

Leyden Select Board Meeting Minutes
Leyden Town Office Building
Regular Session
Monday, March 11, 2024
5:30 pm

Select Board Members Present: Erica Jensen, Katherine DiMatteo

Others Present: Michele Giarusso, Tom Raffensperger, Carey Barton, Paul Hake, Nate Messer, Ken Medvetz, Richard Parks, Dave Pomerantz, Dave Vreeland, Liz Kidder Kidder-remote

Katherine called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Discussion

Meeting Minutes

Motion: Erica moved to accept the meeting minutes of February 26 as written. Katherine seconded the motion with minor amendments. Erica accepted the amendments. Unanimous.

Public Comments- None

Fire Truck Procurement

Erica and Liz have been in contact with the Office of Inspector General's office (OIG) after receiving a letter from them through Jo Comerford. They stated Leyden could declare an emergency for the purchase of a fire vehicle. This would be outside of the formal 30B process.

Motion: Erica moved to declare an emergency for the purchase of a fire vehicle using section 8 of MGL chapter 30 B. All paperwork for procurement and declaration of the emergency shall be sent to the Secretary of State at the earliest possible time for inclusion in the Goods and Services bulletin. Katherine seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

Tom Raffensperger thanked Erica and Liz for pursuing the process. Tom will write thank you notes to Jo Comerford and Natalie Blais from the Fire Department.

Building Needs and Finance Committee

Ken Medvetz called the Building Needs meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Paul Hake called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Ken stated bids should go out for replacement of the town office roof middle section as they expect it to cost over \$50,000. The roof should also be insulated before replacing. The Building Needs Committee will finalize the bid document and send it to Michele.

Katherine asked the committee what is on their list. Richard answered the Fire and Highway departments buildings should have efficient, healthy ventilation systems alternatives to what they have now. Paul asked about the salt shed needing replacement or repair, the steel beams are corroding. Katherine mentioned sounds like both fire and highway buildings will have to have a new work design. Richard replied, the town needs both short term and long-term goals for all the town's buildings. The town office building and possible town hall will need a 3-phase power system to install heat pumps for example. We need to plan to replace the boilers.

Dave Pomerantz suggested the Select Board and others need to discuss where we are going as a town. Building Needs Committee can't be looking at everything. Katherine feels we need to improve all the town buildings to have a plan for the future while looking at the bigger picture.

Erica wants to see what we can do to make the buildings energy efficient now, look at the bottom line. The bigger picture to her is somewhat farther beyond what I can even think of now. Richard suggested starting with a 5-10 year period of time and we as a town can chip away at some of the items that need the most attention.

Nate feels we should see if anyone wants to buy the town office building and move everything up to the town hall. We should look at the Barnard property and the old forge for more space if there is a buyer for the town office building. The Finance Committee does have someone coming to look at the town office building.

There was much discussion on the deferred maintenance of the town buildings and why we are in this position now. Ken Moved to adjourn the Building Needs meeting at 7:20pm. Nate moved to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting at 7:20pm.

Leyden Emergency Management Structure

Motion: Erica moved to accept Dave Pomerantz's resignation as EMD effective March 14 with regret. She thanked Dave for serving as the EMD director. Katherine seconded the motion. Unanimous. Erica stated LEMC is meeting this Thursday, there may be someone on this committee who is willing to step forward as EMD. If not the chair of the Select Board becomes the EMD.

Follow up on three town joint Select Board and Finance Committees

Katherine thinks there should be a follow up meeting with our finance committee on the PVRSD district agreement and the Six Town Regionalization district agreement.

Town Coordinator Updates

Michele shared there is an outstanding invoice from Darley Corporation from 2/6/23 that had been going to a former fire department chief's email. The company is threatening to send us to collections. They have been told we are a municipality, and this bill will have to wait for a Special Town Meeting in June to be paid. Michele also told them they should only do business with the town. They could of called the town and asked about the invoice when they did not receive a response.

- Minuteman Pest control will start placing bait in both locations in 2 weeks.
- FRCOG is in the process of getting elevator bids, if we want to change now is the time.
- Michele and Susan met with DLS employees Jessica Sizer and Zach Blake. Zach did not see any problem with Susan having two positions. He is going to follow up with the DLS attorney. They also interviewed Michele on the financial process and will be following up talking with the Finance Committee and Select Board Members as well as Accountant.
- Michele has sent the list to Donna in regard to her coming to a morning meeting on March 18
- Michele has been calling electricians to do the work for the dehumidifier downstairs and stove at the town hall. They say they will come and never do she is still pursuing.
- Representatives are needed for the Six Town Regional Agreement committee. Katherine stated she will be on the committee, and she is asking Pam Brown also.
- Beavers-Michele sent a letter to the LeBlanc's. They have not contacted her but have spoken to Bill Brooks. The board should talk to Bill.

Select Board Updates

Katherine read from the correspondence file and a letter in there from Barbara Wallace, a complaint of speeding on Alexander Road and dirt roads. Katherine will respond to Barbara.

There are two people wanting to be on the Open Space Committee. They will be considered when there is a process for this.

Lynn Feldman and Phoebe Walker want to present a certificate to the Town of Leyden for Age Friendly Community and discuss Leyden's plan.

There is a letter from the governor that Leyden will receive \$140,594.39 in Chapter 90 money for FY2025.

The D2R2 Bike race will be coming through Leyden in August.

Discussed a new member of the COA to wait until July appointments.

Emily Herron has requested to rent the town common for an Easter egg hunt on Saturday March 30. Michele is taking care of the paperwork. The charge will be the same as last year.

Agenda Planning

Donna MacNicol at the next meeting and possible Executive session. Starting time will be 10am.

Erica reached out to Nathan Moreau at MEMA. He does not know of any towns who have policies on personal information. Erica will ask Donna when she is here.

Motion: Erica moved to adjourn at 8:30pm. Katherine seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Respectively submitted,
Michele Giarusso