
Leicester signs contract with new town administrator

By Susan Gonsalves, Correspondent

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LEICESTER - Holden resident David Genereux has officially signed on as Leicester's new town administrator for almost four years.

On Monday night, selectmen negotiated a contract in executive session that runs from Nov. 13, 2017, to June 30, 2021. According to the terms of the agreement, Mr. Genereux will be paid \$130,000 in the first year and eligible for increases up to 5 percent annually based on performance reviews by the Board of Selectmen.

In addition, he will receive \$300 monthly for professional expenses starting in December, three weeks of vacation in the first year and up to 15 sick days.

Mr. Genereux has worked in Uxbridge for 11 years, the last three as town manager. Previously, he was Uxbridge finance director and treasurer/collector from 2006 to 2014. Other work experience includes 13 years as treasurer/collector in Billerica and two years in Sturbridge in that role.

He earned a bachelor of science in business administration from Worcester State College and a master's degree in business administration from Nichols College.

Selectman Douglas Belanger noted that Leicester lavished a lot of praise on former town administrator Kevin Mizikar upon his departure in July to become Shrewsbury's town manager.

"The message was he'd be a tough act to follow," Mr. Belanger noted, adding that his interviews and other interaction have assured him Mr. Genereux is the right person for the job.

"David is up to the task and then some," he said, noting that he looked forward to the new administrator helping the town bring in businesses, broaden the tax base and provide services for the community.

Board members thanked interim Town administrator Jim Purcell for making the transition very smooth. He still has a few weeks to work before Mr. Genereux's starting

date.

Harry Brooks, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, praised Mr. Purcell for all that he accomplished working part-time hours.

“Jim went above and beyond,” Mr. Brooks said. “We finished some projects, began others ... We were very lucky to have him.”

Mr. Brooks added, “I’m very excited for David to get started and continue to move the town forward.”

The new administrator thanked selectmen for hiring him and said he looked forward to a “long and productive relationship” with them and Leicester.

Mr. Genereux said that his office door would always be open to department heads and residents, continuing a long-standing professional policy he’s had over the years.

“My first priority is to carry out the wishes of the board. I’m pleased to be here,” he said.

In other business, selectmen reviewed the Special Town Meeting warrant. That meeting is set for Tuesday, November 14 at 7 p.m., Town Hall.



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