

**Leyden Selectboard
Pearl Rhodes Elementary School
Minutes**

April 21, 2016

Selectboard Members Present: Bill Glabach, Jeff Neipp, Lance Fritz.

Others Present: Bob Hardesty, Dave Brooks, Bob Ryan, Al Woodhull, Sheila Hourihan, Bob Anson, Michele Giarusso.

Call to order 9:30am.

Minutes

MOTION: Lance moved to accept the minutes of April 7 as written. Jeff seconded. Unanimous.

Spirit Signs

Dave reported that the Director of Spirit Fire, Tim Darter, asked him if he could be allowed to attach signs to Town sign posts directing traffic to Spirit Fire. The signs would be black and white, 5" X 18". Discussion. After discussion, the Board decided they are not in favor of the signs, but would discuss further at next meeting. Dave will inform Spirit Fire.

Sidewalk at PRES

Jeff reported that Rob Snedeker gave him an estimate of \$2,500 to replace the handicap area of the sidewalk at PRES, and \$7,900 to handicap area and the entire sidewalk. Discussion. The Board decided to do the entire job at once, and to increase the transfer for the ATM article for PRES Capital improvements to \$10,000.

Energy Committee

The Board discussed creating an Energy Committee. After discussion, they did decide to create an Energy Commission, and to put an article on the ATM Warrant.

Tax Possession Management Account

Since the Town now owns the Cohen property, the Board decided to transfer the balance of the Tax Possession Management account to Stabilization at the STM, and then back to that account at the ATM. The funds will be needed for legal and other fees involved in the eviction process.

Broadband Resolution

Jeff explained the reason for the resolution. It would sent another message to the Governor that the Town urges him to expedite the process of bringing broadband to underserved towns. After lengthy discussion, all agreed to the following resolution for the ATM Warrant:

BROADBAND RESOLUTION

Whereas the State's westward expansion of broadband service to our rural towns of is a matter of equal rights and fair representation as guaranteed by the Massachusetts Bill of Rights; and

Whereas broadband service is THE lifeline to our economic survival; and

Whereas our population is aging and declining; and

Whereas our students' education is compromised in under-enrolled schools and thwarted by their inability to perform required online assignments; and

Whereas our residents are unable to utilize digital internet health care; and

Whereas broadband assures the interconnectivity essential to life in the 21st century; and

Whereas The Massachusetts legislature passed and the governor signed Bill H4355, an Act financing information technology equipment and related projects, on June 6, 2014, which authorized \$50 Million to the Massachusetts Broadband Incentive Fund,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Town of Leyden call upon the Baker/Polito Administration to commit all necessary resources to ensure the provision of broadband service to Leyden in its entirety thus meeting the internet needs of all its residents; and

Be it further resolved that the Town Clerk be directed to send copies of this resolution to Governor Charlie Baker, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, and Secretary Jay Ash.

MOTION: Lance moved to include an article on the ATM Warrant proposing the edited resolution. Bill seconded. Unanimous.

Funds for Broadband – Technology Stabilization Account

BOS discussed the need for having funds available for broadband bonds when they are needed.

MOTION: Jeff moved to add an article for the ATM Warrant to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, \$62, 911.00 for the Technology Stabilization Account for the purpose of funding the bonds for broadband. Bill seconded. Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Jeff moved to adjourn. Lance seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Hardesty