

Leyden Select Board Minutes
Leyden Town Office Building
Joint Meeting with Conservation Commission
Regular Session
May 9, 2022
6:00pm

Select Board Members Present: Bill Glabach, Erica Jensen

Others Present: Michele Giarusso, Liz Kidder, Emily Yazwinski, Glen Caffrey, Barbara Wallace, Sara Seinberg, Katherine Dimatteo, Ginger Robinson, Beth Kuzdeba, Nathan Messer, Vanessa Russell, Gary Russell, Mary Glabach, Michele Higgins, John Higgins, Erik Johnson, Nik Adamski, Mark Penfield, Mitch Penfield, Jason Penfield, Jason Penfield Jr. Robert Penfield, Julian Mendoza The Recorder reporter, Evan Abramson, Richard Dimatteo, Karen O'Neil, Elwin Barton, Christine Brodeur, Jim Brodeur, Michael Morgan, Jeff Glabach, Peg and Harry Neville

Selectboard signed FY 22 warrants and read correspondence.

Bill called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

Motion: Erica moved to accept the April 11 and Open Session minutes of April 19, 2022 minutes as written. Bill seconded. Unanimous.

Motion: Erica moved to sign the FRCOG bid contract for reclamation of East Hill Road and MassDEP contract for the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program. Bill seconded. Unanimous.

Robert Penfield Hunt Hill Road discussion-Erica stated there were a couple of meetings last week on the Penfield's property. They agreed to a plan of action to file a Notice of Intent with the Conservation Commission. The Penfields have given that paperwork to the Conservation Commission for their meeting this evening. Evan Abramson stated the Conservation Commission will read the notice and decide later this evening further steps. The stream is intermittent and protected by the Wetlands Protection Act. All water bodies are under the Con. Comm's purview. The Penfields want to build a semi stream crossing. We will probably recommend getting it flagged by a wetlands scientist. The endangered heron on that property is already protected. Then the Con. Comm. will make a decision once the scientist gets back to us. Evan stated there is a question as to where the road goes. No one can say where exactly the road is. It may be on private property; the storms have shifted the road over the years. Penfields in unison state there are pins along there. Bob Penfield asked if the select board read his letter. Erica replied we did receive your letter; it has gone to our Town Counsel and we will take your letter under advisement. He asked about the road upgrade. Erica replied there is no decision yet. Bob replied Bill was here and the other gentlemen when I came to this board last year to ask to upgrade the road and there is still no decision.

Vote to change Annual Town Meeting Date

Motion: Erica moved to change the Annual Town Meeting to Tuesday, June 21, 2022 due to the observation of Juneteenth on Monday. Unanimous.

Announcement of Dan Galvis's retirement as Emergency Management Director (EMD)-Bill stated we have received and accepted Dan's retirement. Liz Kidder stated she will be calling a meeting to discuss the EMD position. She has a list of 9 or 10 people who would like to attend the meeting with Stephen Foley. There may be someone who will come forward to volunteer for the position until the Collins Center Study is complete.

Police Cruiser Titles, access to sign, access to RAVE- Bill stated he will request all these items of Dan.

Tina Riddell-retirement badge/id -Erica stated Tina meets all the requirements to receive this badge and the Select board must vote on it. Bill said she did not retire; she was not reappointed. Erica spoke to Town Counsel, and she meets all the requirements. Bill stated he does not think she meets all the requirements. No decision made.

Mosquito Opt Out Plan-Beth Kuzdeba stated the select board has to vote if they want to opt out of aerial spraying. If we don't opt out we will get sprayed. If there is an outbreak of West Nile virus the select board would have to vote to reverse their decision for the state to then spray. She explained she called the attorney for the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (SRMCB) to ask specifically the question, if we opt out we will not be sprayed. The attorney confirmed this. The state will pay for the spraying if it needs to be done. She continued, I need to have your vote from this meeting tonight and it has to be certified by the town clerk. The minutes have to be attached to the opt out plan. Bill asked Beth what her recommendation is. Beth replied I do not think I should be the one to tell you how to vote. I have put this out to the town in Leyden Life newsletter and asked people to respond to me and you. Only two people have responded to me. She asked Michele if anyone has called the select board office and Michele replied, no. Bill stated he would opt out. Erica agreed. Katherine Dimatteo stated that since we are part of the Mosquito Control District we will now have data from them, they will set the traps and analyze the mosquitoes.

Motion: Bill moved to opt of aerial spraying for the Town of Leyden. Erica seconded. Unanimous.

Update on Public Safety Advisory Committee – Liz kidder stated the Police interim agreement with Bernardston final document is now posted on the town website. She has asked the agreement to be signed and voted on at the select board meeting on May 23. She asked the select board to encourage the officer in charge of the police department to fill out the data the Collins Center is asking for by May 30th. There will be some data that Michele will also have to provide.

Municipal Assistant update –Michele asked the select board to vote on ARPA language to spend the funds.

Motion: Bill moved to spend ARPA funds under the Revenue Loss Category. Erica seconded. Unanimous.

Michele asked the board to set a closing date for the Special and Annual Town Meeting warrants.

Motion: Bill moved to set May 27, 2022 as the closing date for both the special and annual town meetings. Erica seconded. Unanimous.

The Coates Road culvert project is moving right along. The temporary bridge came in earlier than expected and will be placed sometime this week.

Motion: Bill moved to adjourn at 7:20pm. Erica seconded. Unanimous.

Respectively submitted,
Michele Giarusso
Municipal Assistant