

MINUTES OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING JULY 14, 2026

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Brad Bremer at 8:00 p.m. and the warning was read. Brad gave a brief overview of the appropriation request, stating that Colebrook Consolidated School had worked hard to bring the requested number down from \$39,900 to the \$20,000 range. The final numbers at the school will be determined once the 2025/2026 income and expenses have been reconciled. Brad turned the meeting over to Tom McKeon, Chairman of the Board of Finance.

Mr. McKeon read the question and explained that a motion and a second were needed to move the item for discussion. Scott Norton moved the motion to approve a supplemental appropriation for up to \$39,900 for the Colebrook Board of Education, fiscal year 2025/2026, as recommended by the Board of Finance, he was seconded by Aden J. Ruwet.

Tom opened discussion by explaining that this was a special education and health insurance shortfall, both of which are governed by state statute. Special education must be funded by the town, as well as health insurance, which is a contractual obligation. Both items will need to be paid, and the amount will NOT affect anyone's 2026/2027 taxes, or the mill rate, as this is an expense of the 2025/2026 budget year. The money needed will come from the 2025/2026 overall town budget and, at this time, the Board of Selectmen's budget is coming in under by approximately \$50,000, which will more than offset the school's request.

A lively discussion took place drifting off into the revaluation process which was not the purpose of this special meeting. There being no further questions or discussion, Mr. McKeon called for a vote by hand. Karen Odell, Registrar of Voters counted hands for a total Yes vote of 41 and No vote of 4.

The supplemental appropriation in the amount of up to \$39,900 from the 2025/2026 Budget to the Colebrook Board of Education for the purpose of satisfying the additional special education and insurance shortfall has passed.

There being no further business Scott Norton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm, he was seconded by Aden J. Ruwet.

Debra L. McKeon
Town Clerk