

**Leyden Selectboard  
Leyden Town Hall  
Regular Session Minutes  
October 16, 2018**

**Selectboard Members Present:** Lance Fritz, Bill Glabach.

**Others Present:** Bob Hardesty, Matt Muka, Devin Carty, Nik Adamski, Tony Velez, Matteo Velez, Jesse Adams, Brian Pelletier.

Meeting Called to Order at 7:00pm

**Fire Department Update**

Matt told the Board that he had a meeting with the firemen and explained why he decided to resign. He also talked to them about the Selectboard's thoughts on looking into contracting with Bernardston or Greenfield for fire protection. He told them that with all the new safety regulations and training requirements, small towns can't continue to operate a fire department.

Lance said he agrees that the costs of continuing with the Department could become restrictive. His first concern was about the mutual aid agreements and how contracting with another Town could affect those agreements. He added that no decisions have been made and the Board would keep the Department abreast of the process. Matt said that the mutual agreements will definitely have to be revisited.

**Meeting with Firefighters**

Matt brought the firefighters in to meet with the Selectboard. Bill explained the Board's position and reasoning for exploring the possibilities of joining with another town for fire protection. He told them that Matt had filled them in at an earlier meeting about the increasing costs involved in the new regulations and training requirements. Bill added that, if an agreement is made with Greenfield, our firefighters could certainly apply for call status.

Brian Pelletier reported that he attended a meeting of volunteer firefighters. The top subject of the meeting was the fact that having to deal with all the new regulations and training requirements was taking a toll on small volunteer departments. More and more trainings are being required and no State funds are available to help pay the expenses involved.

Bill and Lance assured the guys that the Board would keep them advised of how the process is progressing.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Lance moved to adjourn. Meeting Adjourned 8:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Hardesty