

Official Town Minutes

March 10th, 2020

Colebrook, New Hampshire

Ron Patterson, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. He advised those attending (approximately 150), 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.

Before commencing the business portion of the meeting, Moderator Patterson asked everyone to observe a moment of silence in honor of long-time public servant Sally Wentzell who lost her life in the past week. Sally served the Town of Colebrook in various capacities from 1969 to 2020.

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.

Moderator:	TBD
Selectmen:	Raymond Gorman
Treasurer:	Alicia Boire
Town Clerk:	Tracey McKinnon
Trustee of the Trust Funds:	Rosemary J. Mulliken
Planning Board:	Robert Murphy
Library Trustee:	Amy Patterson
Library Trustee:	Terrence Rosi
Supervisor of the Checklist:	Brent W. Lyons
Cemetery Trustee:	Julie J. Brunault
Cemetery Trustee:	Terrence Rosi
Cemetery Trustee:	Denise Van Bueren

Article 2: Ray Gorman made the motion to see if the Town will vote to convey a Conservation Easement to the State of New Hampshire, Bureau of Trails , Division of Parks and Recreation, with respect to South Hill Road, from the intersection of NH Route 145 to the terminus of the road where it is bisected by the Colebrook-Stewartstown town line. Greg Placy seconded the motion. Greg explained the easement would restrict ATV road access to keep ATV’s off South Hill and on the trails. Mr. Placy added, should an individual that resides on South Hill wish to take their ATV from their place of residency to the trail head, the resident will need to stop by the town hall to fill out a “Permission to Utilize Town Road Form”. After light discussion, the motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 3: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Two million five hundred twenty-seven thousand seven hundred seventy-three dollars (**\$2,527,773**) for **General Government**. This article does not include special or individual articles addressed. Greg Placy seconded the motion.

Executive	\$141,700
Town Clerk, Voter Registration, Town Meeting, Elections	\$121,760
Financial Administration	\$248,400
Revaluation of Property	\$25,100
Legal Expense	\$15,000
Planning & Zoning	\$25,845
General Government Buildings	\$57,800
Advertising and Regional Association	\$2,700
Police	\$591,430
Ambulance	\$187,350
Fire	\$10,650
Emergency Management	\$9,755
Highways	\$579,350
Street Lighting	\$26,000
Transfer Station & Recycling	\$156,700
Health Administration	\$32,250
Animal Boarding	\$250

Welfare Administration	\$8,450
Parks & Recreation	\$128,070

Patriotic Purposes	\$1,200
Economic Development	\$11,000
Conservation Commission	\$300
Bond Payment and Tax Anticipation Note Interest	\$146,713
Total Article 3.	\$2,527,773

After discussion, Tom Yorke made a motion to amend Article #3 by 10% to a total of \$2,274,995. David Hodge seconded the motion. Mr. Yorke explained his request for the amendment was to the fact the town rate increased by 10%, even though the state, school and county rates had decreased. He, therefore, felt it fair that the budget be cut by 10%. A secret ballot vote to amend the article passed.

Moderator Patterson then called for a vote on the amended article to raise and appropriate the sum of Two million, two hundred seventy four thousand nine hundred ninety nine dollars (\$2,274,995) for General Government. A show of hands was indecisive. A secret ballot vote followed:

- Yes – 43
- No – 47

The Amended Article to reduce the General Government total FAILED.

A vote was then requested on the original motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Two million five hundred twenty-seven thousand seven hundred seventy-three dollars (**\$2,527,773**) for **General Government**. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 4: Moderator Ron Patterson asked for a motion “To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars (\$235,000) for the following Capital Reserve Funds. This appropriation shall be funded by taxation with the exception of the water and sewer short-lived assets, which will be funded by user fees.

Capital Reserve Funds	
Highway Equipment	\$80,000
Police Cruiser	\$15,000
Bridge Fund	\$50,000
Highway Paving	\$50,000
Water - Short Lived Assets	\$20,000
Sewer - Short Lived Assets	\$20,000

Total Article 4.	\$235,000
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Greg Placy made the motion to amend Article #4 to read to raise and to raise and appropriate the sum of forty thousand dollars **(\$40,000)** for the following **Capital Reserve Funds**. This appropriation shall be funded by taxation with the exception of the water and sewer short-lived assets, which will be funded by user fees. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Capital Reserve Funds	
Highway Equipment	\$80,000 \$0
Police Cruiser	\$15,000 \$0
Bridge Fund	\$50,000 \$0
Highway Paving	\$50,000 \$0
Water - Short Lived Assets	\$20,000
Sewer - Short Lived Assets	\$20,000
Total Article 4.	\$235,000 \$40,000

Article 5: Greg Placy made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of One hundred thirty thousand dollars **(\$130,000)** for the purpose of paving Hughes Road and to authorize the withdrawal of One hundred thirty thousand dollars **(\$130,000)** from the Highway Paving Capital Reserve Fund previously established for paving. Ray Gorman seconded the motion. After light discussion the motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 6: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of One hundred twenty-one thousand six hundred twenty-five dollars **(\$121,625)** for Landfill Closure Expenses and to authorize the withdrawal of Sixty-five thousand dollars **(\$65,000)** from the Sanitary **Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund** as offsetting revenue against these expenses. Greg Placy seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 7: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Six hundred twenty-two thousand six hundred fifty dollars **(\$622,650)** for the **Colebrook Water Department and the Colebrook Sewer Facilities**. Said funds to be offset by user fees. Ray Gorman seconded the motion. After light discussion the motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Water \$341,725

Sewer \$280,925

Article 8: Greg Placy made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Two hundred four thousand two hundred ten dollars (**\$204,210**) for support of the **Colebrook Public Library**. One hundred eighty four thousand five hundred sixty dollars (\$184,560) to be raised through taxation and Nineteen thousand six hundred fifty dollars (\$19,650) is to come from other library balance on hand January 1, 2020, book sales, donations, trust funds, non-resident fees, oter 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 affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 9: Ray Gorman made the motion to see if the Town will vote 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. Greg Placy seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 10: Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety eight thousand six hundred five dollars (**\$98,605**) for the operation and maintenance of the **Colebrook Cemeteries**, the sum of Ninety thousand six hundred five dollars (**\$90,605**) to be raised through taxation and Eight thousand dollars (**\$8,000**) to be raised from burials, cemetery trust funds and other Colebrook Cemetery revenues. Greg Placy seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 11: 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 affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 12: Ray Gorman made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Three hundred forty-one thousand six hundred dollars (**\$341,600**) for the **Northern Borders Dispatch Center** , One hundred sixty-four thousand three hundred five dollars (**\$164,305**) to come from participating towns, and One hundred seventy seven thousand two hundred ninety-five dollars (**\$177,295**) to come from taxation. Greg Placy seconded the motion. After light discussion the motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 13: Ray Gorman made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten thousand three hundred thirty-five dollars (**\$10,335**) for the purpose of funding **Northern Borders Dispatch Center** Equipment totaling Eight thousand three hundred thirty-five dollars (**\$8,335**) and Two thousand dollars (**\$2,000**) for trail maintenance. Eight thousand two hundred sixty-eight dollars (**\$8,268**) to come from participating towns and Two thousand sixty-seven dollars (**\$2,067**) to

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

Article 14. Ray Gorman made the motion to raise and appropriate Fourteen thousand six hundred sixty-five dollars (**\$14,665**) for the **Northern Borders Dispatch Center Capital Reserve Fund** to be used for future replacement of dispatch equipment. Eleven thousand seven hundred thirty-two dollars (**\$11,732**) to come from participating towns and Two thousand nine hundred thirty-three dollars (**\$2,933**) to come from taxation. Greg Placy seconded the motion. After light discussion the motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 15: Greg Placy made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-four thousand five hundred fifty dollars (**\$24,550**) for **Stonegarden Police Department Equipment and Patrol**. This amount is to be reimbursed from Grant Revenues. Ray Gorman seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 16: Greg Placy made the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of Two thousand five hundred dollars (**\$2,500**) for the **Emergency Management Capital Reserve Fund** for the purpose of future purchases of emergency management capital equipment. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 17: 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. Ray Gorman seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

Article 18. Sue Collins made the motion to raise and appropriate Twenty-five thousand dollars (**\$25,000**) for a Community Development Block Grant to study and plan upgrades to the water distribution system at the Colebrook Mobile Home Cooperative located off Couture Street. This amount will be reimbursed from grant revenues. Ray Gorman seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.


Article 19: Greg Placy 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. Sue Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting card

Article 20: Sue Collins made the motion to transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. Ray Gorman seconded the motion. The motion passed with an affirmative show of voting cards.

The 2020 Citizens of the Year was awarded to Vincent & Michelle Roscillo and Phil & Susan Lambert for their generous donation of land on which to construct an ATV trail. This led to a breakthrough in the impasse between residents of South Hill Road, the Metallak ATV Club, and the Town with all parties working cooperatively on the solution.

Greg Placy announced Dean Woodard-Neary had been appointed as Emergency Management Director, the position recently vacated by Wayne Frizzell. In addition, he recognized outgoing Sheldon Gray (Cemetery Trustee) and Ron Patterson (Planning Board member) for their service.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "TAMcKinnon". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tracey A. McKinnon