident fees, other communities, overdue fines, book resale, copying fees, etc., such funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Library Trustees. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 12: Ray Gorman made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Five thousand dollars **(\$5,000)** to be added to the previously established **Library Building Repairs and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund** for Library Building Repairs and Replacement. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 13: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of One hundred six thousand eighty-one dollars **(\$106,081)** for the operation and maintenance of the **Colebrook Cemeteries**, the sum of One hundred three thousand eighty-one dollars (\$103,081) to be raised through taxation and Three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to be raised from burials, cemetery trust funds and other Colebrook Cemetery revenues. Greg Placy seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 14: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Five thousand dollars **(\$5,000)** to be added to the Colebrook **Cemetery Grounds Maintenance and Reclamation Expendable Trust Fund**. Greg Placy seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 15: Ray Gorman made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Three hundred forty-one thousand six hundred fifty dollars **(\$341,650)** for the **Northern Borders Dispatch Center**, one hundred seventy-two thousand nine hundred six (\$172,906) to come from participating towns, and One hundred sixty-eight thousand seven hundred forty-four (\$168,744) to come from taxation. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 16: Ray Gorman made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen thousand two hundred dollars **(\$13,200)** for the purpose of funding **Northern Borders Dispatch Center** Equipment totaling Eleven thousand two hundred dollars (\$11,200) and Two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for trail maintenance. Ten thousand five hundred sixty dollars (\$10,560) to come from participating towns and Two thousand six hundred forty dollars (\$2,640) to come from taxation. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 17. Ray Gorman made the motion to establish a **Northern Borders Dispatch Center Capital Reserve Fund** to be used for future replacement of dispatch equipment;

to raise and appropriate the sum of Eleven thousand eight hundred dollars (**\$11,800**) to be placed in said fund and to name the Northern Borders Dispatch Committee as agents to expend. Nine thousand four hundred forty dollars (\$9,440) to come from participating towns and Two thousand three hundred sixty dollars (\$2,360) to come from taxation. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 18: Greg Placy made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighteen thousand eight-hundred seventy-five dollars (**\$18,875**) for **Stonegarden Police Department Equipment and Patrol**. This amount is to be reimbursed from Grant Revenues. Sue Collins seconded the motion. After light discussion the motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 19: Greg Placy made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-five thousand dollars (**\$75,000**) for continued design and engineering of **Bear Rock Road Bridge #167/120**, and to authorize the withdrawal of Seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) from the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve previously established for that purpose. This appropriation will be non-lapsing until December 31, 2022 (five years from original appropriation) or until the project is constructed. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 20: Greg Placy made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-five thousand dollars (**\$75,000**) for continued design and engineering of **Harvey Swell Road Bridge #190/109**, and to authorize the withdrawal of Seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) from the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve previously established for that purpose. This appropriation will be non-lapsing until December 31, 2022 (five years from original appropriation) or until the project is constructed. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 21: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-five thousand dollars (**\$65,000**) for the purchase and alterations of 22 Bridge Street for the purpose of municipal well field protection and enhanced parking adjacent to the town parking lot and Memorial Lot. Ray Gorman seconded the motion. Greg Placy made the motion to propose \$20,000 of the sum come from the Water Fund and the remaining \$45,000 to come from taxation. Ray Gorman seconded the amendment. The motion to amend passed with an affirmation of voting cards. Light discussion ensued. The amended motion failed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 22: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy thousand dollars (**\$70,000**) for the total re-evaluation of properties in the Town as required every five years by the Department of Revenue Administration and to authorize the withdrawal of Seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000) from the **Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund**. Greg Placy seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 23: Sue Collins made the motion to establish an **Emergency Management Capital Reserve Fund** for the purpose of future purchases of emergency management capital equipment; to raise and appropriate the sum of Two thousand five hundred dollars (**\$2,500**) to be placed in said fund and to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. Greg Placy seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 24: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven thousand five hundred dollars (**\$7,500**) for the purpose of updating the Town's Hazardous Mitigation Plan. This amount is to be reimbursed from the State of NH. Greg Placy seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 25: Greg Placy made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Two thousand five hundred dollars (**\$2,500**) for the purpose of expending the funds for a **Used Oil Grant**. This amount is to be reimbursed from the State of NH. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 26: (By petition RSA 39:3) Cynthia Harris moved the following petition article with a second from Mark Hunt: We the undersigned registered voters of Colebrook hereby request to discontinue completely and absolutely the use of ATV/OHRV vehicles on Colebrook town roads going through our neighborhoods, including those sections of roads permitted by this assembly for ATV use as an experiment in 2016; until such time as a fair and equitable solution can be found to resolve the imposition placed on us the effected citizens burdened with this inconvenience. After spirited discussion, the request for a secret ballot vote received from five registered voters in attendance was honored with the following results:

Results: Yes-52 No-227
Petitioned Article Fails.

Article 27 (By petition RSA 39:3) Greg Placy made the motion to see if the town will appropriate funds for the temporary position of Recreation Trails Supervisor, with duties to include discussing with landowners possible ATV use of snowmobile trails; working as a facilitator to bring landowners and members of the ATV community together to seek solutions in places known and referred to as “problem areas”; and seeking funding for work on trails and bridges unable to safely bear continued use by ATVs; and such person be directed to furnish a brief report to voters at town meeting, the voters to then decide whether the position should be funded for another year. Salary for this position to be determined by the Select Board. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion failed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 28: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, upon successful passage of the previously petitioned Warrant Article 27, the sum of Ten thousand dollars (**\$10,000**) to fund the temporary position of Recreation Trails Supervisor and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to wholly define the status of this position as a temporary contracted position for the Town. Article null as Article 27 failed.

Article 29: Sue Collins made the motion to see if the Town will vote to accept, ratify and confirm the reports of the Agents, Selectmen, Auditors and all other Town Officers. Greg Placy seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Article 30: Greg Placy made the motion to be able to transact any other business that may come of this meeting. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmation show of voting cards.

Colebrook Citizen of the Year was awarded to the former owner of Hill’s Department Store, George Gooch. Mr. Gooch was chosen for his exceptional service, commitment, support, leadership, outreach to other citizens and a desire to make a positive impact on our community. Congratulations George!

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey A. McKinnon
Town Clerk