

**Leyden Selectboard  
Leyden Town Hall  
Minutes  
July 27, 2017**

**Selectboard Members Present:** Jeff Neipp, Lance Fritz.

**Others Present:** Bob Hardesty, Dave Brooks, Bob DePalma, Rodney Szulborski.

Call to order 9:05am.

**Minutes**

**MOTION:** Jeff moved to accept the minutes of June 29 and July 6 as presented. Unanimous

**Pearl Rhodes School Project and Town Hall Door Proposals**

The Board reviewed the revised PRES wall project and Town Hall door replacement proposals that included prevailing wage requirements. The original cost of both projects approved at Town Meeting did not include prevailing wage. The total increase in costs, due to prevailing wage, is \$3,500.00. Discussion.

**MOTION:** Lance moved to proceed with the Pearl Rhodes wall project, with balance to be taken from the Building Maintenance account. Unanimous.

**MOTION:** Jeff moved to proceed with the Town Hall door replacement project, with the balance to be taken from the Building Maintenance account. Unanimous.

**Special Town Meeting**

After further discussion of the increase costs of the above projects, the Board agreed to schedule a Special Town Meeting for late fall after Free Cash is certified. The articles will include payment of an FY17 invoice for the Police Dept. water damage repairs, and possibly replenishing the Building Maintenance account. The tentative date for the STM is Monday, November 13, in anticipation of Free Cash certification.

**Nuisance Dog Problem**

The Board reviewed a letter from Ryan Clary concerning problems with a large aggressive dog roaming freely on his property. The dog has bitten his dog twice, and his children are becoming afraid to play in their own yard. The dog belongs to Dave Loomis, and is reported to be half grey wolf and half malamute. Discussion. The Board asked Bob to draft a letter to Dave Loomis for Lance's signature. The letter should explain that his dog poses a threat to Ryan's children and should be restrained and not roaming freely on River Rd.

**Highway Update**

Dave asked about the project at Avery Field. There is a pile of dirt or loam that he would like to spread to fill in pot holes and rough areas. This would allow for more parking. He will remove six inches of sod and fill in with two loads of TRG and then pack and roll it. The Board agreed that this project should be done on Town time.

### **Assessor's Software: Revised CAM vs. Patriot Properties**

Bob DePalma and the Board discussed options for the Assessor's computer software. The current CAMA software will expire mid-2018. There will be an upgraded replacement, iasWorld, produced by Tyler Technologies, Inc. Bob reported that the Assessors have discussed this possibility. They have also met with Colrain's Assessors' Clerk for an introduction to Patriot Properties, the software they use. He said that after reviewing the iasWorld description and explanation sent out by the MA Office of Information Technology, and sitting in with Colrain's Clerk, they all agreed that the Patriot Properties program is much more user friendly and produces more information. The Board agreed that what software they use is entirely their decision.

### **Rod Szulborski – Tax Issue**

Rod Szulborski addressed the Board concerning interest that was assessed to his tax bill. He said that he did not receive a tax bill, and doesn't feel he should have to pay the interest. The Board explained that State Law states that residents are responsible for taxes regardless whether or not they receive an actual bill. After further discussion, the Board said they could not forgive the interest.

### **Pole Hearing**

Verizon requested a pole hearing for relocating a pole on Brattleboro Rd. so that the Town can install a guardrail. The Board set the date for the hearing for August 10 at 9:20am.

### **Tax Title Update**

Jeff said that he would like an update on the tax title situation. He would like to know who is still in tax title and what the total is that is owed to the Town. Bob will ask Kris for an update.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Lance moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:45am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Hardesty