

**Town of Leyden Public Safety Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Remote Meeting January 19, 2022**

A duly posted meeting of the Leyden Public Safety Advisory Committee was held remotely using the Leyden Go To Meeting account at 6:00 pm, on January 19, 2022.

Present: , Elizabeth Kidder, Chair, Marcia Miller, Jack Golden, Emily Yazwinski, Candace Hope, Alternate, Anders Ferguson, Michael Morgan, Barbara Wallace

Audience:

Beth Kuzdeba, Christine Brodeur + Jim Brodeur, Michelle Higgins, Ginger Robinson, Ann Zaveruha, Erica Jensen, Selectboard, Sara Seinberg, Ginger Robinson, Michele Giarusso, Chris Larabee, Brian Pellitier,

Absent:

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.
Review of the minutes of Jan 13, 2022

Motion to approve the minutes of Jan 13, 2022 was made by Marcia Miller and seconded by Jack Golden

VOTE:

Jack Golden: Yes
Emily Yazwinski: Yes
Anders Ferguson: Yes
Marcia Miller: Yes
Michael Morgan: Yes
Liz Kidder: Yes

Review of correspondence -

- Briefly discussed an informational email from Michelle G. about conversation with Deborah Clapp (Northampton, Western MA EMS) with updates about EMS & how AMR operates, collecting information for us.
- For AMR, decision about which calls to prioritize is based on profit.
 - Note from Ann: AMR has a lower level of service than nearby towns. Other services have a higher level of care.
- From Michele G: AMR has a contract with Greenfield but not the smaller towns.
 - Deborah Clapp (Northampton EMS) supports regionalization.

Question for Ann from Jack: What happens when someone calls 911?

- First tone goes to local Fire and AMR. Second tone is Rescue, INC, third tone is mutual aid.

Efficiency and Regionalization Grant, Public Safety Feasibility

- Review of the first working draft Scope of Services for Collins Center grant (distributed via email in advance of the meeting).
- Grant deadline is February 10th, 2022.
- Next week Jack Golden will have a site visit with Mike Edwards and Stephen Foley to view the current facilities and gather recommendations about what Leyden should update to become a more appealing community to partner with for public safety services.
- Brief discussion of the Police Reform Act webinar, which was also distributed via email in advance of the meeting.

Status of Police, Fire, EMS and EMD in Leyden (update from Brian P.)

- State of MA is behind other states in regard to organization / oversight of EMS
- To practice at an EMT level, you need to have the ability to transport. Because Leyden does not have an ambulance, we don't have EMT-level service.
- There are two licensed EMTs (Will & Cindy) in town but they both have jobs.
- New Leyden First Responders are being onboarded this week.
- Brian does not want all the responsibility of being the Fire Chief, he would be happy to have someone else take over the role. The admin work is cumbersome.
 - Erica confirmed that Brian is considered a Strong Chief according to a previous town vote.
- Marcia asked Brian if the admin work can be delegated; Yes, it can. He tries to delegate as much as possible, but some things are difficult to delegate.
- Equipment: Michele G. has a fresh inventory list. Currently, most of the small items are up to date. Gear, safety equipment, etc. Air tanks are at their expiration date, the biggest truck we have needs to be replaced. Regulations for equipment are written with large departments (who have big budgets) in mind. It's financially burdensome for the town of Leyden to keep up with the expenses to keep equipment up to date.
- Barbara asked Dan about speaking to the Advisory Committee about his role as EMD. Dan's response was that he will only be available as a consultant for a fee of \$100/hr.
- Emily and Jack sent an email to Mike Aiken asking him to meet with the committee, and has received no response.

Priorities and next steps

- Liz is working on the grant proposal, Jack is coordinating with Mike Edwards and Steven Foley. Liz is working on an article with an update for Leyden Life.
- We need to get Selectboard approval for the grant.
- Committees have the autonomy to apply for grants without approval from Selectboard as long as there is no matching requirement from the town—but because we are an advisory committee, Michele recommends we get approval from the selectboard.

Public Comments

- **E.Jensen Comment:** Based on information gathered in the Emergency Preparedness meeting yesterday, it is possible there is another grant available in addition to the Collins grant.

Next meeting: February 2, 2022 at 6pm. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by **Michael Morgan** and seconded by **Marcia Miller**.

Vote:

Jack Golden: Yes

Emily Yazwinski: Yes

Anders Ferguson: Yes

Barbara Wallace: Yes

Michael Morgan: Yes

Marcia Miller: Yes

Candace Hope: Yes

Liz Kidder: Yes

Meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Candace Hope

List of documents:

Draft 1 Scope of Services