

Leyden Select Board and Finance Committee Minutes
Leyden Town Offices
Regular Session Minutes
August 16, 2021
6:00pm

Select Board Members Present: Bill Glabach, Erica Jensen

Others Present: Michele Giarusso, John Higgins, Michele Higgins, Gilda Galvis, Beth Kuzdeba, Nanette Rolstad, Brian Pelletier, Ann Zavaruha

Erica called the meeting to order at 6:24 pm. Board signed FY22 warrants as well as MADOT Chapter 90 reimbursement forms for repaving Frizzell Hill Road.

Motion: Erica moved July 7 and 12 Regular Session meeting minutes, July 12 and 20 Executive Session meeting minutes, Emergency meeting on July 28 minutes and August 2 Regular Session meeting minutes. Bill seconded. Unanimous.

Citizen's concerns-Ann Zavaruha had a concern with a treatment from a police officer towards one a guest travelling to her home over the past weekend. She stated the selectboard has previously stated that she waited too long in reporting past concerns so she is addressing this one as soon as she could. Ann is hoping this particular stop was recorded and would like Erica as liaison to the police department to watch the recording herself and report back to Ann. Ann stated she is skeptical of having the police department review the recording because in the past when she asked for recordings she was not given. Erica replied she will follow up with the police chief. Ann stated the person involved is willing to supply a written statement if needed or is available by phone should Erica like to speak to her directly.

Beth Kuzdeba voiced her concern in writing about the length of time it is taking the board to make the full FY22 appointments. She pointed out we are still in a pandemic, cases of COVID are on the rise even in Leyden and the Board of Health appointment should have been made shortly after the town clerk called those citizens who were voted for by ballot at the annual town election in June and declined the nomination. The board made fire and police FY22 appointments a few weeks ago and she would have liked the Board of Health appointment to have the same respect. She went on to say one citizen has requested 3 times to be appointed yet the selectboard has taken no action. Erica responded that the select board wanted to advertise in the newsletter and town website to see if others were interested in serving on this board as well as other boards with vacancies. Erica stated Randy Crochier is willing to help the Leyden Board of Health in the meantime and all remaining FY 22 appointments will be made on August 30th. Beth also stated Marcia Miller has made contact with the Animal Control officer who works for the Franklin County Dog program and he would be willing to work for Leyden. Ann Zavaruha stated she had a conversation with Ashley from the State and Ashley stated that she had a conversation with a selectboard member that Barns and Animals and Animal Control positions will be combined. Erica replied that is not necessarily so.

Gilda Galvis was cleaning out the town clerk office and found the Barns and Animals log book she assumes from last year. She also wants to know if she can borrow the plexiglass that the town purchased for the town elections for the church fair booth.

John Higgins Recreation Committee update-The pavilion is coming along slowly. The bathrooms will probably not be done in time for the tractor pull in October and other planned events on that day. The planned events on Columbus Day weekend include the tractor pull, possible craft fair at the town hall, Historical Commission walk though as well as other ideas that are just in the planning stages. John stated the police and fire departments will have to be involved for possible closure of roads as well as parking a Fire truck for a possible children's

display as well as personnel but the need for staff to work these events are all unfunded. Brian stated the Fire dept. can move their vehicles to the parking lot of the town offices for vehicles to park in front of the Fire station and he is on board for the display. Beth stated that a permit would be required to serve food and without a refrigerator and water for washing hands and utensils the Board of Health would need to see a plan. She asked for John or whomever to come to the Board of Health's September meeting to discuss the plan. Erica will speak to Dan about road detail. Nan Rolstad said she has no problem requiring masks of people walking through the building to view the Historical display. John stated he was ready to purchase the tables and chairs that was okayed at an earlier meeting. He has the quote of \$4949.28 that would need to come from a town account. He wanted to know what account that would be. Michele stated the only town account is the town buildings account. John would like to revisit the membership of the Recreation Committee as addressed in his proposal of February 2020. He would like to add auxiliary members. Bill stated he thinks the term would be alternate members so they can vote. John stated then we will call them alternate members. John noted in his research of annual town reports the membership was always between 4-9. He asked if anyone knew the exact amount voted on. Bill and Erica have to problem in adding members to the Recreation Committee as they do not know the answer to how many members was voted for the Recreation Committee when first formed.

Municipal Assistant- Michele asked if she should apply for a IT Community Compact grant for our IT needs for a server and software licenses as mentioned in the DLS review and work with the Assessors and Tax Collector in getting on the same software as DLS suggested. Bill mentioned he has always thought it was a good idea for everyone to be on the same software and if the time is right now, he stated, move forward. Erica agreed. Michele has received a pre application form that has to be filled out for the East Hill STRAP grant. She has given the form to Dave Brooks to help outline a timeline for construction. This form has to be filled out and sent back before the grant contract can move forward. The grant may require surveying and some engineering as well as moving utility poles and cutting down trees. Revised policy for the rental of town hall needs more thought process of who will pay and what committees/organizations may have waived fees. There is a lot of interest in the rental of town hall and the policy has to be solid so there is no misinterpretation of who pays and who does not. Michele would like the board to review the revised policy and bring back comments to finalize.

Motion: Erica moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michele Giarusso