

Town of Leyden Public Safety Advisory Committee
Minutes of the meeting June 15, 2022

A duly posted meeting of the Leyden Public Safety Advisory Committee was held in the Leyden Town Hall at 6:30pm on June 15, 2022.

Present: Elizabeth Kidder, Barbara Wallace, Emily Yazwinski, Jack Golden, Anders Ferguson, Michael Morgan, Marsha Miller, Consultant to Committee: Stephen Foley

Audience: Erik Johnson, Bill Glabach, Erica Jensen, Beth Kuzdeba, Ken Medvetz, Michelle Higgins, Ginger Robinson, Katherine DiMatteo, Digger Neipp

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm EDT

Review of the Minutes of June 1st, 2022

Motion to Approve Minutes of June 1st was made by Barbara Wallace and seconded by Jack Golden

Vote:

Elizabeth Kidder: Yes
Barbara Wallace: Yes
Emily Yazwinski: Yes
Jack Golden: Yes

Marcia Miller: Yes
Michael Morgan: Yes
Anders Ferguson: Yes

• **Police Transition**

- 7/1 formal shift over to Bernardston according to terms of Interim Agreement
- Michelle & Mike Edwards, Collins Center, are working through the details with Chief Palmeri
- Several Meet & Greets to be arranged in July. More to be planned
- Please get any questions to Liz
- Currently a study underway of three State Trooper's Barracks, including Shelburne, to identify any gaps and remedies for them to provide more complete service to communities

• **Emergency Medical Services EMS: Stephen Foley, Collins Center**

- Also working with Northfield. Bernardston and part of Erving on a regional ambulance study.
- Collins Center is also talking to Colrain which provides EMS service to Leyden as well
- Significant shortage of EMS talent in this county
- 38-minute average response time over county
- Committed to work with Leyden 1st Responders to create a solid and legal operating plan
- FRCOG not currently involved in county EMS operations
- Difficulty working with Vermont or NH: Different Rules/Regs apply to responders
- A local EMS partnership needs care and attention in forming and maintaining
- Leyden requires an "OEMS Service Plan"
- Leyden currently has 4 EMT's and 3 more getting certified; the Bernardston Police are all trained 1st responders who carry full emergency gear bags and Narcan in their cruisers.

Question from Erik Johnson to Stephen F: Will Northfield EMS/Ambulance really come to Leyden? Yes. Costs need to be settled on. Without a contract between the towns, there may be an additional charge to the Town for responding.

Good Samaritan Rule? Stephen Foley explained that it protects safety providers BUT a responder can only provide the services for which they are trained.

• **Emergency Management Director**

- Appoint Local EMD Team/Committee
 - Identify vulnerabilities in town and create a plan to address them

- Municipal Vulnerability Plan just completed by the FRCOG
 - Met with Chief of Bernardston. They are currently updating their plan and working with Shelburne Dispatch, studying call volume and response times.
 - Leyden needs to create/appoint its new EMD Committee by early July, Stephen Foley will work with them and Safety Advisory Committee to update the Leyden Emergency Management Plan.
 - Copies of the Leyden MEP must be kept at the police and fire departments and the Western Mass office of Emergency Management Services (OEMS).
 - Once the LEMP is completed, there needs to be an exercise conducted of the plan once a year.
- **Fire/ EMS/ EMD**
 - Fire/EMS/EMD are all Countywide Issues. Leyden is wise to understand this in next steps of planning
 - Current Breathing Apparatus are old and worthless. MUST be replaced ASAP. About \$5K each
 - All equipment MUST be compatible with other towns within mutual aid
 - Stephen Foley is reviewing the Shelburne Dispatch calling protocol for Leyden and the countywide mutual aid.
 - **2023 Leyden Budget**
 - There are several Budget Items recommended by Finance Committee and supported by Fire/EMS. The Public Safety Committee reviewed them and gave our support.

Motion to support the Special Town Meeting Warrant as presented by the Selectboard and Finance Committee was made by Anders and seconded by Barbara.

Vote:

Elizabeth Kidder: Yes
 Barbara Wallace: Yes
 Emily Yazwinski: Yes
 Jack Golden: Yes

Marcia Miller: Yes
 Michael Morgan: Yes
 Anders Ferguson: Yes

Motion to support the public safety budget as presented by the Selectboard and Finance Committee was made by Jack and seconded by Michael.

Vote:

Elizabeth Kidder: Yes
 Barbara Wallace: Yes
 Emily Yazwinski: Yes
 Jack Golden: Yes

Marcia Miller: Yes
 Michael Morgan: Yes
 Anders Ferguson: Yes

Next Meeting: July 6th, 2022, 6:30pm at Town Hall

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Anders Ferguson and seconded by Michael Morgan

Vote:

Elizabeth Kidder: Yes
 Barbara Wallace: Yes
 Emily Yazwinski: Yes
 Jack Golden: Yes

Marcia Miller: Yes
 Michael Morgan: Yes
 Anders Ferguson: Yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Anders Ferguson