



TOWN OF LEYDEN

Meeting Minutes

Select Board

Where
: Leyden Town Hall

When: May 11, 2026

In Attendance

Members: Erica Jensen, Katherine DiMatteo,

Audience: Michele Giarusso, Jack Golden, Geore Stephan, Jeff Baker and Liz Kidder via remote access

Time meeting called to order: 9:25am

Select Board signed the payroll and general expense warrants.

Review of Minutes:

Motion: Katherine
DiMatteo moved the
minutes of 5/4/26

Second: Jeff

Vote: Unanimous

Discussions:

1. Run through of STM and ATM with Moderator and Town Clerk

After setting up the virtual zoom portion of the meeting the group discussed setup for the town meetings. Jack will serve as moderator for both meetings, Ginny Rockwood has agreed to be constable. The group discussed protocols including the Pledge of Allegiance (to be done once at the special meeting), quorum requirements of 25 attendees, and the process for reading and voting on warrant articles. They reviewed specific articles including fund transfers, MLP funding, and various stabilization funds, with particular attention to how articles are presented and voted on, especially regarding Article 1 which involves both town reports and two additional reports. Jack will step down as moderator when the MLP budget article is discussed, meeting members will have to vote for a moderator from the floor for this part. Erica and Katherine would like a holistic discussion about the town budget, particularly regarding the large increase in the school budget, and noted that while other towns have already approved the school budget, this vote still carries significance.

The Select Board discussed having a ballot vote for the PVRSD budget and the bylaws that the Planning Board will explain including the comprehensive floodplain bylaw in Article 29, which aligns with state requirements and FEMA guidelines, noting that if rejected, the town would not be eligible for FEMA flood insurance.

2. Woodland's Partnership grant letter

Members signed the letter of support for Woodland's Partnership grant with Jeff giving Michele permission to sign on his behalf.

3 . Special Town Meeting (STM) Warrant

Members signed the STM meeting warrant with Jeff giving Michele permission to sign on his behalf.

4. Town Coordinator Update:

Discussion:

- Michele's notary status has been renewed by the Secretary of State for another 2 years.
- Michele asked if the board wanted Michele to advertise in The Reorder for the Town Clerk position. She will also be putting in the town clerk list serv email.
- Jeff Neipp will be putting up flags for West Leyden cemetery. Michel will contact Bill Glabach, Katherine suggested Bruce Dobais if Bill is not available.

6. Select Board Updates

Discussion:

- Jeff watched the school Committee meeting on 5/7 and thought Michele did an excellent job speaking up about proper protocol for the school budget. Both Katherine and Erica agreed.
- Erica will be contacting MassDot about using Chapter 90 funds for the paving around the town hall, and fire dept since the pavement is congruent with the town salt shed. Salt sheds are covered to repave under Chapter 90.
- Reading of the Declaration of independence on July 8. Katherine mentioned most towns are going to have a reading in MA and we should discuss whether we want to and where.

7. Public Comments

None

8. Agenda Planning

- Michele suggested giving town counsel a little more time to review the warrant. The suggested time is May 20 at 1pm if town counsel cannot review this week. The agenda would be to review, vote and sign the warrant.

Next Meeting: Future meetings after May 20, May 26th at 5pm, June 22 and June 29th annual reviews. Erica will be on vacation for 2 weeks beginning June 4 so not sure about meetings during this time.

Meeting Adjournment

Motion: Jeff moved to adjourn at 10:43 am **2nd Katherine Vote:** Unanimous

Submitted By: Michele Giarusso