

**Select Board
Minutes
April 5, 2016**

Leverett Town Hall, 7 pm

Present: Peter, Julie, Tom, Margie, Lisa

Code Change

7:00 Peter opened the hearing for the Code change which allows the Tree Warden and Assistant Moderator to be appointed by the Select Board for terms not to exceed 3 years instead of elected annually allowing for some streamlining of the from-the-floor election process. There was no discussion. Hearing closed at 7:05 pm

Gary Billing asked the board to appoint a new part-time officer. Gary Gralenski is from Erving. He used to be on the Erving Board of Health, was an EMT, and does voluntary ski patrol.

Motion: To appoint Gary Gralenski as a part-time officer at \$17.24/hour pending a satisfactory physical. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Robert Barry, from MEMA, and Jim Field came in to discuss the Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid and Statewide Public Works Mutual Aid statutes that most every town in the state have adopted. They outlined the benefits of sharing resources and supplies and reassured the board that the risks of participation were small. Liability stays with sending town and participation during an emergency is optional.

Motion: To sign the Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid (MGL s. 40, ch. 4J) and Statewide Public Works (MGL S. 40, Ch.4K) Mutual Aid agreements. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Margie updated the board on **Cemetery** Trust Funds stating that there is about \$14,000 in one account and \$5,000 in the other. Margie will try to figure out how to make the funds accessible to the Cemetery Association. Additionally she explained the reimbursement that the town will get on its cherry sheets in FY 18 for 75% of the \$180 that the association spent on flags which they would like to be reimbursed for.

Connie Englert and Roy Kimmel came in to discuss **transportation**. Connie runs Max Bus out of a business called True North in Shelburne Falls. She has worked for MASS DOT and other transportation/transit groups. Max bus is funded, in part, by MASS DOT. She gave the board a reality check about the costs of joining a RTA if that ever comes to fruition as law that Leverett can join another TA. Other possibilities were discussed as well like Uber (difficult in a town without cell service and expensive), a town-owned van (a wait of about 2 years for a used van with potential issues, the greatest possibility being that the wheel chair lift doesn't work, an expensive fix), a regional approach, and a volunteer approach. The volunteer approach being in the spirit of what is trying to be accomplished. Roy will be attending a meeting in Shutesbury to find out how they run their volunteer service. In the meantime Connie is going to look into "medical transport" options and suggested that Max bus may be able to include Leverett in its route if they town writes to the Sec. of Transportation and requests the service. She and Roy will work on a draft.

Margie updated the board on her follow up with United Energy Consulting. George Lockwood had visited her office since the last meeting and mentioned that he has received a commission from the company for work at 2 other businesses but that he would not take a commission for work from Leverett. That perceived conflict along with the fact that the Town has had WMECO and Siemens conduct the same work in the past few years caused the board to decide not to pursue.

The minutes of March 29 were approved as written.

Lisa reported that Kate Rice said the 6th grade parents were not interested in Town Meeting lunch as a fundraiser. The board asked Lisa to email Margot directly to see if she could send out feelers for the rest of the grades or PTO since the board is aware that school money is tight this year.

The board approved of the Environment America statement supporting National Parks and refused to sign the Tobacco Twenty-one statement.

A discussion of the conditions of the roads during the previous day's storm was discussed as the board received a few complaints from North Leverett residents. Tom will talk to David.

The mail was read.

Margie distributed the first draft the ATM warrant.

Meeting adjourned: 8:50 pm

Minutes taken by Lisa Stratford

Documents referred to:

Statewide mutual aid map

MGL Ch. 40, sections 4 K and J