

**Leyden Selectboard
Leyden Town Hall
Regular Session Minutes
February 12, 2018**

Selectboard Members Present: Lance Fritz, Bill Glabach, Jeff Neipp

Others Present: Tracey Baronas, Town Accountant; Michele Giarusso, Barbara Woodhall, Ginger Robinson, Michelle Higgins, Finance Committee members; Bob Ryan, MLP Manager and Telecommunications Department Chair and Tom Luck, Assistant to the MLP Manager and Telecommunications Department Chair.

Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 P.M.

Minutes:

MOVED: Jeff moved to accept the minutes of 2/5/18 with a small correction. Seconded by Bill. Passed unanimously.

Review of Mail: The Board reviewed a notification of Excess and Deficiency from the Department of Revenue regarding the Franklin County Technical School. There were excess unencumbered funds following the close out of their books for last year in the amount of \$8185.00. This amount must be applied to reduce the current year's assessment proportionately among the member towns.

Resignations: Gina Johnson has resigned from the Zoning Board of Appeals. Josh Fritz has resigned from the Zoning Board of Appeals, Mohawk Woodland Partnership, and the Recreation Committee.

MOVED: Jeff moved to accept the above resignations, with regret. Seconded by Bill. Passed unanimously.

MOVED: Jeff moved to appoint Jim Brodeur and Paula Sayword to fill positions on the Zoning Board of Appeals with term ending dates of 2020. Also, he moved to appoint Ginger Robinson to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term ending date of 2021. Seconded by Bill. Passed unanimously.

Town Caucus Date: Discussion was had regarding the date of the annual town caucus. The Town Clerk will be consulted to see if a suggested date is acceptable.

Fiscal 19 Budget Process: Lance gave a quick update regarding the progress of the budget for FY19. Recently the Pioneer Valley School District has requested an extension to the time frame of their budget process, which impacts that of the member towns. It was decided to level fund that for the time being in the local budget and hope a true figure would be available soon. Both the Finance Committee and the Selectboard hope to hold the town budget at an overall 3% increase.

Broadband Progress Update: Bob Ryan and Tom Luck met with the group to discuss recent progress. Pole Attachment Surety Bonds for both Verizon and Eversource were signed and will be submitted Tuesday. There is still much uncertainty in the number of “red poles” (those unsuitable for the project due to condition and/or size and requiring replacement). That is the biggest area of financial concern. There is some additional state money available but the exact amount and how that will be distributed is unknown at present. Mr. Ryan is in contact with both the state and the town’s financial advisor frequently regarding these issues.

The group reviewed the site plan for the proposed Broadband ‘hut’ which will house the hardware.

Mr. Luck and Mr. Ryan were thanked for their continued efforts on this project.

Sign Council on Aging State Contract: The Board reviewed and signed a contract for the Council on Aging state funds in the amount of \$5000.

Meeting of 2/19/18:

This is a federal holiday, no meeting will be held. Next Selectboard meeting is 2/26/18.

Meeting Adjourned 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Tracey Baronas
Town Accountant

Items Available for Review During the Meeting:

Warrants

Minutes 02/05/18

FCTS E&D Certification

Resignation letters G. Johnson/J. Fritz