

Bernardston Leyden Police Services  
Advisory Committee Meeting  
Date: Tuesday June 11, 2024 Time: 11:00 A.M.  
Location: Main Conference Room, Bernardston Town Hall and online  
Minutes of the Meeting

A duly posted meeting of the Bernardston Leyden Police Services Advisory Committee was held in the Bernardston Town Hall at 11:00 A.M. on June 11, 2024.

Present: Ken Bordewieck, Jane Dutcher, Chief Jim Palmeri, Liz Kidder, Erica Jensen, Emily Yazwinski, Karen Kelly, Peter Nehs

Remote attendees: N/A

Absent: Ginger Robinson

**Call the meeting to order:**

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 A.M.

**Review of minutes:**

Motion to approve the minutes of March 6, 2024 was made by Emily Yazwinski and seconded by Ken Bordewieck.

Vote: Passed unanimously

**Police Services Report/Update by Police Chief:**

Liz: some towns are targeting \$65,000 for a new cruiser. Leyden is aiming towards \$55,000. Chief says Bernardston transfers a lot of equipment from old cruisers to new, (keeping the price down) but did say that Leyden should be basing the estimate for a new cruiser on \$60,000. Leyden should increase the amount being allocated to that new cruiser in five years. Will connect with the Leyden Finance about increasing the police cruiser line item \$2,000 in upcoming fiscal budgets.

Bernardston not contracted with any truck company, but rather uses the State to work on bids for the new vehicles.

No new staffing issues at this time. One new full-time officer has signed on. Chief doesn't know if he will stay – but is onboard as of now. The State Police Grant was not applied for – not enough time to submit the application this year.

Looking to apply for all new grants, matching or not, that could further the Public Safety Services. The towns will continue to communicate about those.

Chief mentioned the annual Bike Rodeo that focus's on bicycle safety. To be held on Saturday June 15 at BES.

Gill regionalization update:

Chief mentioned the Gill Chief has not yet retired and may that the town may not enter into a contract unless and until the Gill Chief retires. Also waiting on more information from the Collins Center.

**Updates on Emergency Management:**

Jeff Miller has been appointed as new EMD for Leyden. John Richardson is a valued member of the LEMC and would like him to continue on as he is.

Liz spoke to all new LFD vehicles that have been procured and how they were procured. All LDF are now trained at Basic 6 and that there is a new EMD Coordinator (Corrinda Thompson). Liz is also a member of the Woodlands Partnership and has applied for a grant to a UTV and spoke to outdoor tourism and a grant application to service those possible public needs that may arise.

**FY25 BPD Budget: Town Meeting Votes**

Budget passed at Leyden ATM with no comments on town floor.

**Committee concerns or questions regarding the IMA:**

No comments

**Future Agenda – next meeting Tuesday September 24, 2024, 11AM, Bernardston Town Office**

Will keep agenda items for next meeting consistent with agenda items from June 11, 2024 meeting

**Public Comment:**

No comments

**Adjourn:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Erica Jensen and seconded by Emily Yazwinski.

Vote: Passed Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31AM

Respectfully submitted by Erica Jensen