

**Select Board
Minutes
September 12, 2014**

Leverett Town Hall, 8:30 am

Present: Rich, Julie, Peter, Margie

Regional School Assessment Committee

Rich mentioned that he had a Regional School Assessment Committee meeting last night. The group has 4 assessment options, two of which are financially harmful to Leverett in the projections. The committee wants feedback from the members on each projection. Rich was hoping Julie and Tom Powers could review them and help give guidance as to how to respond.

Fire Department

The Board has now received a letter from John Moruzzi requesting to revoke his resignation. We also received one from Stewart Olson requesting to revoke his resignation. Margie has spoken to Donna, who was clear that once an employee resigns it is not the employee's decision about coming back, but the employer's. Board members discussed having them back for a finite period of time if they meet the following conditions and provide agreement to the following terms in writing:

1. they are back for two years only
2. they supply and follow a clear succession plan that ends in two years. Rich drew a diagram of what this can look like
3. they need to appoint a member from the current group of firefighters to participate in meeting with Sunderland and with Amherst and positively support participation in these two channels of exploration
4. they provide assurance that any firefighter on limited or restricted duty is performing only that limited duty and that the officers can provide proof that they are aware of and following the limitation. This is for the safety of the firefighter on limited duty and for the safety of the other firefighters
5. they produce and follow a program to recruit new firefighters
6. they review and update the current job descriptions
7. they realize that the Selectboard is going to evaluate the situation every six months

Margie was instructed to respond that the Board is considering options and working on the conditions. Margie will get a draft of the conditions to Board members next week for review and further discussion on September 23rd. The Fire Department would then have until the October 14th to comply. If this is not workable, then the ads for the new chief will be run.

The Board also discussed having Amherst provide contract fire services to Leverett. Margie relayed that Jim Field came in yesterday to say that he had met with the Amherst Fire Chief, with whom he is friends, and that Amherst is interested in this if it is a way for Amherst to get additional needed staff. The Board discussed following up on this and asking Jim to participate in the meetings involved. This process would take a while.

The FRCOG possibly has DLTA funds available to do a study for Leverett as they did for Wendell regarding their jointly hiring a fire chief with New Salem. Board agreed that we should say yes to using funds when they are available to explore the Amherst and Sunderland options. Funds probably are not available until January.

MSBA Project Paperwork

Rich signed the second PFA amendment for the MSBA school windows project and the final budget.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am

Minutes taken by Marjorie McGinnis