BUY PHOTO REPRINTS ONLINE

SUBSCRIBE TO THE GAZETTE ONLINE OR IN PRINT

Leverett adopts all Town Meeeting articles

By THE DAILY HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE
Staff Writer

Email this page | Printer-friendly version

Sunday, April 25, 2010

LEVERETT - Saturday's annual Town Meeting ran smoothly as all 27 warrant articles passed and every candidate up for election won in uncontested races.

Voters approved two headlining resolutions - one asking residents to welcome detainees from the military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to Leverett, and another seeking to direct the Select Board to help overturn a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that awarded corporations First Amendment rights.

Also approved were the town's $5.1 million budget for fiscal year 2011, a $15,000 hydraulic lift for the highway department and an energy-efficient building code, known as the "stretch code."

Referring to the "stretch code" and a "Demolition Delay" bylaw - which will regulate the demolition of historically significant buildings - Select Board Chairman Richard Brazeau said, "There was some discussion about those," due to components of the articles that were not completely clear to some residents; however, "there was no opposition once they understood."

The headline article, approved at the five-hourlong meeting held at the Leverett Elementary school, calls on Congress to repeal a ban prohibiting cleared detainees from the Guantanamo Bay prison from entering into the United States. If the ban is lifted, the proposal calls for welcoming cleared detainees to Leverett.

A second notable article was a resolution that calls for the Select Board to join a "grassroots" movement seeking to overturn the recent Supreme Court verdict in the Citizens United vs. the Federal Election Commission case, in which the court awarded the right of free speech to corporations.

Other approved agenda items included:

· a proposal to enter into discussions with other western Massachusetts municipalities to create a regional broadband Internet service to be operated by the involved towns;

· a $23,500 appropriation from the Community Preservation Fund for the rehabilitation of the Leverett Crafts and Arts building;

· a proposal to join the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District and pay a one-time membership fee of $4,550 to the organization.

Leverett's town elections allow for voters to nominate candidates from the floor of Town Meeting; however no such nominations occurred this year.

The candidates elected this year are as follows: Don Robinson, assessor, 3-year term; Fay Zipkowtiz, assistant moderator, 1-year term; Chuck Dauchy and Michael Fair, two seats, Board of Health, 3-year term each; Carl Field, constable, 3-year term; Don Gibavic and Nancy Grossman, two seats, Finance Committee, 3-year term and 2-year term, respectively; Elaine Barker and Georgie Schmid, two seats, library trustees, 3 year-term each; Jean Bergstrom and Steve Freedman, two seats, Planning Board,

Popular stories

- Michael McCoy, 25, loved learning
- Dwight may be back on: WHMP manager, host talking it over
- Family, friends mourn man who lived life with gusto
- EHS graduate detained after trans-Atlantic flight when he claimed to have explosives
- Wildwood principal to move on

5-year term each; Farshid Hajir and Dawn Sacks, two seats, School Committee, 3-year term each; Peter d'Errico, Select Board, 3-year term; Lisa Stratford, town clerk, 3-year term; William Stratford, tree warden, 1-year term.

Filed Under: leverett local news town meeting

Comments

Post new comment

Your name:
intern

Subject:

Comment: *

- Web page addresses and e-mail addresses turn into links automatically.
- Allowed HTML tags: <a> <b> <i>   <code> <cite>   <img>
- Lines and paragraphs break automatically.

More information about formatting options

Preview comment Post comment

Daily Hampshire Gazette © 2008 All rights reserved