

**Selectboard
Minutes
August 25, 2015**

Leverett Town Hall, 7 pm

Present: Peter, Julie and Tom; Margie and reporter from the Montague Reporter

Highway New Employee

Will Stratford introduced Ethan Dickinson from Whately who was the unanimous vote of the Hiring Screening Committee to replace Larry Williams on the Highway Department. The Board talked with Ethan. He has a CDL, can operate most equipment, and has vehicle maintenance and welding experience. He has been a farmer for the past few years. **Motion made to appoint Ethan Dickinson as a Highway Laborer/Driver at the rate of \$16.50 per hour with rate to increase after 6 months dependent on successful review. Voted: 3-0 in favor.** Ethan has a recent CDL physical certification, Margie will check on if he needs another.

Fire Department

John Ingram came with several members of his department. First he gave an update: he's going to a fire investigation class with Scott from the police department; they have done some training with Amherst and Hadley; one firefighter is in Oregon fighting forest fires; his new computer tracking system is working well and he had a list of events generated by it; he really wants the town to push for cell phone coverage as the lack of it has been a problem at recent incidents; they were awarded the grant to get new SCBA's; and Max Carlin and William Ingram, two new Junior Firefighters, were introduced.

John then asked Captain Amy Rice, Firefighter Shelley Hicks and Firefighter Hank Silver to come forward so he could recognize them for their efforts and success in saving one of the injured during the May 2015 motorcycle accident on Shutesbury Road. Certificates and pins were given to them and they received a standing ovation.

Business:

Minutes of 8/11/15 were approved as revised.

Town Hall floors will be refinished the week of September 8th. We can still hold a meeting on the 8th but it will need to be downstairs. Margie will send a notice to all employees, boards and committees that the upstairs of the building will be closed that week. Folks can work or meet that week but need to plan not to access the upstairs.

Margie read the description of the Mass Innovation Awards and the Board agreed that she should apply on behalf of the Broadband project.

The Broadband celebration will be October 2nd and 3:00 pm.

Motion made to disband the Broadband Committee and send them huge thank you letters. Voted: 3-0. The board would like to see a draft letter before it is sent.

The Board will meet on September 21st rather than on September 22nd, which is the first day of Yom Kippur.

Motion made to appoint DeeAnn Civello, Barbara Carulli, Tom Powers, Julie Shively, and Chris Nelson to the Treasurer/Collector Hiring Screening Committee. Voted: 3-0 in favor. Margie will set up the first meeting and distribute applications received.

Acceptance of the MSBA draft audit was signed.

MA contractor paperwork was not signed because there was no explanatory information

Margie sent in the Community Compact application with technology and financial policies as the two focus areas. She will follow up if we have not heard from them by the next meeting.

Margie will draft a letter protesting the new public records law proposal as it could create a huge burden on the town.

Mail was reviewed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.