

**Leyden Select Board Minutes**  
**Leyden Office building**  
**Working Session**  
**February 15, 2022**  
**10:00 am**

**Select Board Members Present:** Bill Glabach, Erica Jensen

**Others Present:** Michele Giarusso, William Brooks

There was much discussion on the East Hill Road project and what could be done with the \$675,000 grant considering the increase in cost across the board in labor and supplies. Bill Brooks said a portion of the road is right up to a resident's front door if we are going to widen the road. A retaining wall would be required. Is this something the grant will cover? Michele would have to ask about that specifically. Bill B. said he thinks blasting will be in order on areas of the road also. He also questioned why we need the road surveyed if we are not taking land? Bill G. said I do not want to go through the process of having to take land.

Michele stated she contacted Dan Crovo at Gill Engineering about designing the road. Dan is not in that division but will get in touch with the engineer that does road design for their firm. They have contracts with surveyors, so we do not need our own. Bill Brooks would rather we have an engineer design and go out to bid with one contractor. Bill G. is leaning towards that also and Erica agreed. Bill B. said DEP will have to get involved for the culverts and wetlands and there is someone that works for the town of Bernardston per diem and works for DEP. Should he get in touch with them? Both Bill and Erica agreed. There was a lot of discussion about whether to pave the road or not. Bill Glabach does not see the need to add more paved roads since our Chapter 90 is used to repave our roads at this point. Since we have not seen an increase in Chapter 90 money in 10 years, he would like to keep it the way it is. He said we had talked about oil and stone. After much discussion the decision was made to not try and pave this year. Bill also asked Michele if she could find out if this grant is for 2 or 3 years. The offer letter states 3 years and the contract states 2 years. Michele will follow up. Bill G. asked Bill B. if Chapter 90 money could go towards the Coates Road culvert project if we needed more money to complete. Bill B. said yes.

Brendan McQuillan has given his 2 weeks' notice as of today. The board accepted with regret.

Bill B. asked about the trapping of beavers in open season. Did the board think it was ok to do? Michele will follow up with fish and game.

**Other business:** Michele stated Brian Kelder from DER said it looks good that they would have extra money to award for the Coates Road culvert overages. He should have more firm information later today. While it is a risk Bill G. said we could use ARPA money and Chapter 90 money if need be.

**Motion:** Erica moved to award Clayton Davenport the bid for the Coates Road Culvert project as lowest bidder for \$492,360.00. Unanimous.

**Motion:** Erica moved to pay WB Mason a bill from FY 21 that got overlooked by the Fire dept. Unanimous.

**Motion:** Erica moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michele Giarusso