



Town board looks at high speed Internet for low income families in Morocco

By SOPHIA ELMORE/STAFF REPORTER

Morocco Town Board member Duke Gagnon presented that AT&T-One Economy-OCRA is a worldwide not-for-profit program that focuses on bringing technology to small communities with low-income families. They are working to provide high-speed internet to people in Morocco. After the research, Morocco may have up to 75 families that would qualify for the program. There would be free internet for two years, reduced phone rate of \$9, and reduced rate on computers. Gagnon stated that what the town needs to do is identify up to 75 families that would qualify. This would start by getting a list of children from the schools that are on the free lunch program.

Jeff Rowe from Umbaugh and Associates handed out statistic sheets to the board in reference to the Hydrant and Main Project. There were some discrepancies in meters. Rowe will recalculate and resubmit the figures. Rowe stated in a worse case scenario, there could be a rate increase of \$18. At the end of the meeting council member Rick McCann asked the people in attendance how they felt about the rate increase. Lois Hensel said it always hurts when people are hit in the pocket-book, but she also understands that there has to be improvements made.

There was discussion of Spring Clean-Up Day on May 10. Five 30-yard dumpsters have been ordered, workers are in place, and encouragement letters will be mailed to residents informing them of any clean up and offering assistance to residents.

For the full version of this story, see the May 14 edition of the Newton County Enterprise.