

**Select Board
Minutes
March 22, 2016**

Leverett Town Hall, 7 pm

Present: Peter d., Julie S., Tom H., Margie M., Lisa S., and a reporter

Energy Committee

(Also present: Portia W., Brooke and Shirley T., George L., Judith D., Ruth W.)

The Energy Committee has been working for several months to come up with an electricity aggregation plan for Leverett residents since the failed attempt by HCOG. They have met with several provider/suppliers and distributed a report of their findings. Judith walked the board through the various proposals, answering questions. The Energy Committee recommended that the Select Board look at Good Energy/Mass Energy because they have been quick to respond to questions, they are cheaper in offering class II RECs, they seem passionate about what they do, they have been around a long time, and they offer a tax deduction as a non-profit.

One member dissented on the basis that he was unhappy that they were not more "local", he is skeptical of non-profits in general. He preferred Colonial Power because they are based in MA and he found them easy to work with.

The Energy Committee will have several informational sessions before Town Meeting. Margie will write a warrant article rescinding the 2015 vote recommending HGOG and supporting previous aggregation votes. Lisa will put the Energy Committee Report on the website and Margie will send a CTY reminding residents of the informational sessions and referring them to the link to the report on the website.

Pipeline

(Also present Barbara Tiner, Ariel Elan)

Barbara was appointed to MCAP as Leverett's representative. She came in with Montague resident and fellow MCAP member to see if the Select Board would put an article on the town meeting warrant offering to help pay for the fees associated with Montague's intervener status which they recently received. Surrounding towns have put articles on their Town Meeting warrants asking for \$2,500 to \$10,000. Although Leverett will be indirectly impacted by the pipeline the board felt that the support of all surrounding towns sends a strong message to the Attorney General and Kinder Morgan about Leverett's opposition.

Motion: To put an article on the Town Meeting warrant requesting \$5,000 to support Montague's intervention of the pipeline. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Business

Motion: To appoint Steve Nagy to the Regional Assessment Method Working Group. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Motion: To appoint Richard Nathhorst to the Middle School Utilization Committee. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Motion: To appoint Phil Carter to the Regional School Capital Planning Group. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Motion: To appoint William Ingram to the Fire Department contingent upon a satisfactory physical, CORI and that he can not serve as a fire fighter until he reaches the age of 18 years. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Margie received Amherst Ambulance's estimate for services which is up 2.5%, \$670 more than last year. Next year will be 2% or \$600 on top of that. Letter of agreement signed.

John Kuczek noted that there is \$3,100 left in the Town Hall septic design account and he wondered if the board wanted him to look into the well-being of the system. The board recommended having the system pumped and at the same time getting a assessment of the system from the septic company.

There is about \$4,000 left in the Town Hall maintenance account. Margie and John came up with the following wish list: 2 new fan/lights for the main hall, fix the cement on the back steps, fix ceiling in Town Clerk's office, frame around the alarm in the front hall, and buy a picnic table for the Town Hall. The board agreed to have John and Margie work out the costs of each project and proceed.

Jim Field, Emergency Coordinator, came in to see Margie and left with her a state-wide mutual aid agreement that most towns have signed. Peter was reluctant to sign and asked Jim to come to a meeting to further detail the agreement.

The board asked Margie to call David Finn and ask what the plan is to replace the Coke Kiln Bridge as residents have been asking.

Tom reported that yield signs have been put up on the intersection of Shutesbury and Cushman roads. Margie will call Gary to ask for periodic police presence to help enforce.

A letter was signed to pull out of FRTA emergency transport agreement.

Thank you's were signed.

Regional school authorization to borrow was signed.

The mail was read.

Minutes taken by Lisa Stratford.

Documents referred to during meeting:

- Energy Committee Report
- Letter from Mary Wallace, District Secretary, dated March 10, 2016, re: debt authorization