

**Select Board
Minutes
February 8, 2017**

Leverett Town Hall, 7 pm

Present: Peter D., Julie S., Tom H., Margie M., Lisa S. Rob for the Montague Reporter

Business:

Motion: To raise the election worker pay to \$11/hr to be the same as minimum wage. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

The minutes of January 10 were approved as written.

Peter and Margie update the board on changes to the school and library internet as a result of switching to OTT.

The board was updated about the meeting held to discuss the Shutesbury Rd. intersection. The group that met felt that the most cost-effective and simple solution would be to make the intersection a "T" with one or three stop signs.

Julie updated the board on a new round of housing grants. The Trust will be requesting \$200,000 from CPA for the down payment assistant program and buy down program. Information sessions will be in March, applications due April 1-19, and the lottery on June 29.

The Highway Dept. purchased a replacement for the old tractor through a surplus called "govdeals" and will be able to pay for it between the budget and equipment line items.

Ken Kahn wanted the board to know that the Planning Bd. is considering several bylaws for Town Meeting including accessory apartments, and revisions to the solar bylaw.

The Next Century Cities letter was signed: "Mayors Supporting Broadband."

A date for the all-town Budget Hearing was set for March 21.

Margie mentioned the Green Communities Grant meeting next week with FRCOG representative.

Motion: To allow the Peace Commission and the Friends of Leverett Pond to use the Town Hall as a meeting space without paying the \$25 use fee. Vote: 2-0 (Tom abstained as a member of the FLP).

The DPU will hold a hearing for residential electricity. Colonial will be present to represent the town but anyone is welcome to attend.

The following were signed:

Contract for the bulky rigid plastic roll-off

Reserve Fund Transfer

EMPG grant contract

Thank yous

Police Officer Interview:

Scott introduced Timothy Blais and explained the hiring process:

Fifteen applications were received for the full-time police officer position. Applications were reviewed and narrowed down to 5 who were interviewed by the committee. Scott interviewed 2 and Scott recommended Timothy.

The board interviewed Timothy (TJ) Blais. He has been working part-time in Hatfield and Southampton and is interested in community policing and working in a small town with the possibility of advancement. He is ready to attend the academy to become a full-time officer.

Motion: To appoint Timothy Blais as a full-time officer with Scott negotiating with him about pay, pending a physical, psychological test, CORI, and check of references. He will work as a part-time officer at \$17.58 until academy is finished, then will receive full-time pay. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

The mail was read meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Minutes taken by Lisa Stratford