

**Leyden Select Board and Finance Committee Minutes**  
**Leyden Town Offices**  
**Regular Session Minutes**  
**July 19, 2021**  
**6:00pm**

**Select Board Members Present:** Bill Glabach, Jeff Neipp

**Others Present:** Michele Giarusso, Michele Higgins, John Higgins, Gilda Galvis, Dan Galvis, Ginger Robinson, Sarah Steinberg, Beth Kuzdeba, Ann Zavaruha, Brian Pelletier, Zack Delucca, Depalma, John Rodgers

Jeff called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Board signed FY 21 and FY22 warrants.

**Ann Zavaruha Porcupine incident-** Anne asked where Erica Jensesn was since she is the liaison to the police department? She also stated she was put on the agenda by the chair without asking if she was available and with short notice, she would like Erica to be here and would like to postpone this until she could be present. Jeff asked if she would like to be heard in an open meeting? Ann stated yes, it would be fine to do so. When Ann asked why Dan received a copy of her letter without her permission Jeff proceeded that some of the issues mentioned in her letter of complaint were over 1 year old. Ann stated that she asked for police reports of the incident earlier. Jeff stated Dan was working on the police reports over the weekend. Ann asked why is Dan working on the police reports now and why were they not done when the incident happened? Is that not protocol and is it not expected of all officers to file a police report?

Ginger Robinson stated police reports are public record and should be available to the public. Dan stated he is prepared to answer questions in regard to the rabies incident. He proceeded to read from Fish and Game information on rabies that police or anyone else cannot kill animals as it is cruelty to animals. Dan has been responding to rabies call as a common courtesy per the select board. Ann countered with information if a class 3 animal comes in contact with domestic animals or livestock then it should be killed. She further stated she feels Dan omitted information to the Vet that the raccoon was near her dogs and livestock on her farm. Ann continued this town needs a trained animal control officer who has training to deal with rabid animals. The police have not been trained to deal with rabid animals and she wants to know why. The health and safety of her family was put in jeopardy since she received no communication back from Dan until today. Sara Steinberg asked what Ann needs to do to receive the incident reports of how many times Dan responded to her calls? Jeff stated Shelburne Control should be able to give you that. Ginger Robinson then presented she found free training for animal control officers on the Ma.Gov website that she is sure police officers could also take. She will forward this information to Michele Giarusso.

**Assessors-** Bob Depalma presented an Assistant Assessor job description and letter in Ken's absence. The total annual estimated salary will be \$10,200. The Assessors will be meeting on Wednesday evening to finalize and would like to advertise next week.

**Motion:** Jeff moved to accept the job description of the Assistant Assessor. Bill 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

**Fire Department Appointments-**Brain Pelletier handed the appointment list to the selectboard with his recommendations.

**Motion:** Jeff moved to appoint for FY 22 Brian Pelletier , Jacob Louison, Will Hughes, Nik Adamski, James Colby and Colton Stebbins according to their classifications as listed.

Bill 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

Jeff asked Brian if he is all settled in at the town hall office. Brian stated he needs internet for the GPS's for the fire trucks . He still has DSL in the fire station. Jeff stated he should cancel the

DSL and move his fax machine etc. into the town hall office as that is better suited to have meetings, trainings.

**Municipal Assistant-** Michele asked about the proposal she submitted on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion:** Jeff moved to approve \$3500 to pay Michele from the Cares Act for all the training and work she did for the pandemic, back filling for others and training and reports that had to be filed. Bill 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

Michele stated we received approval from the state that they approved our Mospuito Opt out plan. Michele also received word the town did not receive the police grant. There were 270 applicants for only \$346,500 statewide.

**Citizen's concerns-**Beth asked the board when they will appoint someone to the Board of Health as she is concerned she needs 3 board members with school starting and the rise of COVID. Beth thinks there should be a policy for when the board must make appointments. Jeff stated he would like the Leyden Life newsletter to get distributed first as he advertised in there. He wants to wait 30 days to see if anyone comes forward. He does not expect to make appointments until August 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion:** Bill moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michele Giarusso