

Leyden Select Board Meeting Minutes
Leyden Town Office Building
Regular Session
January 26, 2024
9:00 am

Select Board Members Present: Glenn Caffery, Erica Jensen, Katherine DiMatteo

Others Present: Michele Giarusso, Carey Barton, Tom Raffensperger, Liz Kidder and Beth Kuzdeba remote

Glenn called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

Warrants signed, correspondence read.

Minutes

Motion: Erica moved the January 16, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. Katherine seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Motion: Erica moved the January 17, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. . Katherine **Katherine:** ine seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Motion: Erica moved to pass over January 8, 2024, meeting minutes. Katherine seconded. Unanimous.

Discussion

There was much discussion on hiring a new fire chief. Pros and cons were shared on qualifications and a draft contract reviewed updated by Glenn.

Carey Barton was the only application submitted.

Interview Fire Chief

Glenn reviewed the expectations the Select Board is requiring of a Fire Chief.

- Training expectations -Firefighter 1, EMFR and Basic 6 certification as soon as possible
- Within 1month incident command courses online completed
- Within 6 months MEMA courses completed some are online, some in person

Carey: I'm not sure when the classes are available. I'm not sure I can fit all the courses in within 6 months due to my personal schedule. I've talked to other chiefs to see how they can help me out.

Glenn: Can you explain how mutual aid works currently.

Carey: You tell whoever responds by mutual aid what is needed when on the scene. If I was to become chief, I would want to shadow other chiefs for a while. I am more of a hands-on person. I will ask for help if needed.

Glenn: Do you think the other fire personnel will feel comfortable if you become chief?

Carey: I feel they are already comfortable with me. They ask me questions and advise already.

Erica: An open line of communication is a sort of culture. Do you feel you have that?

Carey: Yes, I do.

Katherine: What happens when Leyden responds to another town in mutual aid calls. Who is in command?

Carey: The first one on the scene is in command until the chief from the town you are in is on the scene and takes over.

Katherine: Do other departments share with you when you could have improved on something? Is this shared with the others in the department to teach them?

Carey: Yes, sometimes.

Katherine: Carey, do you have questions for us?

Carey: No, I don't think so I want to see the department grow.

Glenn: We do not have an EMS coordinator currently ultimately; we would like the Fire Chief to come up with a plan and to work with other towns. There is also the question of whether the EMS coordinator has to be licensed.

Katherine: We would also want to look at regionalization for fire in the future.

Carey: I would like to see EMS separate from the Fire Chief duties.

Glenn: We want to look at further regionalization and maybe apply for a grant to look at how this could be accomplished. How do you feel about that?

Carey: I never really thought about it.

Katherine: There will be a new time of leadership for these regionalization efforts. I would like you to think about how you will be involved.

Glenn: Can you reaffirm your commitment to become involved in the local Fire Chief's Association? And maybe state/regional associations.

The board thanked Carey for interviewing with them.

Further discussion on Fire Chief position

Erica: I think we should have the contract contingent upon passing certifications whatever we decide that is.

Glenn: Our consultant has suggested a timeline on this.

Erica: I think we need to balance whatever our insurance company requires and our immediate needs for courses.

Katherine: I want to make sure we consult our town counsel on the contract and make sure we have some people in our fire department with certifications.

Erica offered to call Donna. Glenn will update the contract after Erica speaks to Donna.

Town Coordinator

Michele asked the board if they would vote on posting the quick attack fire truck twice on Comm Buys. Once as a used vehicle, then if no responses as a new one. This requires an amount for each to post and it also will have to be advertised as a bid in the local newspaper.

Motion: Katherine moved to post for a used quick attack fire truck for up to \$100,000 and then if need be, to post as a new vehicle for up to \$200,000. Erica seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Select Board updates

Erica asked about the CAF 2 money that is supposed to come to the town this year. The MLP board met and would like to have this money pay for the loan. Glenn will add this item to the list for the STM or ATM warrant.

Motion: Katherine moved to adjourn at 12:15am. Erica seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Respectively submitted,
Michele Giarusso